



Legislature of Ontario Debates

Wednesday, January 25, 1967—Wednesday, March 22, 1967



ONTARIO

STATUTES

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OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, January 25, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
TORONTO
1967





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14th Session of the Twenty-seventh Legislature

Wednesday, January 25, 1967

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Wednesday, January 25, 1967, being the first day of the Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Parliament of the Province of Ontario for the despatch of business pursuant to a proclamation of the Honourable W. Earl Rowe, Lieutenant-Governor of the province.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1967

The House met at 3 o'clock, p.m.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, having entered the House and being seated upon the Throne, was pleased to open the session with the following gracious speech.

Hon. W. Earl Rowe (Lieutenant-Governor): Mr. Speaker and members of the legislative assembly of Ontario, I extend warmest greetings and a sincere welcome to each of you.

We meet during a year of significance to all Canadians. It was 100 years ago that four British North American colonies joined in a great Confederation to form the Dominion of Canada.

Ontario was one of the original partners of this historic union. From the beginning, this province accepted and has borne to the full its responsibilities in the life, growth and rising prosperity of Canada. Ontario has given leadership to her own people and to the nation and in time of strife her citizens have contributed their life-blood for the preservation of freedom.

Of interest today is that following Confederation the first session of the first Legislature of Ontario was convened on December 28, 1867. At that time, Ontario was the home of one and a half million people. Now it nurtures and shelters seven million. The basic British and French stock, drawn together in Confederation, enriched by others of more than 65 national origins in the years that followed, constitute our people.

As we gather for this fifth session of the twenty-seventh assembly of the Legislature of Ontario it is timely to reflect on the accomplishments of our people. It also is timely to rededicate ourselves to the principle of Confederation.

Our belief in and support of Canada and Confederation is a fundamental of Ontario's existence.

During the course of this session you will be given an opportunity to consider a comprehensive Programme for People.

Measures will be proposed to assist the people of Ontario to adjust to economic and social change and to improve their standard of living. These measures will demonstrate that my government courageously faces its responsibilities to the nation and, in particular, to the people of Ontario.

It is the belief of my government that adequate housing for our people at prices they can afford is of utmost importance to the expansion of our economy and the future welfare of our population.

My government will give increasing attention to the problems of our cities and the well-being of the hundreds of thousands of people who live and work in them. The goal is to make Ontario's cities and towns increasingly pleasant and agreeable places in which to live. Programmes will be presented to provide adequate housing, redevelopment, transportation and recreation facilities.

A matter of great concern to my government is the steadily increasing cost of home ownership. My government subscribes to the principle of the desirability of home ownership. Rental accommodation has an important role to play, but home ownership can enhance the pride of being a part of the community and of having a personal involvement in the future of our province and country.

Plans have been formulated to bring into operation a new housing programme to be known as Home Ownership Made Easy, which, through the use of the first letter of each word, will be called The HOME Programme.

This greatly expanded programme of the Ontario housing corporation will remove many of the major obstacles that have restricted housing development and home ownership in the past. The HOME Programme will incorporate: land development; land lease; encouragement of home ownership; residential community development; and housing to encourage industrial development across the province.

My government recognizes the problem of the small home owner who, through expropriation, loses his home for the good of the community and thereby faces relocation. This is a matter which must be settled satisfactorily for all concerned. Embodied in the programme of my government will be provisions to deal with such situations.

Also to be placed before you will be a proposal that the fair housing provision of the Ontario human rights code be amended to prohibit discrimination based on race, colour or creed in connection with the rental of all housing accommodation.

In this province of vast and greatly-varied territory, transportation plays a vital role in economic development and in the life of our people. Accordingly, a comprehensive study of the character and expanding transportation needs of our entire province will be conducted. This will result in a broad transportation policy appropriate to the rapidly changing requirements of modern life.

This year will be recorded in the history of this dynamic province as the one in which the government of Ontario inaugurated, sponsored and financed the railway commuter service known as GO-Transit. In taking this progressive step, it is the purpose of my government to achieve a better balanced transportation system so as to lighten the burden of expenditures on freeway construction in areas of southern Ontario where such problems are especially severe.

As urban living increases in Ontario, my government has accepted its responsibility to provide adequate and convenient outdoor recreational facilities. During 1967 four new provincial parks will be opened, bringing the number to 109. The new provincial parks will be Selkirk, on Lake Erie; Round Lake, in Renfrew county; Sand Shoals, on the new Chappleau-Wawa highway, and Sandbar Lake, between Dryden and Upsala.

Parks and recreation centres operated by the conservation authorities continue to grow in popularity. Nature trails, displays and imaginative interpretive programmes are being extensively employed in the conservation areas, as well as in many of our provincial parks. In this way, our people and those who come from beyond our borders are assisted in understanding and appreciating the natural attributes of our province and the necessity of managing them with wisdom.

In addition to reserving land for future provincial parks, my government will place before you a programme of signal importance to future generations. The Programme of

Wild Rivers will preserve for the use and enjoyment of our people a number of rivers which possess unique features, such as flora, fauna, aesthetics, historical significance, water conservation, recreation and other values basic to the economy and culture of Ontario.

In the field of agriculture there is a two-fold responsibility: to ensure that the farmer shares in our prosperity; and to ensure that adequate food is available for our growing population at a price the consumer can afford. Proposals will be laid before you to assist materially in fulfilling these obligations.

You will be asked to consider an expanded programme of capital grants to farmers. These will form part of a long-range plan to preserve and stimulate the agricultural economy of the province. The grants will help the people of rural Ontario adjust to major technological, economic, and social changes. My government proposes to extend the existing programme of capital grants to include wells, farm drainage and the construction of certain types of farm buildings.

There will be further intensification of the programme to consolidate small or uneconomic farms.

A programme will be placed before you to increase the number of veterinarians practising in farm areas. My government will make available to students of veterinary medicine an annual bursary which will be forgiven if the student remains in farm animal practice after graduation.

Many countries of the world face severe food shortages because of primitive agricultural techniques. My government will propose a programme to bring students from underdeveloped countries to Ontario so that they may study the practical applications of modern farming.

There will be placed before you a programme to provide additional bilingual agricultural extension personnel in Ontario. For this purpose arrangements will be made to provide agricultural training in higher education in both languages.

Further significant measures will be put before you to improve the quality of the life of our people.

Proposals will be placed before you to extend the activities of the Ontario government in the field of medical and health research.

A new concept for local health services has been developed.

A completely new Mental Health Act will be placed before you.

Arising out of an interdepartmental committee study and report, a coordinated programme of services for children with mental and emotional disorders will be put forward for your consideration. This will require that eight regional diagnostic, assessment and treatment centres be established throughout the province.

The extension of group homes operated under The Child Welfare Act will complement this programme and will play a significant role in meeting the needs of some children in the care of the children's aid societies.

Plans also are proceeding for the establishment of a reception and diagnostic centre for boys and girls. This facility will provide service for all children admitted to the training schools of the province from the juvenile and family courts.

You will be asked to consider the renaming of The Department of Public Welfare which, with your approval, will become The Department of Social and Family Services. This change arises from the notable advances made in the provision of social services and the enlarged facilities available for those requiring assistance. The counselling and rehabilitation services of the department will be increased.

In view of the public concern and jurisdictional problems, my government believes it desirable that there be a public inquiry into problems relating to the law of divorce. You will be asked to approve a course of action to establish such an inquiry, in order that submissions may be made to the committee of the Parliament of Canada which presently has this matter under study.

The industrialization of Ontario, coupled with an expanding population and urbanization, has increased the burden upon the air, soil, and water of our province. My government will continue to press its war against all sources of pollution.

Legislation will be introduced to apply the most modern and progressive concepts to ensure that the air our citizens breathe will be clean and pure. To effect this, the facilities and staff of the air pollution control service will be increased to provide a complete and integrated programme.

To enable the Ontario water resources commission to continue its rapid progress in eliminating the pollution of our waters, an enlarged programme will be instituted. In addition, the Ontario water resources commission will accelerate research into the

technological aspects of the treatment of sewage.

Every person must be provided with opportunities to develop his or her full potential and, commensurate with reality, be entitled to receive the required maximum education. Equality of educational opportunity is the continuing policy of my government. The developments in secondary and post-secondary education in recent years and the investment in educational facilities were designed to achieve this desirable end. The goal is to provide the best possible education and facilities for all our youth and for the increasing number of adults who seek continued education to adapt themselves to the technological and other changes of modern society.

Recent studies have shown that many young people arrive at school for the first time handicapped in the basic vocabulary and concepts of our culture. It is imperative that provision be made for the preparation of very young children. You will be asked to consider means of assisting such children to participate fully in our school system.

Other programmes will be developed or expanded to further equalize educational and cultural opportunities between the less urbanized sections of Ontario and the metropolitan areas.

An educational research centre, to be located in northern Ontario, is planned. It will be equipped with diagnostic and assessment materials and staffed by a team of psychologists and educators. The education of children in remote areas not served by schools or railway cars will be improved by the use of portable schools and the extension of boarding allowances. In addition, the Northern Corps, which was established in 1966 to encourage qualified teachers to contribute their services to isolated areas, will be expanded. Construction of an educational centre in Moosonee is expected to begin during 1967.

In the field of continuing education, the opening of new colleges of applied arts and technology will be carried forward. My government plans to continue the rapid expansion of programmes and facilities in the vital area of university education.

Among the measures which you will be asked to approve will be a new labour standards code. The construction safety programme will be strengthened with additional staff and an extension of the training programme for enforcement personnel.

Steps will be taken to bring labour, management and government closer together to

deal formally with matters of mutual concern in the broad field of industrial relations.

A body will be established, consisting of representatives of labour, management and government, to explore and report on issues which may be raised by any of the three parties.

In this complex age, it is both desirable and necessary that the public and, in particular, those who are directly affected by legislative action, should be given the fullest opportunity to discuss and examine issues and to participate in the formulation of new approaches. In line with this policy, two Royal commissions have been established to deal with matters of the highest concern to Ontario's economy and both are receiving the benefit of many representations from the public. Mr. Justice George A. McGillivray is examining the operation of the workmen's compensation system, while the Honourable Ivan C. Rand has been given broad terms of reference to make proposals that will help to rationalize and harmonize the interests of labour, management and the public in the field of labour-management relations.

My government will bring forward legislation to provide compensation for those who are injured while assisting the police in maintaining law and order.

Every effort must be made to ensure that a climate is maintained which is congenial to investment in the development of our resources and our industry.

The new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs is working closely with all departments of my government to encourage a high degree of public confidence in Canadian investment. Participation by our citizens in the development of Ontario's economic life is of paramount importance.

It is my government's intention to introduce legislation that will assure that the savings of our people are adequately safeguarded. There are questions of jurisdiction. The recent proposals of the federal government in the field of deposit insurance are being analyzed and, where additional protection is required, such protection will be provided.

Canada's Centennial year will be marked by a full-scale Programme of Provincial Development. A review of all existing programmes relating to human and natural resources and social capital will be undertaken. From this reappraisal will evolve a general economic plan for the development of Ontario. Present policies in such areas as availability of labour, industrial development,

natural resources, transportation, energy, conservation and water will be assessed within the framework of this total development strategy. Attainment of the full economic potential of every region of Ontario is a prime interest of my government.

To maintain the upward progress of our economy, my government recognizes the need to greatly increase our share of available foreign business opportunities. In a realignment of our commercial trade officers, an International Task Force will be launched to assist Ontario manufacturers to secure more export volume, arrange for manufacturing licence agreements, seek new industries and investment capital for the province.

Our continued economic and industrial strength depends to a marked degree upon the attainment and continuance of a high level of scientific research and technological development. My government will further encourage these concepts with the introduction of a programme to provide increased support to the activities of the Ontario research foundation.

In recognition of the importance of landing strips and airports throughout northern Ontario, investigations are being conducted with a view to formulating an appropriate policy. Resulting facilities will provide new opportunities for the further development of this important part of our province.

On January 1, 1967, our people entered into the centenary of Confederation. It is appropriate that, as we progress through our Centennial observances, we shall have in our midst Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and other members of our Royal family, and the chiefs of state of many of the nations of the world. These visits emphasize the close and continuing ties which link our people with our Royal family, and with so many friendly nations. They will be with us at a time of great historical significance and rejoicing by Canadians; a time for celebration and commemoration of the past.

During the Centennial year Ontario will present itself to the world through the great world exposition to be held in Montreal. An invitation is extended to all of our citizens to visit the Ontario Pavilion at Expo '67. The exciting and imaginative architecture of our pavilion and its exhibits will mirror the life, culture and accomplishments of our people and our province.

To further mark the Centennial year, my government will undertake two developments

of significance to present and future generations.

The first will be the creation of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. This foundation will be empowered to acquire and manage properties of historical, architectural, aesthetic and cultural interest for the benefit of the people of Ontario.

The second will be the convening of a Confederation of Tomorrow Conference. This assembly will be asked to approve the policy of my government to invite the leaders of all provinces and the federal government to a conference where the future course of our federal system of government will be discussed. My government considers it appropriate for Ontario, as one of the founding provinces of Confederation, to provide the inspiration and setting for such discussions.

It is the hope of my government that the Confederation of Tomorrow Conference will herald the beginning of a series of meetings through which our 11 governments are brought into closer communion and Canadian unity strengthened.

The programmes, policies and proposed legislation of my government, which I have outlined, will ensure that our Centennial year will be noteworthy in its achievements.

May Divine Providence guide you in your deliberations.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to retire from the chamber.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: I beg to inform the House that, to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of His Honour's speech, which I will now read.

(Reading dispensed with.)

THE LAND TITLES ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree), that the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor to this House be taken into consideration tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I would once again like to welcome the new hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon).

Mr. Speaker, I have come to know these lines without rehearsal. I think I really could not do less than wish for him that which I wished for his predecessors; and that is a guarantee that I will do everything in my power to ensure that he has a very long and honourable tenure of this office.

Mr. Speaker, this day, not chosen deliberately, is the 208th anniversary of the birthday of Robbie Burns. I felt that for those of us with Scottish names, ancestry and backgrounds, one of which I do not happen to be, I would not like this particular occasion to pass unremarked upon.

Mr. Burns wrote some remarks which I think perhaps apply particularly to us today. I certainly cannot speak with a Scottish brogue, but he did say that if we only had the gift to see ourselves as others see us, it might save us from various blunders. In some mood of humility, and I hope not being offensive in my remarks to the hon. leader of the Opposition, I would say perhaps that thought is as applicable to those of us who sit in this House as anything could be—particularly in pictures of ourselves so often put before us by the members of the press gallery. However, I am looking forward, Mr. Speaker, to a long, and I think probably very active, session here. And I say to this House I approach it with some zest.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, before the motion is put, you might permit me to reply to the kind remarks of the hon. Prime Minister a few moments ago. I appreciate his good wishes although I cannot say I agree with him in every detail.

I must say that I deeply appreciate the position of honour and responsibility that has been conferred on me by my colleagues in the House and across the province.

It is interesting to note that, 100 years ago, when this House had its first session, the place of my hon. friend was held by the Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald and my place was occupied by Edward Blake, a young man whom I would tell you went on to win the subsequent election—a man who, however, had a rather chequered career when examined in detail following that event. But I feel it would be of general interest, sir, if I read to you the Speech from the Throne 100 years

ago. He said, and he was talking to the Prime Minister then:

And it must be your endeavour, while affording due encouragement to individual enterprise, to protect the interest of the public at large from the consequences of brash or ill-advised speculation.

If I may conclude on this note, we are in a position, a century removed from that occasion, to pass in historic judgment on the men concerned in those days. We realize, although they had political differences, that their interests were in the welfare of the citizens of this province; and I hope, as we face a session of great importance, that when history looks back on our actions it will be said that all of us responded responsibly and in the best interest of the province of Ontario.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, this is the one day in the session, the first and perhaps the last, when we can

achieve unanimity, and I would just like to underline that fact. I will try to withstand the invitation to dip into history with many things that might be said for their appropriateness to this occasion in the Ontario Legislature.

I would just like to join with the hon. Prime Minister in extending good wishes to the hon. leader of the Opposition. I saw him in his moment of triumph and I shall be here in those future moments of triumph that he aspires to.

I need say nothing more, as to the Prime Minister's reference to that great poet, Robbie Burns, because if we do get going we will be here for an hour, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 3.45 o'clock, p.m.



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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, January 26, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1967

The House met at 3 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to welcome as guests to the Legislature today, in the east gallery, students from North Park collegiate, Brantford.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Clerk had received from the chief election officer, and laid upon the table, the certificate of a by-election held since the last session of the House:

Electoral district of Kenora: Leo Edward Bernier.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that in view of writ of election dated the 15th day of August, 1966, issued by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario, and addressed to Joseph O'Flaherty, Esquire, returning officer for the electoral district of Kenora, for the election of a member to represent the said electoral district of Kenora in the legislative assembly of this province in the room of Robert Wayne Gibson, Esquire, who, since his election as representative of the said electoral district of Kenora, hath departed this life, Leo Edward Bernier, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected as appears by the return of the said writ of election, dated the 13th day of October, 1966, which is now lodged on record in my office.

(Signed)
RODERICK LEWIS,
Chief Election Officer

Toronto, January 26, 1967.

Leo Edward Bernier, Esquire, member-elect for the electoral district of Kenora, having taken the oaths and subscribed the roll, took his seat.

Hon. J. P. Roberts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if I might be permitted to express a word of greeting to my new colleague: I remember so very well standing, perhaps not in this exact place, and having a challenge hurled at me by the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) in the dying moments of the session last summer. I was delighted to accept that challenge, and as its result, of course, we have this very pleasant little ceremony to perform this afternoon.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Luck sometimes changes!

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Does the hon. Prime Minister want to try for two?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Listen, one of these days, I am going to try for 117.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker, may I express a warm greeting to the hon. member for Kenora and wish for him many long and happy days in this House, and success in the work that he will do here, not only on behalf of the residents of that great riding of Kenora but also the work he will do on behalf of all the people of Ontario. I extend a very warm welcome to him.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that I cannot bring myself to say that I am delighted to welcome the hon. member for Kenora here, but I can say that politics in northern Ontario is taken even more seriously than it is down here. It is a very hospitable place in which to campaign.

I would recount to you, sir, that at several stages in the campaign in the by-election which we are discussing just now I had the honour and pleasure of meeting the new member as our group was moving about the riding. As a matter of fact our friends to the immediate left were also in on the party on that particular occasion, and the hospitality of the north was second to none.

I must say, sir, that I do extend my greetings to the member for Kenora and say to him that I hope he enjoys his stay here in the Legislature. We did everything we could to keep him out, but he was the victor in this election and under those circumstances we welcome him to the Legislature of Ontario.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have no hesitancy in enthusiastically welcoming the hon. member for Kenora here. One of the facts of democratic life is that when the decision has been made you live with it. As the leader of the Opposition has indicated, some of us spent a great deal of time trying to make certain that Mr. Bernier would have plenty of time to look after the home fireside. We failed; he is here.

I hope that he will be able to appreciate the real challenge in public service. I would add, Mr. Speaker, that I know of no man who has a greater challenge than he because I know of no place where there is a wider sense of protest on the part of the local people that this government has not done the job.

What I say now is in no way detracting from my earlier comments of welcome, but I am certain that the new member was sent here as an effort of desperation on the part of the people who have come to the conclusion that they could not lose by trying a man on the government side of the House, that this may be the only way to get a fair share of what is available from Queen's Park.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): That is not what the hon. member told them during that campaign.

Mr. MacDonald: I did, and as a matter of fact I can document it and I do not back away from it for one moment now. However, I do not want to spoil the welcome so I repeat my personal best wishes to the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, perhaps this would be an opportune moment to refer to the discussion we had in the House a year ago approximately concerning regulations and orders in council. I undertook at that time, in the debate on an amendment to a motion, to carry out some research in regard to practices and procedures in other jurisdictions as far as the whole question of delegated legislation is concerned, including the method by which we handle orders in council here, and promulgate regulations made as a result of powers given in various pieces of legislation. I can report to the House that a great deal of research has been done in this area in the intervening period of time.

This volume I have here constitutes the written material that has been assembled. We have looked at procedures in Manitoba because the Manitoba plan was referred to in that debate of a year ago. We have examined what is done in the Parliament of Canada; we have examined what is done at Westminster.

As I suspected, and as I stated in that debate last year, while it is very simple to say: "Some other jurisdiction does it so why do we not do what they do," when one really

gets down to it and examines in particular, and in detail, what is done in other jurisdictions, one finds of course that various procedures are developed to meet particular circumstances. It is very difficult indeed to draw exact parallels.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Who was trying to draw exact parallels?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will tell the hon. member who was trying to draw exact parallels. The former leader of the Opposition referred in great detail to what was done in Manitoba and suggested that we do the same thing. Now there is the parallel.

In any event, it is a silly side issue that we seem to be getting into. What I would like to do is take one of our standing committees of the House, in which all parties are represented, and place this material before that committee. I would also like to bring before that committee the secretary of the Cabinet who deals with orders in council, the registrar of regulations who deals with the regulations here, and then we will be able to compare and examine this material we have. Then perhaps that committee can make some recommendations to us, if they appear to be necessary, in order to improve the procedures we have.

I want to make it very clear that we want as complete disclosure as possible; we want the best form of organization possible in dealing with these things. This afternoon, I am not going to go into the question of how we do handle them; we went into this quite carefully last year; the results of our studies are all set out in this documentation I have in my hands. Therefore if this can be referred to as the report of the study I undertook to make, I will take steps to have this material referred to one of our committees after they are set up. It can be examined during the early days of this session. If there are recommendations to be made, we would be pleased to receive them, but all of this material will be available to all parties in order that their positions may be made clear.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I welcome the announcement that the hon. Prime Minister has made, that this research has been done and will be available for one of the committees of the House. I recall my former leader, sir, the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson), discussing this matter in the House. He did make reference to Manitoba; as well as that, he referred to the system that prevails in the United Kingdom, where regulations and orders in council are perused by a committee of Parliament—as a matter of

fact, they lapse unless approval is given by that committee. I do not think it is exactly fair to indicate that his researches at that time were in any way narrow, and I am delighted to see, Mr. Speaker, that some tangible circumstance has evolved from the discussion at that time.

I welcome the Prime Minister's comments and hope that we, as a committee of the Legislature, can bring them into effect.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, since I have been one of the people who over the years have, shall I say, been agitating for some sort of committee to review orders in council and regulations, perhaps you will permit me to make a comment or two on what the hon. Prime Minister has just said.

First of all, I would appreciate it if he would indicate reasonably soon which standing committee he has in mind as the committee to which this matter will be referred. I would like to make this point in regard to the general tenor of his remarks. As far as I am concerned, and I think as far as anyone who has spoken on this issue on this side of the House is concerned, our complaint has not in any sense been directed to the question of disclosure.

We are quite well aware that ever since Col. Drew's day there has been provision for disclosure of orders in council after they have become law. What our complaint has been is that laws are enacted in this province, in fact I would say most of the law in this province that means anything is enacted without it ever coming to this Legislature at all, or ever being in any formal way placed before this Legislature or any group representing the Legislature. That has been the basis of our complaint.

We pass statutes here that give broad powers to other bodies to make laws. These other bodies make laws, often not within the spirit of the statutes passed at all — often, I would say, in contradiction to the spirit of those statutes — and there is no way whereby this House can discharge its duty of supervising the law-making of the province.

Now this is the matter that we have complained about in the past, and I trust that it is that point pre-eminently which the Prime Minister will have the committee look into — not the question of disclosure on which I do not think there is any complaint. Certainly, sir, not as far as I am concerned.

The Prime Minister, when he was speaking, said I had introduced rather a trivial side issue when I took him up on what I think was a trivial point by him, that it has been

suggested on this side of the House that we should do exactly what is done in some other jurisdiction. Let us get that cleared out of the way. I do not think anybody here has ever suggested that we do it in exactly the way they do it in Westminster, or exactly the way they do it in Manitoba.

I have myself referred to both those jurisdictions on occasion, as examples of the fact that other jurisdictions, in their own way, have attempted to deal with this problem which we have placed before the government on many occasions. Obviously we would have somewhat different procedures here, adapted to our traditions. The main point in my view, however, is that there should be some effective procedure whereby a committee of this House can review orders in council and can bring them to the floor of this House when it considers it necessary to do so. If this is what the Prime Minister now has in mind, or has in mind looking into, I welcome the statement he has made.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves, seconded by hon. Mr. Rowntree, that during the present session of the legislative assembly provision be made for the taking and printing of reports of debates and speeches, and to that end that Mr. Speaker be authorized to employ an editor of debates and speeches and the necessary stenographers at such rates of compensation as may be agreed to by him. Also that Mr. Speaker be authorized to arrange for the printing of the reports, in the amount of 1,800 copies daily, copies of such printed reports to be supplied to the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, to Mr. Speaker, to the Clerk of the legislative assembly, to the legislative library, to each hon. member of the assembly, to the reference libraries of the province, to the press gallery, to the newspapers of the province approved by Mr. Speaker, and the balance to be distributed by the Clerk of the assembly as directed by Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: This, I might say, is the traditional *Hansard* motion.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that, until further order, the House will meet at 2:30 each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and at 10:30 a.m. on each Friday.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves, seconded by **Mr. R. G. Hodgson** (Victoria),

that the standing committees of the House for the present session be appointed for the following purposes: 1. On agriculture and food; 2. On education and university affairs; 3. On government commissions; 4. On health; 5. On highways and transport; 6. On legal bills and municipal affairs; 7. On labour; 8. On natural resources and tourism; 9. On private bills; 10. On privileges and elections; 11. On public accounts; 12. On standing orders and printing; 13. On welfare and reform; which said committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon with the power to send for persons, papers and records.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I believe this is the fourth time since the election in 1963 that the matter of committees, and developing the committee sittings in the Legislature, has been discussed. It is interesting that the member for London South has made this motion, because in my brief experience in the Legislature the committee in which I have most interest—having to do with education—was chaired by that member when I first came into the House and I do not believe that our discussions in the committee have been so useful since his day in the chair.

I feel that the system has deteriorated considerably in the last few years, that the committees have been relegated simply to the responsibility for the discussion of legislation rather than, more properly, the calling before it of experts in their field and of discussing a wide range of problems associated with the numerous committees that you have laid out for us.

I believe that the motion, of course, is set up so that the committees themselves can take the responsibility for what they discuss. Nevertheless, those of us who attend these committee meetings realize that the general tenor of the course of the committee itself is set by the government, as is the selection of the chairman; and the government majority naturally rules, as well it should. I believe it will take a change in government policy before these committees are going to take an active role in the development of ideas and in the training of those of us as members who wish to become more expert in certain specific fields of discussion and responsibility.

It occurs to me that if the government policy was changed somewhat, and if the chairmen of these committees when they are elected in the next few days would set out a programme that would enable these commit-

tees to get actively to work very soon and continue throughout the life of the session, we would do a great service to ourselves, to begin with, and in general of course, to the people of Ontario. Very specifically, I believe that the education committee should call before it Dr. Spinks who, with two colleagues, presented a report to the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) and in general to the government of Ontario, having to do with the efficiency with which our post-secondary education is developing. I believe that the new director of the Centennial science museum might well be called before the same committee. This particular responsibility has been in the news of late and I believe the membership of this House deserves considerably more consultation and information regarding it than we have had in the past.

I believe the president of the Ontario teachers' federation should be called before the committee to explain the views, the official professional views, of the teachers, having to do with pay by merit—and for their requirements for more pay in general that are before us, and before the boards of education across Ontario, at the present time. We have seen the difficulties that our sister province of Quebec has gotten into, in dealing with teachers, when those in authority have not been fully knowledgeable as to the nature of the problems that the teaching profession faces.

I would think, Mr. Speaker, in addition, that the committee on agriculture would be well served if the chairman of the food council might be called before us to give us his views as to the present pressure between the consumers and the producers of food over prices and packaging and marketing.

The committee on health could very well inquire in some detail into the early months of the organization of OMSIP and some of the difficulties associated with it. I believe that the man in charge of the Ontario hospital at 999 Queen Street West, Dr. Christie, might welcome an opportunity—not so much to have a public forum to attack the hon. Minister, I do not believe that is his intention—but so that we, as the responsible members from our own communities, would have the information associated with the growing problems of mental health, that the president of the Ontario medical association might very well justify to us as members of the committee on health why the increase in doctors' fees has taken place.

Now we know that this is enshrined in OMSIP legislation, that the increases associated with the fees in medicine are going to

be paid by our government insurance at a rate of 90 per cent, but without consultation or without direction from government. I believe it is necessary that these be justified in a public way so that we can go back to our own areas and talk to those people who are approaching us about these changes and desire some additional information.

I would like to recall to your mind, sir, that when I speak about the deterioration of the use of these committees, that our committee on education last year, after a four-minute session in which we were organized, did not meet at all, as far as my memory serves me, for four to five months; although the chairman last year was a man of ability, and I presume he still is, he did undertake to discuss with some of us areas in which our discussions could have gone on. There is willingness in the committee and I feel the chairman of the committee is as willing as any, but it requires some leadership from the government for establishment of a progressive and useful committee system.

Now the Prime Minister has outlined a few changes in the motion that has been put before the House; some small rearrangements and divisions as far as the committee system as we understood it last year. I approve of these changes and I think it will facilitate the general work that could be so much improved if it had better direction.

The Prime Minister has referred to some useful material that will be made available on the possibility of having more regulation of our orders in council, but there is another matter that I would like to discuss briefly with hon. members. It has to do with the possibility of a committee on estimates.

In my view, this House wastes countless hours under the present system whereby we discuss the estimates of the government. I know the supporters of the government are very willing to agree with this and it is a measure of the Prime Minister's feeling for the Legislature that he is willing to make almost unlimited time available in this, the most important forum in the province, for discussions of this nature.

Yet I feel that with some imagination it would be possible to set up a committee on estimates, wherein the responsible public servants advising the Ministers would also be able to speak themselves, rather than only through the responsible Ministers; where a smaller group who have specific interest in the subject under discussion could gather in one of the committee rooms and carry on a much more useful discussion as to the back-

ground of the policy decisions the Minister has made in the year gone by and the need for the money that he proposes to spend in the year that lies immediately ahead.

The system breaks down somewhat when the Ministers' advisers are placed at a table just beneath his desk in this chamber, and naturally the Minister cannot be expected to answer in detail all of the questions that are put to him in these detailed examinations. I do not feel that it does our public service any honour when they are put in a position of whispered consultation and the passing of hastily written notes for the assistance of the Minister. I believe they are involved in an unhealthy way in this sort of questioning. It is far better, in matters of information not pertaining to policy, that they stand in a committee and give their own responsible view as to the workings of the department.

The Prime Minister has said in the past that he finds that if this type of discussion is embarked on outside the Legislature there is a tendency to repeat it here. I would say that he has some reason for that view, but surely among the three parties represented here an agreement could be worked out whereby the discussion of the estimates would not consume the endless hours that it has in the years gone by.

I propose this to you, sir, as something that could be looked into. I guarantee that the good faith of the Liberal Party, which I have the honour to lead, would be directed towards saving time; and also putting before this House and the people of Ontario the pertinent information.

Now we are looking forward in the weeks and months that lie directly ahead to the report of a number of our select committees. Beyond that there are a number of special ministerial committees and governmental committees that have been set up among experts in the field which do not report to this Legislature but to the responsible Ministers.

Too frequently I feel—and I think the hon. Minister of Education is to be criticized in this regard—matters of general public concern are taken away from the membership of this Legislature for what perhaps would appear to be better consideration by experts in the field. I think, Mr. Speaker, you would agree with me that while the representatives of the people here in this Legislature cannot of course qualify in the expert capacities that are sometimes called into the service of the government, we have a right to be given the information pertinent to the decisions that are made by the government and the hon.

Minister, and that in the past we have been excluded from the information that is so important in this field.

Now in particular, there is one matter that is of grave, province-wide concern. It has to do with the management of the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, which my hon. friend the House leader has undertaken just a few weeks ago. We have been shocked by revelations in the newspapers and in the news media in general—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I will just have a sentence or two along these lines, and I would say that this is an area of general concern. The Minister responsible has announced that he is going to take advice from a group of people in the financial community, whom I submit have some special interest and responsibility in this area of concern. But this is surely an area where the members of this Legislature must have the facts openly and fully before them. With the organization and reorganization of the committee system it is difficult for me to suggest to you, sir, which of the standing committees would be appropriate for this sort of research, but since the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has put under his jurisdiction legislation that previously came under The Attorney General's Department, I would suggest that the committee on legal bills and municipal affairs, which is the new name for the committee, might very well look into this. With this in mind, sir, I would put for your consideration an amendment to the motion that is now before us.

I move, seconded by Mr. Singer, that this motion be amended by adding to it the words:

And that this House hereby instruct the committee on legal bills and municipal affairs to undertake forthwith an investigation into all matters relating to the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, may I have your guidance? For the moment will the debate be concentrated on the amendment and will we, at a later point, be able to come back to the main motion, because we have really two separate—

Mr. Speaker: I would think that as the leader of the party the member could comment at this time on the general motion first, as did the leader of the Opposition; and then perhaps if he wished, proceed with the amendment; and then the discussion from there would proceed with the amendment.

I think that only the leaders are concerned with the main motion.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, thank you for your guidance; I think that facilitates what I wanted to do.

In speaking first to the proposition of committees, I think I would be willing to concur very completely with the general tenor of the leader of the Opposition's remarks. In my experience in this Legislature committees have been extremely varied in their functions. I can remember an occasion when committees were used as a forum for bringing people outside the Legislature, from among the public, in the civil service, to discuss certain aspects of problems that fell within the jurisdiction of that committee.

Quite frankly, for new members of the Legislature or for a new member of that committee it was an extremely valuable procedure. I agree with the hon. leader of the Opposition there has been a tendency for that kind of thing to die away. The classic case last year, of course, was the committee on education which virtually did not meet at all. It had an organizational meeting and then had another meeting towards the end of the year.

While there are literally scores of examples of what might be done with the various committees — I am not going to attempt to range through those scores, the leader of the Opposition has already done so — I want to focus my attention, to make my point, on one to which he has already alluded. I am referring to the education committee, and the problems related, for example, to the Spinks commission report.

Now, one of the interesting things, Mr. Speaker, about the Spinks commission, is that I did not even know it existed. Maybe I was asleep, but I hasten to add that if I was asleep, I suspect that 99.999 per cent of the people in the province were asleep.

The Minister did not intimate to us during discussion of the estimates last year that such a committee had been established. In fact it was established in 1965 following the joint meeting of the committee of university presidents and the committee of university affairs in May of 1965, and the commission has been working for the last 18 months. It seems to me that this House is entitled to know when committees are operating on public expenditure of money, because this government was paying the total expense involved in the operation of that committee.

I would agree with the proposal that these men should be brought before the committee

for another reason, and this rather puzzles and mystifies me, and that is that the authors of the report on the one hand apparently were led to believe that they would be invited to the public unveiling of their report. In fact they were not invited, and what took place was that the various spokesmen for the university establishment in the province of Ontario rather kindly, but nonetheless firmly and forcefully, shot all the recommendations down in flames almost as quickly as they were announced at the press conference.

Now it seems to me, without getting into any confrontation between these people, whom I think unnecessarily have been separated and confronted, that there is value in having the views of these men, in having the views of representatives of the committee of university presidents, the committee of university affairs, before the committee on education so that we can come to our own conclusions. We in this Legislature are going to have a rather difficult task in balancing out carefully considered recommendations of a commission financed by this government when those recommendations were almost automatically and immediately dismissed by not only representatives of the university establishment but I assume in most instances by the hon. Minister himself.

An hon member: No.

Mr. MacDonald: In some instances certainly, if not in most. All the more need for having a meeting of the committee.

The hon. Minister is shaking his head negatively; we can find out what that means along with a lot of other things we need to find out.

Now Mr. Speaker, I want to make a comment about another committee — the committee on government commissions. I suppose that there is no committee upon which there has been so consistently criticism of its activities, because of the difficulty of meaningfully coming to grips with the operations of various Crown corporations in the province of Ontario which are responsible to the government and this Legislature.

For example, Ontario Hydro is a publicly owned corporation, but it is actually accountable in a democratic way, as far as this Legislature is concerned, primarily through one hour, or one-and-a-half hours, at the most a two-hour meeting of the committee on government commissions.

Because of the difficulty in really coming to grips with the detail and the complexity in the operation of some of these bodies, we

proposed last year—one of my colleagues moved a motion which I believe was seconded by a member from the government side of the House—that we should in effect equip the committee on government commissions with a secretariat, some people who would do—if I may draw an analogy—something equivalent to the kind of preparatory work which is done with some of our select committees now, or with some of the senatorial committees in Washington.

Thus, when a commission comes before the standing committee on government commissions, busy members who are perhaps coming to the standing committee meeting, having left another one and knowing that they are going to have to rush to lunch and a meeting of the Legislature, will have enough preparatory work done that their hour, or hour-and-a-half, with the Hydro or whatever body is before them, will provide a more effective scrutiny of the operation of that government commission.

Last year, I repeat, this motion was made; it was passed, unanimously in my recollection, and literally nothing happened. It is rather a strange thing, Mr. Speaker, that a committee passes a motion and literally nothing happens. We raised the matter two or three times later in the year and yet nothing continued to happen. I submit that the government should give some consideration to this and, if a similar motion is put before the committee, that it not only should be passed this year but that the government should be willing to take the necessary steps to equip that committee so that it can do a real job.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a brief comment on the observations of the leader of the Opposition with regard to a committee on estimates. Quite frankly, I have some misgivings with regard to the proposal that he made. It is my view that the kind of detailed investigation of estimates that goes on in this Legislature is some of the most important work that is done in this Legislature.

If this Legislature were meeting like the House of Commons at Westminster, for virtually 12 months of the year, or at Ottawa for some 10 or 11 months of the year, so that time was one of our problems, then it would seem to me the basis for the argument that was advanced by the leader of the Opposition would be a stronger one; but I for one reiterate what I have said many times before, that I do not think this Legislature is meeting longer than it should.

Last year we met for, what was it, five-and-a-half months. I think the proposition of meeting for five or six months in a province, the largest province of the country, with a budget of over \$2 billion, a budget as large as the federal budget until World War II, is not an unfair proposition. I think anybody who stands for membership in this Legislature in the forthcoming election should do so on the assumption that he is going to be meeting approximately half of the year.

Within that context I have some grave misgivings about the proposition of taking consideration of the estimates out to a committee where only some of the members are going to be there, where all of the Cabinet Ministers are not necessarily going to be there, where we may or may not have a record of what is said in the committee, a *Hansard* record, so that you can go back and refer to it.

Mr. Nixon: We can get that easily.

Mr. MacDonald: I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that a little self-discipline, administered within the framework of how we are operating now, is the best way for the detailed consideration of the estimates within the Ontario Legislature. Certainly, as long as we are meeting less than six months, we will have to have a lot more persuasive argument advanced before I would change my mind.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, can I ask the hon. member a question? I wonder how he would propose to have the officials of a department speak, with the authority that they have, in a way better than is now in operation—where they must whisper to the Minister and pass notes. I find that very unsatisfactory.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, there may be something of a point in what the leader of the Opposition has said. But we have standing committees where you can bring civil servants, members of the department, to answer questions with regard to the operations. But, in the estimates, you are dealing with the expenditure of money, dealing with policy, and the person who is responsible on those occasions is the hon. Minister. I do not want to put the onus on a civil servant, who is going to become the butt of attacks in a committee, when the man who is responsible constitutionally, and who should remain responsible, is the Minister. This is the man you are going to have to face and the civil servant, for better or for worse, is going to be passing information to him and not be in the line of fire. *blonde il n'est regret que*

Hon. Mr. Roberts: We are going to change quite a few things.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I come to the final amendment that the leader of the Opposition has made. I might say that I was prepared to make an amendment, but of a somewhat different nature. Quite frankly, I wish I had an opportunity to make it because the amendment before us has somewhat confused the picture. If I may read it, Mr. Speaker, it is:

That the House hereby instruct the committee on legal bills and municipal affairs to undertake forthwith an investigation into all matters relating to the Prudential Finance Corporation.

In part, Mr. Speaker, I think that amendment is out of order because a portion of the problem represented in the collapse of Prudential is the actual operations of the company itself. This is being investigated by the Ontario securities commission and the new Minister, once his department was established, rather rapidly recognized—unlike his predecessor on this score—that the Ontario securities commission could not do the job within a legitimate length of time. He has brought in the firm of Clarkson Gordon and Company to assist the Ontario securities commission; and the Minister, in the press announcement, emphasized that this was going to be an investigation for a report—not, said he, in six months, but in two or three months. And one of the news stories indicated that he expected that report by March.

Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, I do not see any point in a standing committee of this Legislature trying to wend its way through the complexities of a bankrupt financial company in terms of its internal operations. This is being investigated; and I trust, and I have every reason to believe, we will get a full disclosure. I emphasize that the people of the province of Ontario are entitled to that disclosure.

However, Mr. Speaker, I was going to have made an amendment which I think would have focussed attention on the area that this House should be looking into—because it is not before the Ontario securities commission, it is not the concern of Clarkson Gordon and Company—and that is that the legal bills and the municipal affairs committee be authorized and instructed to investigate the failure of this government in the case of the Prudential Finance Corporation, either to exercise the powers it already had, or to seek additional powers in order to cope

effectively with imminent bankruptcies in a company under its jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to you that that is of paramount importance in this Legislature today, because there are ugly rumours afoot in the province of Ontario. I have never seen a more pained look on anybody's face than the new hon. Minister of Finance and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) when he was asked at a press conference about these other rumours and he did not want to lend any credence to them. It was a very pained look.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Would it be my duty or responsibility to lend any credence to rumours that may not be true?

Mr. MacDonald: No! No!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: And I am surprised that you would suggest such a thing.

Mr. MacDonald: Now just a minute. We have the problem here, Mr. Speaker, of dealing with two Ministers who have had responsibility for this; and I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), speaking in his capacity and with his responsibility for this, on December 22 made the comment—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I wonder if we are not getting away from the specific amendment which the leader of the Opposition proposed? I would rather the member come back and deal specifically with the amendment, now that he has finished with his general remarks on the main motion before the House—we have an amendment before the House, so I would ask the member to confine his remarks specifically as to whether this amendment is a good thing or not.

Mr. MacDonald: Well all right, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your direction. I think I can comply.

I have already indicated that, in my view, a portion of this amendment is out of order, because it has already been investigated by the Ontario securities commission and by Clarkson Gordon and Company. But there is another equally important aspect of the problem, namely the responsibility of this government in not exercising powers it had, or not seeking more powers which it claimed it needed, in order to cope with a company that was going bankrupt—and which it has now admitted publicly was going bankrupt. Therefore perhaps I can make my point by moving, seconded by Mr. Bryden, that the amendment be amended by adding thereto:

And in particular to investigate the failure of the government either to exercise the powers it already had or to seek additional powers in order to cope effectively with imminent bankruptcy in a company under its jurisdiction.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, may I—

Mr. Speaker: I think it should be the turn of the government side to speak.

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, I say with some regret that the remarks of the hon. leader of the Opposition come as a surprise to me and, I think, must come under the general category of political hocus pocus. I am going to describe very briefly the changes—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Read the Speech from the Throne for hocus pocus.

Mr. White: I am going to describe very briefly the changes that were made in the last couple of years in an attempt, largely successful, to make the committee system more effective in this House.

You will recall, sir, when this matter was debated a year ago, I was able to say that two new committees had been formed, one on education—and I may say, sir, that that suggestion sprang from the new leader of the Opposition. At one time we had a committee on education and health and welfare. When the leader of the Opposition suggested that that was too many departments for one committee, education was removed to be a committee all by itself, a year ago.

I was able to tell you a year ago, sir, that each member was on a smaller number of committees in the hope that each member could specialize to a somewhat greater degree and that the work of the committees could go ahead more efficiently. I am sorry to have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, on this point, that a continuing problem of the committees is the attendance of the members. I do not mean all of the members, because the NDP attendance is very good at 86 per cent, and the Progressive Conservative attendance is very good at 64 per cent. I am saying, sir, that the committee system would be much more effective if the Liberal members on these committees would attend and participate, because their attendance last year was 50 per cent and in some years—

An hon. member: No, no!

Mr. White: Yes, sir; 50 per cent on average, but some of the attendances fell as low

as eight per cent. That I think is one of the reasons the new leader of the Opposition may not be fully acquainted with the work that the committees have been doing.

I was able to tell you, sir, that we were getting off to a very fast start, a year ago, and such is the case this year. A motion which I will make before we adjourn today will set up the striking committee, and that striking committee, sir, will meet next Monday at 11 o'clock, with the committee meetings themselves starting immediately. It was suggested by the predecessor to the leader of the Opposition that there should be a continuity of membership. We have done that, Mr. Speaker, and we have attempted to some extent to have a continuity of chairmanship. That has been done too.

In my closing remarks a year ago, I said:

I would hope that in 11 months, or thereabouts, when we sit down once again with representatives from the other side to consider changes in the committee system, they will have the integrity to offer their suggestions at a time when they can be implemented.

Last week, the deputy Whip and I visited the leader of the NDP and we discussed the changes which we had in mind and which I am going to describe to you now. He was good enough to renew his suggestion that there be a staff appointed to the committee on government commissions.

My understanding is that we have a better system of secretarial service now being provided by the office of the Clerk of the Legislature, not relying on the less satisfactory arrangements which had been the case in the years gone by. Consideration is now being given to adding to that staff and, before very many weeks have gone by, some final decision will have been made on that point.

I then said to the leader of the NDP: "Would you suggest that any of these committees be eliminated?" And he said no. "Would you suggest that any committees be added?" And he said no. So, as I say, the suggestion that was made is being studied.

Immediately afterwards we discussed the new committee arrangements with the representative of the leader of the Opposition. No suggestions were forthcoming. I beg your pardon—there were several small suggestions made, each of which was adopted, and I said to the leader's representative: "Are there any committees you would like to see added?" The answer was no. "Are there any of these

committees you would like to see deleted?" The answer was no.

Now, sir, the leader stands in his place and suggests an estimates committee.

Mr. Nixon: Right!

Mr. White: I think the reasons proposed by the leader of the NDP party against that suggestion speak for me too.

Mr. MacDonald: NDP—the "P" stands for party.

Mr. White: This year, sir, we have increased the number of committees, including the striking committee, from 13 to 14, forming a new committee to deal with matters of welfare and reform. Every department of government including the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, has been assigned to one of these committees and matters which the committee members wish to discuss can be brought before the committee, if it is the committee's decision to do so. I say once again, Mr. Speaker, that it cannot be done if the Liberals do not attend; and if their attendance on a committee is only eight per cent—

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): That is a lot of nonsense.

Mr. White:—then obviously that committee is not going to operate very effectively.

Mr. Singer: If the committee does not discuss anything, why go?

Mr. White: The leader of the NDP mentioned that the Ontario Hydro was in front of the committee on government commissions for an hour and a half. Now sir, that committee could have been retained there for many hours, or brought back several days, had it been the wish of the committee. I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that when The Department of Energy and Resources Management was in front of this House with its estimates a year ago, and when the vote on the Ontario Hydro—I have forgotten how many millions of dollars was involved—when that came up not one question was asked. Now, is it not unfair—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. White: The hon. member is complaining now of not having an opportunity. Why did he not ask then—not one question asked by the Opposition. Now they stand up and pretend that they did not have sufficient—because I was here—

An hon. member: The hon. member was not; he was down in Florida.

Mr. White: —did not have sufficient time to debate this matter.

I would like to mention, modesty prevents my reading, the several very complimentary praises which I noted in my review of *Hansard* which were made by the new leader of the Opposition on different occasions. I have those here for my scrapbook. I will not read them out now.

I have dealt, I think, with the way which the committee on education was removed. That was a suggestion that the leader of the Opposition made in 1964; on page 1518 of *Hansard* he suggested that a much greater service could be offered by the committees if they were established on a regular basis with a known routine. Now, the deputy Whip responsible also implemented that suggestion.

I think, sir, that covers the various suggestions. I say, in considering this part of my remarks, that there has not been a suggestion made in seriousness from the Opposition that has not been accommodated in the structuring and scheduling and make-up of the committees. And for the hon. leader to stand in his place now and say that the committee system is deteriorating comes, I think, under the heading of unscrupulous politicking.

An hon. member: I wonder if I could just ask the hon. member a question?

Another hon. member: He will not know the answer.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, last year the committees had 91 meetings, which I am sure was a record for this Legislature. And the committees scrutinized, I think it was 163 bills and 30-some-odd private bills. In addition, they scrutinized the activities of many departments and commissions of government, and to my knowledge none of the requests put by the members on the committees was not fulfilled.

May I deal just very briefly with the amendment to the amendment. I think it would be inopportune, sir, for this Legislature to attempt to impose a schedule on any one of the standing committees. They are completely free and have been completely free to examine any board or matter or government legislation that they wish. I think it would be a very great mistake to bring these issues into the chamber, into the more partisan atmosphere that exists here, where the executive powers are more in evidence.

I think the independence available to the legislative branch of government will be enhanced if we do not here in this place lay down schedules or give instructions to the standing committees. The standing committees can examine virtually any matter and question almost any witness or call for any papers or documents that they wish.

So I would ask all members of the House to think of the best interest of the seven million people in Ontario, to pass this motion which I have moved and to defeat the amendments which have been offered.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, by your leave may I rise in support of the amendment moved by the leader of the Opposition.

I know you will not feel, sir—

Mr. Speaker: If I could take it that the debate on the main motion now is concluded and all further debate will be on the amendment and the amendment to the amendment, perhaps we could run those two together.

Mr. Sopha: No sir; I wish to address myself to the amendment only, sir.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would not want to think I would be precluded by your last statement. I have something to say about the remarks of the hon. leader of the Opposition prior to offering the amendment. There are matters there to which I would like to refer.

Mr. Speaker: In that respect I shall allow all three to run together then.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Thank you.

Mr. Sopha: I know you will not feel, sir, that because in the nature of things I have moved a little closer in geography to my friend the hon. member for York South, that my views have not become any more similar to his because of the geographical change.

Mr. Bryden: We are relieved to know that.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, the people of this province were shocked by the collapse of Atlantic Acceptance Corporation and British Mortgage and Trust Corporation when they occurred some time ago. A Royal commission has been engaged in attempting to unravel the very complex aspects of the tragic events whereby untold numbers of people suffered grave and terrible shocks to their financial stability.

Now, in recent weeks, comes the calamitous revelations concerning yet another financial institution, Prudential Finance Corporation.

There is no question involved, in my humble opinion—and here I refer to the remarks of the hon. Attorney General in another place—there is no question in my humble opinion as a lawyer about the jurisdiction of this Legislature over the affairs, and indeed all the ramifications of a legal nature concerning institutions of this type.

The Attorney General spends a great deal of time, it seems to me from press accounts, blaming the federal government about its failure in the matter. The question which must preoccupy the minds of investors in this province, and particularly small investors, is where this is going to end.

In my view, it is incumbent upon this Legislature—and here I refer to the remarks of the hon. member for York South, who talks about an arm of this Legislature, the Ontario securities commission. I want to say in that regard, sir, that in investigatory matters there is no body in this province with higher powers than the high court of Parliament, this Legislature.

In my view it is incumbent upon this Legislature to act now to reassure the public of this province that immediate steps will be taken to make certain these financial collapses have come to an end. The motion proposed by the leader of the Opposition is a vehicle which accomplishes this end. It ought to commend the support not only of the Ministry, but of members in every corner of the House.

Now Mr. Speaker, the whole point of the amendment of the leader of the Opposition is that this matter be brought before an appropriate committee of this Legislature at the earliest possible time. Committees of the Legislature have the widest powers of subpoena. If the chairman acts with more promptitude than many chairmen have acted, and especially the chairman of the committee on education, then immediate investigation could commence into the affairs of this corporation which has collapsed.

I think, sir, it is the duty of the Ministry, not to say other members that support the Ministry, the duty of the Ministry to take immediate steps to convene meetings of the legal bills committee, to call the appropriate people before it, to get on with the matter of ascertaining what has occurred; and to make certain that this thing will not occur again and to restore public confidence in the financial institutions of this province.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, not that I wish to participate in the debate on the amendment, but it is not

often the member for York South misses things that are happening in the academic community. On checking back, there was a release made with respect to the appointment of the Spinks commission on either August 23 or 25, 1965. It was reported in the *Globe and Mail* and I think, if I recall the headline correctly, it was something—leading probe into graduate studies—where the whole story of the commission was set out. In view of the fact that the member of York South missed this occurrence, I shall undertake to provide him with a copy of the press release so that he will have this available to him.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak primarily to the subamendment.

Before I do so, perhaps you will permit me to make this general comment, that in my opinion the committee system in this House has improved substantially during the time I have been here. Mind you, it was simply chaotic when I first came here. But I mean sincerely that there has been a substantial improvement, for which I believe the Prime Minister and the chief government Whip deserve considerable credit.

One can agree that there are still a great many difficulties. I am somewhat inclined to the view, Mr. Speaker, that many of these difficulties arise out of difficulties inherent in the Cabinet system of government *per se*, that they will not be changed by tinkering with committee systems. However, that is not a subject I want to get into now.

I can recognize that we have difficulties, that there have been failures in our committee system, that we probably have not exploited it as fully as we should and that no doubt some of the responsibility lies over here as well as over there. However, Mr. Speaker, we now have before us an amendment and a subamendment which propose that we make a constructive and important use of our committee system.

I was simply flabbergasted at the statement of the hon. member for London South, the government Whip—I think he is from London South, if I am wrong I ask his pardon, Mr. Speaker—but I was flabbergasted at his statement that the committees are quite free to conduct such inquiries as they see fit.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I used to accept that assurance from the government. It used to be given regularly.

I can remember hon. Mr. Frost, and he was a master at the art of giving assurances, standing there and telling us that the committees were perfectly free to inquire into anything that they wanted.

Now last year, this matter was put to test. I was not involved. I was not on the committee concerned, but it was put to the test in the committee dealing with—I think it was called the committee on health and welfare last year, at any rate it dealt with health matters. The chairman of the committee, who unfortunately is not here at the moment, the hon. member for Hamilton Centre (Mrs. Pritchard), herself suggested outside the House, down in Hamilton, back where the troops were, that she was going to have certain matters relating to our mental hospitals inquired into by her committee.

She got a big play back home on that point. Well then, we came back to Queen's Park, and some of the members of the Opposition, I think from both Opposition parties, raised the matter in the committee and proposed that indeed the committee should inquire into those matters. She calmly advised them that it was impossible for the committee to do that, it would need specific instructions from the House, it had no authority to inquire into such matters.

This thing was brought on to the floor of the House and the House, which I do not need to remind hon. members was dominated by Tory members, upheld that view.

So it is quite wrong for the member for London South to suggest that the committee on legal bills and municipal affairs, as it is now called, can on its own initiative, if it sees fit, inquire into any aspects of the Prudential Finance affair without specific instructions and authorization from the House. Therefore, the only reason that has so far been advanced for voting against the amendment and subamendment simply falls to the ground.

Mr. MacDonald: "Unscrupulous politicking!"

Mr. Bryden: If any of the standing committees of this House are to look into this matter, and I believe it is most urgent that they should, then they simply have to have specific authorization according to the way the thing was done last year—and I am sure it will be done the same way again this year if the situation should arise.

I want to take just a minute or two to urge upon the House that it should adopt both the amendment and the subamendment. I believe that the subamendment is important, because if adopted it will direct the attention of the committee to what I think is the most urgent aspect of the investigation. You see, the main motion merely says:

To undertake forthwith an investigation into all matters relating to the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation.

Mr. Nixon: It covers the hon. member's subamendment.

Mr. Bryden: Well, it covers the subamendment; and if the committee embarks on that inquiry it will still be going by about 1990. It may not any longer have any authority, but it would not complete its inquiry this side of 1990, I would not think. That is why we think it is important that the committee should first of all, and particularly and primarily, direct its attention to what is the main point as far as a committee of this House is concerned; that is dereliction on the part of the government and the responsible Minister in their duties to the people of the province.

There was a failure and this should be looked into; we should find out the reasons for the failure and be in a position to take corrective action if that is necessary. As for evidence of the failure, which in my opinion should be investigated, and right soon, I would refer you to the 15-page statement, legal size, issued by the Attorney General back on December 21, 1966—a hand-wringing statement, a woeful tale of ineptitude and inadequacy.

Mr. Sopha: Blaming the federal government!

Mr. Bryden: Blaming everybody!

Blaming the poor innocent little investors—old age pensioners, with \$10,000 or \$15,000 or \$20,000 to invest, to supplement their meagre income—blaming them because they did not read a 22-page, six-point type prospectus filled from beginning to end with legal and accounting jargon. That is the kind of statement that was.

All the way through, according to what the Attorney General told us in his statement, his department and the securities commission stood transfixed while they saw this company going from bad to worse, going to inevitable bankruptcy, and they claim they could do nothing about it. I say, Mr. Speaker, that they held out their hands to be tied, and they were in fact securely and firmly tied, while a substantial number of innocent little investors were unmercifully fleeced. That is what happened under the administration of this government and, at the time, more particularly of the Attorney General. We have got to have a better explanation than we have had up until now. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I

would urge the House to support the sub-amendment.

Let us get this matter to the committee. Let the committee first of all look into the specific matter to which attention is called in the subamendment; then, if it has time, let it go into some of the broader matters referred to in the general motion. I have no objection to the general motion. I think it is a good idea. It gives the committee a broad term of reference to look into any other matters that it may consider important, but first priority should be given to the specific matter referred to in the subamendment.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, this debate has ranged over a rather wide field. That is not a bad thing, but the fact is that technically we have before us the primary motion as to whether or not we are going to appoint any committees. Then we have an amendment by one political party, the official Opposition, and then we have a second amendment made by the third party's leader.

During this ranging debate, some matters have been raised to which I would like to make some reference. Let me just tell the House that, with respect to Prudential—indeed my interest is obvious, apparently—the fact that the department which was created and established on November 24 last as an operative body, has as its Minister the member for York West, and I am concerned that many of the things that have been both in a personal way, in the sense of personal concern, as well as in an official sense—

Mr. Sopha: Would the Minister rather be back in Labour?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Oh I do not know, this is an interesting opportunity.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think this is a healthy way to have the debate continue, because we all have to have a smile once in a while. I am glad to see that some of the members of the Opposition are able to smile.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They do not have much to smile about.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I could not understand how the member for Sudbury should move so far to the left in one fell swoop, seven steps by actual count. He is on the verge of socialism where he sits now. This must be apparent to everyone. What a re-

versal from the attitude of the previous leader as far as he was concerned last year.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sopha: My mission here is evangelical.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The word evangelical makes me think of angelic, up in the air and usually harping about something.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: What about Prudential?

An hon. member: What about getting a loan?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The circumstances surrounding the matters of Prudential Finance Corporation can only be described as entirely unsatisfactory.

Mr. MacDonald: This is a broad ranging debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Right; and some of the remarks of the Opposition are not making any votes. I will tell the hon. member that.

The matters of Prudential are of such importance that steps must and will be taken by the government to see that so far as is humanly possible such a thing may never happen again.

The official investigation, the investigation provided for by The Securities Act, as it then was, has been under way since some time in November. In its first report evidence was submitted to the department and led to certain charges being laid with which I believe the hon. member is familiar.

Subsequent to that, another report has produced other similar evidence on which charges are being laid and on which I shall report to this House in a day or so. The speed with which investigations are conducted is a matter of interest to me. Having in mind this Legislature and its sitting, it seemed to me desirable that at the earliest possible opportunity a detailed report as to that investigation should be concluded and available for presentation to this House, and that is my intention.

It was against that objective, as the member for York South indicated, that I believed some additional staff was required to speed up the investigation. That was done, and I repeat my undertaking, which I made publicly, that in the early part of March, and by that I am thinking in terms of the first week, that that material, such as will be available, will be made immediately available to all

members of the House; and we can go from there.

The member for Sudbury made reference, directly and obliquely, to the question of jurisdiction. I think I would like at this moment, Mr. Speaker, to make my position as the Minister of this department clear on this point, because it is not a word to be bandied around at all.

The fact is that over a period of years there has been legal opinion to the effect that section 91 of The British North America Act did give the federal government the total field with respect to banking and financial matters in the public domain. That field over the years has not been occupied by the federal government. The federal government has occupied the field of banking in its purest sense, but it has not, and I do not feel that it has occupied to the fullest extent the jurisdiction The British North America Act gives. Now it is against the background that the federal government has not occupied the field of banking or near banks or loan companies or any of these institutions which are in the general domain, that the subject matter is attracting the attention, sir, I think of all the members of this Legislature, here in these opening hours of this session of the Legislature.

The most recent development having to do with the position of the federal government, is the introduction of a bill having to do with deposit insurance. Briefly, may I simply say that it is Bill C-261, which has had first reading. But this bill is far from complete. This bill does not give us any indication when the steps that are going to be taken by the federal government will be made effective, nor does it tell us what the steps are going to be.

The closest it comes is in the definitive section, section 2, the interpretation section, part (e) under the heading "Deposit", and it says it means a deposit as defined by the by-laws of the corporation—

An hon. member: What has that to do with this?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It has a good deal to do with what we are talking about. It is this area in the unknown that leads us to analyze carefully what is being done at Ottawa as far as we are able. At this very moment the federal government is negotiating with private corporations to try to define that word "deposit". I am only saying that this bill, even though before the House of Commons in Ottawa, is not there in any detail whatsoever. The best information I have is that

the bill would probably be effective in an undetermined form, probably in the fall of this year.

It is against that premise that I wish to say that it is the intention of this government firstly to cooperate with the federal government in whatever proposals they have to make—

Mr. Sopha: Would the hon. Minister permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, not at this moment.

We will cooperate with the federal government within this matter because we agree with the importance of everything that is involved surrounding this subject matter. We will cooperate with them, but if it turns out that this bill is narrow in its effect and its implication, and does not cover all of the field that should be covered, and protect it, then it is the intention of this government to introduce legislation to cover the entire field and to occupy that position in the jurisdictional aspect or nature of The British North America Act which has been abdicated by the federal government.

Our intention is to see that legislation is made available by this government to see that the people of this province are covered in this field and in this area, regardless of any technical detail of where the jurisdiction lies.

Mr. Sopha: We should get out of the near-bank field—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, who is going to get in it?

Mr. Sopha: —and give it to the federal government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Will they take it?

Mr. Sopha: Certainly they will.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They could do it now if they wanted to.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This is the point. Are they going to exercise their jurisdiction under The British North America Act or are they not? That is the question.

Mr. Singer: Surely the time for rhetorical questions is over? Surely the people want you to act now?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Let us not have any irresponsible remarks.

But in view of this, I think hon. members would want me to tell them what my intentions are as Minister of this new department. This I think I should do at the earliest possible moment. It is against this proposition of our intention to look after the people of this province, regardless of the jurisdictional problems, quite apart from those problems and apart from any failure of any other government to take such steps that these matters will be introduced at as early a moment as possible.

Hon. members can think back over the wording as contained in the Speech from the Throne yesterday. I think with what I have said today, they will have a complete indication of what this government's policy is on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to support the primary motion and not support the two amendments, awaiting the report of the investigations which I have undertaken to table in this House at an early date.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if I may address myself both to the main motion and to the two amendments.

Dealing very briefly with the annual lecture we get from the hon. member for London South. Of all places, in this Legislature, the member for London South in his unctuous pedagogic manner once a year at least tells us that this is not the place to talk politics, least of all let us talk politics about the functioning of committees.

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I never made any such remark.

An hon. member: Well, he looked it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if he did not make any such remark I wish he would just refresh his own memory as soon as the proofs of *Hansard* are ready. Read the way it is going to be reported and I am sure he will find that he was in error when he raised the last point of order.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it would seem to me logical and reasonable that we talk about the functioning of committees in this House and in a political way, because this is what we are here for. We are here to look after—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: My friend does not understand. I am sorry, I hoped his recent involvement

with the University of Western Ontario would give him a broader understanding of the use of the English language and the real meaning of the word politics.

Politics is the science of government and my friend believes that the science of government is that the people accept the Tory viewpoint and do not question it. That is not politics, Mr. Speaker. The science of politics surely involves intelligent discussion and debate of matters affecting the public good. If my friend from London South did not—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I wonder if we could get away from the science of politics and back to the main motion and the two amendments before the House?

Mr. Singer: All right, Mr. Speaker. I was just getting around to that. Thank you for reminding me.

Mr. Speaker, all I want to say is this. We are not satisfied, nor have we been, in the functioning of these committees. The government appoints a chairman. They decide in private caucus—I do not know how the mystery of the appointing of chairmen of these committees works.

My colleague and my leader from Brant has pointed out the very few moments of meeting of the education committee.

We know in the legal bills committee, as it previously existed, the hon. Attorney General only brought the bills before it. His employees, his Deputy Ministers, his Crown attorneys were never made available. Even when I asked in this House last year for availability of the report of the chief magistrate of the province of Ontario, this was denied us.

Where else are we going to get this kind of information unless it is going to be made available through the committees? One cannot help but conclude, Mr. Speaker, that these committees are so rigged—and I use that word rigged deliberately—that the government wants to go through the façade of pretending to be democratic and they do not really mean it at all.

Therefore I say, sir, that the remarks of my leader are most pertinent, most applicable and most important when this debate takes place. If the government wants this whole legislative process to work properly then it will allow these committees to do the job that they should do and the job that they are not doing now.

Now Mr. Speaker, let me turn to the amendment and the subamendment. As for

one, am not prepared to accept the various statements of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs as being the alpha and the omega of all the problems that exist in this very serious area. I believe that the people of Ontario want, that the people of Ontario demand, a full, public and thorough discussion of all of the matters involved in this series of tragedies. It is not enough, sir, to get from the Minister's office a copy of the text of a speech that he delivered to the Marine Association saying: Have faith in us; believe me, we do not want this sort of thing to happen; believe me, we are going to stop it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Those words are not in that speech at all—

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, the Minister is out of order.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, he is entirely in order. The hon. member must quote what was there in that address.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, in his releases, and they are coming forward with great frequency, the Minister beats his breast and says: We are great, we are going to clean up all these serious problems, but do not get into any public discussion. We are going to carry on an investigation, a secret investigation, which is closed to the press, is closed to the members of the Opposition. In due course we are going to give you a report and you just be happy with that, because we have your best interests at heart.

Mr. Speaker, in an effort to inform myself, about a week ago I contacted the head of the securities commission and asked him if he would make available to me the files on Prudential Finance. Mr. J. R. Kimber pointed out to me, and quite correctly, that under the provisions of the pertinent legislation the investigation file could not be so made available, because the statutes so provide. Insofar as the other files were concerned, he said he would have to consult with his Minister, the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. He said he would do that immediately and advise me.

As I say, about a week has passed and I have not heard from him. About three days ago, I wrote a letter to the director of the securities commission, Mr. Kimber, and I wrote a letter to the hon. Minister, asking whether this information would be made available. To date, sir, I have received no reply.

Now whether or not we, as members of the Opposition, are going to be allowed to

examine the information the government has in order that we can determine the extent of our criticism, the extent of our suggestions, at this moment lies entirely in the mind and the decision of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs and his colleagues. I say that unless this amendment of my leader, with the subamendment of the hon. member for York South, is passed, or something in this form, that we are going to wallow our way, and I think this is an appropriate word, through this crisis, dependent solely on the meagre information that is not hidden from the public by the actions of this government.

The people of Ontario demand, and I think rightly demand, that a full, open and public discussion of deeds of commission and omission take place, and take place as soon as possible. In the event that the appropriate committee of this Legislature is denied the opportunity to embark on this kind of an investigation, then, sir, we will never get to know the answers. We will only get to know so much of the answers as the government chooses to put forward, and I say that is not enough.

Such questions occur to me as this: When we read the Attorney General's 15-page foolscap statement, trying to shift the blame from his shoulders to Ottawa, is he right or is he wrong?

I wonder if it would not be a worthwhile public exercise to bring the man Gruber before a committee of this Legislature and find out just what he knows and what he does not know? In that way, sir, I suggest we might be able to find out whether there is basis for fact in the hon. Attorney General's statement or whether it is made of whole cloth.

I wonder whether it might not be worthwhile to inquire whether or not it makes sense to have as the receivers for Prudential persons who are associated now as the "independent" auditors to inquire into the financial affairs. I wonder if that might not be a worthwhile field of inquiry?

I wonder, sir, if it might not be a worthwhile field of inquiry for a committee of this Legislature to ask whether it makes sense that members of the new advisory committee should be from legal and accounting firms which will daily be dealing with new legislation and new regulations when enacted. If these are the only people who should be on an advisory committee, whether these people by reason of advising might not find themselves in the position of conflict of interest in that they will be the people who get first knowledge of what the new steps are?

Whether or not an advisory committee should not have on it members of our universities, our legal professors at Western, at Varsity, at Osgoode Hall and so on, to advise in an impartial way? Whether or not the advisory committee should have on it members of the judiciary?

But what do we get, sir? We get a very tight, establishment group that is going to advise the Minister on how the establishment is going to be watched. I say this is not good enough.

Mr. Speaker, very simply, it would seem to me that the actions of this government to date indicate government by the indifferent for the entrenched; and this is the sort of opinion that we have to remove from the minds of the people of Ontario. The only way we are going to do it is to have an investigation made by the members of this Legislature.

If necessary that may lead to further investigation but the government, if it is serious about this at all, must start in that way. I have no objection to the subamendment, I think the subamendment perhaps focuses a little more direct attention on the point that we are making. It would seem to me, sir, that if the government means what it says in the few paltry and halting sentences that were written into the Throne speech, then the Prime Minister should get up and say: "I will support the motion and the amendment and the subamendment".

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I was rather surprised when the chief government Whip got up and expressed surprise because frankly there was nothing to express surprise about. I, however, was surprised in the statements he made after I listened to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

The chief government Whip in essence stated that he was recommending against voting for the amendment and the subamendment because the standing committee of its own was empowered to carry out whatever investigation it deemed necessary on the premise.

When the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs got up, the tenor of his address was that it was unnecessary to have any kind of an investigation either by a standing committee or otherwise because an investigation was already being carried on and the report of this committee, that is the investigating committee, would be tabled in this House.

Now I find that a little inconsistent because, Mr. Speaker, if the chief government

Whip implied that we need not instruct a standing committee to look into this matter because they were empowered to do so on their own, there is a need for an investigation. His only objection was to compel the committee from this House carrying out the investigation. The Minister, however, is refusing an investigation altogether.

Mr. Speaker, as far as the subamendment is concerned, although I have no objection to it, I think it is quite redundant. The subamendment suggested there also be an investigation of the failure of this government to exercise its powers or failure to seek the powers necessary to regulate corporations under its jurisdiction. Failure to act, Mr. Speaker, or irresponsibility when it does, is the *modus operandi* of this government. And to carry out such an investigation, to me, would simply be to add another black chapter to what is an already sordid tale.

What strikes me strangest of all, Mr. Speaker, is that the Speech from the Throne was labelled by this government as a programme for people. It tried to induce people to think that it is concerned about people and yet right now at the first opportunity they have they contradict themselves.

We know that this government has failed to act; this government knows that it has failed to act. We know and this government knows and the people know that this government has failed to act. If truly they are concerned about the people and they are introducing what they call a people's programme, a programme for the people—then let them show some concern for the people. Let them support this amendment and the subamendment and get on with the investigation not primarily to show where they were at fault, because everybody acknowledges that they are continually at fault, but to give people assurances that any time such an event occurs the government is going to take quick and stringent action to ensure that no others find themselves in the same predicament and those who are guilty are punished.

For that reason I am asking that this government show its good faith in the label it gave to the Speech from the Throne and that the Prime Minister get up and instruct the government members to support the amendment and subamendment.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, in the United States, the elected people have a say in the hearings of the government. They have full public disclosures — and not by secret special committees. And gradually the processes of this Parliament are being taken

away from us: We read in the *Toronto Daily Star* on Tuesday that the HOME programme is going to be put into effect in Ontario and we have it in the Speech from the Throne on Wednesday. These things are released to the press before Parliament hears about them.

And now, Mr. Speaker, we are to understand that the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs refuses to accept a motion of this House to have a committee of this House investigate Prudential Finance. He says they are going to do this by a special committee chosen by himself.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I think there is a misunderstanding — it is not what I propose to do, it is what is already being done under the existing legislation. Long before this House sat, an order was made for the investigative side of the securities commission to conduct an investigation, so it is not something I am offering as an alternative. It is something that has been there, is there. I think it is a proper process.

Mr. Sargent: In finality the people of this province are looking to this Parliament to investigate this Prudential matter — not a special committee that you pick. This must be a full disclosure and must not permit the government to dodge behind a special committee made up of its friends.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to the subamendment and to the amendment—and, incidentally, to answer the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs—and to attempt to pierce the veil that he has tried to draw over the question of Prudential Finance.

The Minister with his new portfolio is obviously taking this opportunity to clearly exclude the hon. Attorney General who was formerly responsible for the operations of the Ontario securities commission, from taking part in this debate, and I would hope that the Attorney General would see fit, since it was his responsibility, to take part in this debate and answer some of the comments which have been made.

The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs made I believe two basic points in his comments. One was that he referred to the power of the federal government under the constitution to legislate in something which he referred as banking and financial affairs.

Well, the Minister knows as well as any lawyer in this House that the provision of the constitution refers to banking, the incorporation of banks and the issue of paper money. The Minister knows as well as anybody else

in this House that banking traditionally has meant the chartered bank field. The Minister knows as well as any other lawyer in this House knows that it is an elementary principle of constitutional law that until such time as the federal government occupies any field, the field is open for legitimate legislation of the provincial Parliament.

I simply make this point not for the purpose of driving home that particular distinction, but simply to say to the Minister that this Legislature is not going to get bogged down, during a discussion of Prudential Finance, on some question of the division of legislative powers between the Parliament of Canada and this legislative assembly.

That is not the point. The reason it is not the point, Mr. Speaker, is simply that Prudential Finance Corporation, on the basis of the statement put out by the Attorney General in December, had ceased to be a public finance company long before its collapse. So that if we were talking about the legislation affecting public finance companies as being near banks, that is a separate problem from the problem presented to this government by the Prudential Finance Corporation.

If hon. members will note, in the statement made by the Attorney General in December he referred specifically that sometime prior to 1964, Prudential Finance Corporation had passed from being something called a public finance company, which may very well, and we believe should, be regulated by provincial legislation pending the enactment of federal legislation in that field. It ceased to be a public finance corporation and it had become what was legitimately and properly within the sole sphere of the authority of this government, and that is it had become a holding company.

This is what the Attorney General himself has stated in his release. We know, as anyone else knows, that a holding company is a company which simply holds the shares and exercises, through its holding of the shares, control over another group of companies.

So what we are in substance talking about is not near banks, not a constitutional problem. We are talking about the responsibility of this government through the Ontario securities commission in the exercise of the powers granted to it by legislation of this Legislature—whether or not it could have in fact dealt with the question of Prudential Finance Corporation. It does not depend on any other body whatsoever.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, incidentally comment on the other area that the—

Mr. Speaker: No. I think that the member is commenting too fully on the whole subject and not confining himself to the subamendment or the amendment as to the relative merits of this matter going to a standing committee of the House. I would like the member to confine his remarks to that area only.

Mr. Renwick: I will do so, Mr. Speaker. I simply wanted to lay to rest the proposition that the deposit guarantee insurance that the federal government is in the process of considering in Ottawa has anything to do with Prudential Finance. There were no deposits in the case of Prudential Finance.

Now having simply limited the problem to my satisfaction, and I trust to the satisfaction of the other members, to the proposition that what happened in Prudential Finance Corporation is entirely the responsibility of this government, then I say to the Minister, Mr. Speaker, I simply say to him: The fault of the Ontario securities commission is such a fault, such a default, in its obligations that it is not possible that that commission can in private conduct an investigation into Prudential Finance Corporation.

It is just not possible that the body whose responsibility it was to have protected the public, and which failed in its responsibility, should be the body which conducts that investigation. The other alternative is to have a private investigation by someone else or to have a public investigation.

We here demand, as we have from the time of the collapse of Prudential Finance, that it be a public investigation. It must be a public investigation, not simply for the purpose of finding fault with what could have been done in the past, but for the purpose of educating large segments of the public in the whole area of what they are going to do with their money when it is being invested.

It is an essential part, if we are going to gain any benefit whatsoever from Atlantic Acceptance, British Mortgage and now this instance, that there be a full public and open inquiry. It is a tremendous educational instrument for the public in the province of Ontario and why the government in this particular case should see fit to keep it as a private investigation I cannot imagine.

Therefore we would support the amendment because it focuses the attention that it is possible to have a public inquiry within a standing committee of the Legislature. At least the government could give consideration to the appointment of another commission to investigate Prudential Finance so that the evidence could be heard in public, so that

the people would have the opportunity of knowing why this happened in our financial community and in our business community.

Speaking specifically to the subamendment, I cannot conceive of the situation where the Ontario securities commission is in some way or other going to get off the hook of this default in its obligations. When you have a statement issued by the Attorney-General, who was then responsible for its administration, that in the early part of 1966 it appeared that there were all the elements of what he referred to as an eventual insolvency, and within nine or ten months that insolvency in fact took place without any substantial change in the character of the business or any new acquisition by Prudential Finance in its determination to build up some sort of an empire, then I say that the word eventual had no place in it.

You have two basic ingredients which had taken place which should have alerted the securities commission to warn the public of what was happening; and that is the change in the nature of the operation of the company from a finance company to a holding company on the one hand and a realization that they had borrowed money on a relatively short term and were investing that money in equity securities on a relatively long term.

Now, sir, apart altogether from fraud, misfeasance or any other negligence on the part of those concerned in Prudential, just as a proper business transaction, it was up to the securities commission to warn the public that this company was headed for disaster. It failed to do so.

I simply make the point that it failed to do so at a time when this Legislature was in session. It was in March of 1966 that the Ontario securities commission examined the affairs of this company. If they had wished to do so while the session was in operation—if there was any gap in the legislative authority which the Ontario securities commission has—the legislation could have been brought before this assembly, passed and would have been available to provide the securities commission with the legislative power to do anything which it felt was necessary to make certain it had the power and the authority to inform the public of what was taking place.

This was the failure. This is the continuing failure. This is the reason why the Ontario securities commission cannot now investigate itself. This is what is taking place as a private, closed door, investigation and I say to the Minister if he will not have a public

inquiry and a Royal commission to investigate Prudential Finance, as the government finally had to do after much battering in the case of Atlantic Acceptance and British Mortgage, then the least they can do is to vote for the subamendment and the amendment and make certain that this Legislature starts to fulfill a portion of the function which it is obligated to fulfill in our society. We, of course, ask all the members to support the subamendment and the amendment.

The House divided on the subamendment moved by Mr. MacDonald, which was negatived on the following division:

AYES	NAYS
Ben	Apps
Braithwaite	Auld
Bryden	Bales
Bukator	Beckett
Davison	Bernier
Farquhar	Boyer
Freeman	Brown
Gaunt	Brunelle
Gisborn	Butler
MacDonald	Carruthers
Nixon	Carton
Oliver	Cowling
Paterson	Davis
Reatme	Demers
Renwick	Downer
Sargent	Dunlop
Singer	Eagleson
Smith	Edwards
Sopha	Evans
Spence	Ewen
Taylor	Gomme
Trotter	Grossman
Whicher	Harris
Worton	Haskett
Young—25.	Henderson
	Hodgson
	(Scarborough East)
	Hodgson (Victoria)
	Johnston (Carleton)
	Kerr
	Knox
	Lawrence (Russell)
	Lawrence (St. George)
	Lewis (Humber)
	Mackenzie
	Morningstar
	McKeough
	McNeil
	Noden
	Olde
	Peck
	Pittock
	Price
	Pritchard (Mrs.)

AYES

NAYS

Randall
Reilly
Robarts
Rollins
Root
Rowe
Rowntree
Sandercock
Simonett
Spoonier
Stewart
Thrasher
Wardrope
Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Wishart
Yaremko—62.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour of the amendment will please say "aye".

All those opposed, please say "nay".

In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

All those in favour of the same vote?

I declare the amendment lost.

All those in favour of the main motion will please say "aye".

All those opposed, please say "nay".

In my opinion, the "ayes" have it.

In order to save a vote I would ask that all those in favour of the main motion please say "aye" again.

All those opposed, please say "nay".

Motion agreed to.

Mr. White moves, seconded by Mr. R. G. Hodgson, that a select committee of 15 members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient dispatch, lists of the members to compose the standing committees ordered by the House, such committee to be composed as follows: Mr. Yakabuski, chairman; Messrs. Carton, Cowling, Ewen, Farquhar, Gisborn, Harris, Knox, Letherby, Mackenzie, McNeil, Reuter, Root, Singer, Thrasher.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

Mr. Sopha: May I revert to introduction of bills?

Mr. Speaker: I thought perhaps we could have all bills introduced tomorrow. I asked the government side of the House if they would leave their bills over until tomorrow and I respectfully ask the member for Sudbury if he would mind leaving his, in view of the hour. Your bill could be introduced tomorrow at which time I shall accept it.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I can do little else but abide by your wishes, sir.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister if he would advise the House whether his elevation to the Privy Council of Canada carries with it any additional responsibility in Ontario's representation at Ottawa to the benefit of our people?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I really do not understand the question. There was reference to such an appointment in the press recently. I have heard nothing more about it. Perhaps the leader of the Opposition should go to the Prime Minister of Canada and get this information.

Mr. Nixon: The Prime Minister had no previous knowledge of the appointment?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, Mr. Speaker, as I say, I read latterly about it in the newspaper. I heard the announcement, but nothing since that time, so I can only—

Mr. Nixon: But the Prime Minister was not officially informed?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I am telling you that I read about it in the newspaper and I have heard nothing since. So the hon. member had better ask Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Nixon: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would like a ruling on whether we should address the Prime Minister as "Right Honourable" from this time on.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask the Prime Minister a question? Can he report to the House any progress made by the committee appointed by him to study the system of mining revenue payments made to mining municipalities, and might the House expect some improvement in such payments at an early time?

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the member for York South would submit his question which has the same subject matter and the Prime Minister could answer them both together.

Mr. MacDonald: My question, Mr. Speaker, was: Has the special committee on mining

revenues made its report to the government and if so, when can the Legislature expect tabling of that report?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, the answer would be that the committee has made progress. It includes representation, as you probably know, from the association of mining municipalities of northern Ontario, officials from The Department of Municipal Affairs, plus one or two of our own members, and the committee has had several meetings during the fall.

There are, I understand, several alternatives that have been presented to them. They have not come to a conclusion, and have not as yet made a recommendation to the government. We have asked them to do so.

Of course I understand why these questions are being asked; there is the problem of budgeting in the mining municipalities in the province.

We set up this committee with the hope and intention that we might be able to devise formulae that would be beneficial to the municipalities concerned and as soon as we have the report of the committee, we propose to examine it very closely with a view to acting upon it. Now I cannot tell you in fact that we will, because I do not know what they are going to recommend. However, the committee is functioning, knows of our desires in respect of an early report, and I do not expect that we will have too long to wait.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Prime Minister would permit a supplementary question on this issue?

The hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) is quoted as saying:

I will eat my proverbial shirt on the steps of the town hall in Coniston if some concrete recommendations are not made from the committee to the government before the next session opens.

Would the Prime Minister consider setting up a committee to look into the indigestion of the member for Nickel Belt?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of this statement, but I can only assume that it indicates the very deep interest this young man has in the municipalities of northern Ontario.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Labour in the developing dispute between Ontario Hydro and construction workers, would the Minister advise whether a conciliation board will be appointed, and if not what his reasons are?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, section 93 of The Labour Relations Act provides that in construction cases, no conciliation board can be appointed, unless the union and the employer advise the Minister of Labour in writing that they desire him to appoint a board. But once the formal efforts of the conciliation officer have been concluded the Minister cannot appoint a board unless both parties want him to appoint a board. This provision was incorporated in the Act in 1962 and I understand arose from a specific recommendation of the Royal commission on labour-management relations in the construction industry.

In the Hydro case, in a letter dated January 13, 1967, Mr. Rolland G. Hill, chairman of the allied construction council, advised The Department of Labour that the unions involved did not wish a conciliation board to be established. Consequently, no board can be established. The officials of my department, I might say Mr. Speaker, are naturally keeping in close touch with both parties in this dispute, and every effort is being made and will continue to be made to help the parties resolve the difficulties.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, a question to the hon. Minister of Economics and Development. Following the government's announcement of the HOME building programme, a leading builder, as quoted in the *Globe and Mail* this morning, stated that it will be at least two years before this plan can become operative. Would the Minister comment on this?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question, I think he will appreciate with me that the leading builder does not know the land inventory held by the Ontario housing corporation, and I would say to him for his information, and I am talking now to the hon. member for Grey North, that we have several developments now underway, with underground services going in, and we have several other properties that we can start services on almost immediately.

Mr. Sargent: Would the Minister accept a supplementary question?

How does he account for the fact that the *Toronto Daily Star* had the programme before the Legislature did?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

The member is asking a question.

Mr. Sargent: Well I would like an answer because either the *Toronto Daily Star* had a leak that this was going to happen—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Sargent: Or the government covered up.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

If the Minister does not care to answer the supplementary question, he does not have to.

Mr. Sargent: Will he answer the question then, please?

Mr. Speaker: The Minister does not have to answer a supplementary question.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker I can assure you that we make a very great effort on every occasion to keep any news of what is going to be in that document from the public until it is presented in the House.

We were no happier about the stories in the *Daily Star* than the member for Grey North. The point is that they had some people writing in this particular field and they just happened to hit upon it.

Certainly if I could find a leak in this government, I would want to close it, because the last thing in the world I want is our legislative programme, which we reveal in the Speech from the Throne, spread across the newspapers two or three days before the House opens.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the member for Grey North would complete his other question?

Mr. Sargent: This is to the Minister of Transport. This week the General Motors in the U.S.A. called in 3,000 trucks for defective parts. What is the picture here in Canada in this regard?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the motor vehicle manufacturers in Canada have been supplying me with information on all their recall programmes. I am informed that none of the GM truck units that were involved in the U.S. recall had been exported to Canada, and further that none of GM's 1967 truck units produced in Canada has been subject to any recall programme.

Mr. Bryden: I guess we have looser laws.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport, a three-part question.

How many employees are working in actual inspection work in the motor vehicle inspection station at Downsview; how many of these are licensed mechanics; and what steps are being taken to ensure that the Downsview

inspection station will in future provide adequate and accurate inspection services?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, in the Downsview vehicle inspection lanes there are seven employees, of whom three are licensed mechanics. The checks are based as far as practically possible on those prescribed by the American standards association and as are recommended by the American association of motor vehicle administrators, of which this province, as the member knows, is a member.

In view of the technical nature of some aspects of the inspection, it is necessary for the mechanic to exercise judgment in keeping with the skills of his trade. I would say, and I think the member realizes this, that the check is not designed to provide a diagnostic analysis of the vehicle's mechanical condition but to determine whether the prescribed minimum standards have been satisfied.

Now if the hon. member for Yorkview has standards that deserve the department's consideration, I would be happy to have them considered.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism and Information.

Would the Minister confirm, as stated by the new director of the Centennial centre of science and technology, that 15 per cent of the materials already prepared for displays at the Centennial centre will not be used; and advise this House what will be the approximate cost of the reportedly unusable material?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, the director general of the centre informs me that 85 per cent of the work actually planned and passed to the centre's workshop is to be utilized. However, this is not to say that the remaining 15 per cent is to be scrapped. The director general was able to make alterations before most of the work had reached a completed stage. The actual amount which has been scrapped is estimated by the workshop foreman at a maximum of \$2,000 in terms of material and labour.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have four related questions for the Attorney General.

First, why did the Ontario securities commission not enforce its March 30, 1966, order forbidding Prudential Finance Corporation selling further notes and debentures?

Second, why did the government content itself with spot audits rather than a full audit of Prudential's financial situation when they felt that insolvency was likely?

Third, did the Attorney General refuse permission to the Ontario securities commission to conduct a full audit?

Fourth, what further power does the government need so that it does not have to stand helplessly on the sidelines in face of the imminent bankruptcy of a financial institution under its jurisdiction?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): The answer to the first question is that the Ontario securities commission had no knowledge from the date of the order of March, 1966, up to November of 1966, that there had been any selling of notes or debentures subsequent to the date of that March order. It had received no inquiries from the public, no complaints from the public with respect to that matter of sale.

Mr. Bryden: The public had been lulled into a sense of false security.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The answer to the second question: In February of 1966 the Ontario securities commission received an unaudited financial statement and required, and further received, an undertaking from the company that an audited financial statement would be provided as soon as it could be made available to the company. The commission made repeated demands for additional information and received such additional information, all of which was utilized in the consideration of this company and its affairs. The audited financial statement was received in July of that year, 1966.

The third question is: Did the Attorney General refuse permission to the Ontario securities commission to conduct a full audit? The answer to that question is that there is no provision in The Securities Act requiring the consent of the Attorney General for the conduct of a full audit.

The commission did, however, bring all of these circumstances relating to Prudential Finance Corporation of which it was aware, to my attention and to the officials of my department as soon as the information was available to the commission. This information was reviewed from time to time by the commission and by the law officers of the Crown. It was our opinion that the information and the evidence at that time did not disclose a basis in law for making an order for an investigation under The Securities Act, although the commission and the department were aware that the company at that time appeared to be approaching an insolvent position.

The fourth question inquires as to what further powers the government requires in

such a situation of insolvency approaching. The answer is, as the hon. member is aware, bankruptcy and insolvency come under the jurisdiction of the federal government and the possible insolvency of a company must be dealt with within the context of existing federal legislation. The question of what powers may be required by a government with respect to bankrupt institutions is currently being studied, but the situation today still is that until an act of bankruptcy, that is a failure to meet an obligation occurs, you cannot put a company into bankruptcy.

Mr. Singer: That was not the question.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I was asked what powers we have.

Mr. Sopha: I have a question in six parts to ask of the Attorney General:

1. Do a certain George MacMillan and his wife Viola MacMillan stand indicted under the law?
2. Upon what charges?
3. In which court are they indicted?
4. What mode of trial has been selected?
5. Has a preliminary inquiry or preliminary inquiries been held?
6. When is the trial expected to take place?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is yes, Viola MacMillan and George MacMillan do stand indicted under the law.

The second part of the question, upon what charges: Viola MacMillan and George MacMillan are charged jointly under section 323, subsection 1, of The Criminal Code of Canada of defrauding the public; and Viola MacMillan is charged separately as well under section 325, paragraphs (b) and (c) of The Criminal Code of Canada, with wash trading.

And the third part of the question, in what court are they indicted? The answer is they are indicted in the county court, judges' criminal court of the county of York.

Four, they have selected trial before a judge sitting without a jury.

Fifth part, has a preliminary inquiry been held? The answer is the preliminary inquiry with respect to George MacMillan has been held. He was discharged with respect to the original charge of wash trading but he was committed for trial with respect to the joint charge under section 323, subsection 1. The preliminary inquiry with respect to Viola MacMillan resulted in committal for trial on the charges as previously outlined.

Sixth, when is the trial expected to take place? The answer is the charges against

Viola MacMillan under section 325, paragraphs (b) and (c), are to be heard on February 27, 1967. The other joint charge is to follow immediately thereafter.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I would like to obtain, if I can, certain information from the Prime Minister with regard to the administration of The Election Act.

Have returning officers been appointed for any of the electoral districts described in The Representation Act, 1966? If so, how many? When does the government expect returning officers will have been appointed for all such districts?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker, none have been appointed. It is the practice in this province to appoint the returning officers at the time writs for an election are issued. It may be that some people have been designated, or that there may be names mentioned, but there have actually been no appointments made by the chief electoral officer.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Prime Minister would entertain a supplementary question?

Would the government, and the hon. Prime Minister more particularly, give consideration to changing what apparently has been the practice in the interest of the most efficient possible conduct of elections? The government has the power under The Election Act to make appointments at any time. Especially now that we have completely new constituencies, I would plead with the Prime Minister to start to exercise that power, and I wonder if he would consider that.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Certainly I would. As I have said, this has been the practice, and the hon. member knows how these things develop slowly since we have elections only every four years or so. It is not necessarily a pressing matter on a day-to-day basis. I would be very happy, if this would assist, to discuss with the chief electoral officer that perhaps we should exercise, as the member says, the authority and let the returning officers get to work. It may be that their services will be required one of these days.

Mr. Bryden: I would not wonder.

Mr. Speaker, I also have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. What is the government's position with regard to the request recently approved by Metro Toronto council for legislation exempting the Toronto transit commission from municipal taxation, which as far as I can see is little else than an

organized raid on the pocketbooks of the taxpayers of the city of Toronto?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I regret I cannot at this exact moment indicate the government's position with regard to the request recently approved by the council of the corporation of Metropolitan Toronto, as no such request has as yet been received by me. I am in hope, however, that such a request is on its way to my office today as I spoke to a high official of the Metropolitan corporation yesterday.

The hon. member may be reassured that as usual full and complete consideration will be given to such a request as, if and when it is received. In due course of time, if the request receives approval in whole or in part, legislation will be required to be placed before the Legislature and the government's position with respect to the whole matter will then be indicated.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I would say that tomorrow we will have introduction of bills, there are some petitions, the appointment of a chairman of the House.

There will be some bills introduced on Monday. We will sit at 2:30 and we will proceed with the moving and the seconding of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

On Tuesday—I might say I have discussed this with the leaders of both other parties—the leader of the Opposition will take part, and make his contribution to the Throne Debate, followed by the leader of the New

Democratic Party, followed by myself. We will thus proceed continuously from Tuesday until our speeches are completed.

It would be my hope to complete the Throne Debate before the Budget is brought down. I cannot tell the House the precise date for the introduction of the Budget, but it really will not be delayed very long. It will probably be in two or two and a half weeks. I have not the final date from the Provincial Treasurer as to when all the printing and so on will be completed.

Accordingly I would like to complete the Throne Debate. I say this so that those members who wish to participate in that debate will please put themselves in a state of readiness and we will arrange ample time for that debate.

I would like to restrict our night sessions to Tuesday and Thursday nights, at least until such time as we see a work load ahead of us that might necessitate sitting an extra night.

If we do that, it would be of course Monday night. I will try to keep Wednesdays clear so that we can plan ahead and know that Wednesday evenings during the session will be clear. There is one thing of which we can be certain, we will not sit on Monday nights until notice is given; we will not sit nights next week but we will sit nights the week following.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.45 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, January 27, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1967

The House met at 10:30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have as visitors to the Legislature today students from the following schools: In the east gallery, St. Leo's separate school, Etobicoke; and in the west gallery, John C. Althouse school, Islington.

Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petitions have been received:

Of the corporation of the Society of Industrial and Cost Accountants of Ontario praying that an Act may pass changing its name to "Society of Industrial Accountants of Ontario"; also, the petition of the corporation of the town of Caledonia praying that an Act may pass establishing a community services board for the town.

Of the corporation of the township of Toronto praying that an Act may pass to provide that certain buildings erected on or after August 1, 1966, shall be assessed and taxed for public school purposes.

Of the board of education for the city of Sarnia and the Sarnia suburban district high school board praying that an Act may pass to simplify the provisions for providing additional accommodation.

Of the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane praying that an Act may pass authorizing the construction of housing for teachers and the issue of debentures therefor; also, the petition of the corporation of the city of Sault Ste. Marie praying that an Act may pass increasing the membership of the Sault Ste. Marie transportation commission; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the city of Woodstock praying that an Act may pass enabling the corporation to enter in agreements with the corporation of the townships of Blandford and East Oxford for the acquisition of certain lands by the applicant.

Of The Empire Life Insurance Company praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to apply to the Parliament of Canada for a special Act continuing it as a company with federal incorporation.

Of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa praying that an Act may pass permitting the petitioner to grant university degrees and honorary degrees.

Of Leonard W. Long, Arthur Long and Jessie Long praying that an Act may pass reviving Provincial Butchers and Machinery Company Limited.

Of the corporation of the borough of East York praying that an Act may pass respecting permits for night time parking on streets in the borough; and for other purposes.

Of the United Cooperatives of Ontario praying that an Act may pass to reclassify unissued common shares.

Of Canadian Power Squadrons praying that an Act may pass to exempt its property at 26 Golden Gate Court, township of Scarborough, from municipal assessment and taxation.

Of Waterloo Lutheran University praying that an Act may pass to increase its powers of investment; and for other purposes; also, the petition that an Act may pass establishing the Kitchener and district public school board.

Of the corporation of the city of London praying that an Act may pass amending The City of London Act, 1965.

Of the corporation of the town of Amherstburg praying that an Act may pass permitting it to exempt from school tax persons who have attained the age of 70 years.

Of Gerald Harold Frederick Lowery, Bertram Albert Bowden and Elwood Allan McDonald, praying that an Act may pass to incorporate the Peterborough Racing Association Limited.

Of the corporation of the township of Murray praying that an Act may pass authorizing the issue of debentures for the purpose of paying the balance owing for the construction of a school addition.

Of the corporation of the borough of Etobicoke praying that an Act may pass permitting it to pass by-laws prohibiting street vending of certain refreshments.

Of the Interior Designers of Ontario praying that an Act may pass to continue it as a body corporate under the name "Interior Designers of Ontario."

Of the corporation of the city of Niagara Falls praying that an Act may pass permitting it to allow certain tax credits to certain occupants of 65 years of age and over.

Of the St. Catharines Club praying that an Act may pass increasing its borrowing powers.

Of the corporation of the city of Hamilton praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to make increased grants to certain associations, persons and organizations; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the borough of Scarborough praying that an Act may pass authorizing by-laws regulating the sale of candy, ice cream and similar products from vehicles on the highway.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Motions.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister) moves, seconded by Mr. R. F. Nixon (leader of the Opposition), that Mr. L. M. Reilly, member for the electoral district of Eglinton, be appointed chairman of the committee of the whole House for the present session.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, before the motion is carried I might just speak very briefly to it. As we debated yesterday, some of the procedures of this House, particularly in the committee stage, have become more important in recent years than they were previously. The office to which we are moving to appoint the hon. member for Eglinton is in my opinion, one of very great importance for the proper conduct of the business of this House. The member's conduct of this office last year, I think, was accepted with great approbation on all sides of the House. I think he ruled against the government as often as he ruled against the Opposition.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is why he did not get into the new Cabinet.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If we are going to start with remarks like that, I suppose I could let a few go here myself.

An hon. member: Go ahead!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just say that I was so delighted yesterday when the leader of the Opposition admitted the enormous waste of time in the committee sessions of this House, because the waste of time is directly attributable to members of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, who like to say things four times instead of one.

Now perhaps the hon. member, in the discharge of his duties, will be able to correct this situation and I would hope that he would. In any event, in making this motion, I hope that we will be able to conduct the business of the House perhaps in a somewhat more orderly fashion than we have previously.

I noted too, in the remarks yesterday, that the hon. member, the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. MacDonald) used the word discipline. I think if some of the members would exercise a little self-discipline, the operation of the committee will certainly proceed in a more orderly fashion than it has before.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am honoured to be associated with this motion, appointing the member for Eglinton for a second term as chairman of the committee. I do not take kindly the lecture the hon. Prime Minister has given us however, in this regard.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The hon. member said it, I did not.

Mr. Nixon: I do feel that if the delay was unwarranted, it may have been that the machinery he has chosen to set up for us to deal with the estimates has put his colleagues in the Ministry in a position where they have to consult with their advisers in a rather inconvenient way. I proposed yesterday an alternative to this that might improve it somewhat.

But to return to the point of the motion, I would say that the hon. member for Eglinton has shown that he does command the confidence of the House, that we have confidence in him, although naturally from time to time his judgment might be called into some further comment by those of us who sit in the official Opposition.

I believe it is not a practice that the chairman be reappointed for a second session. I think it is a good idea, however, because continuity in this matter is very important. I know last year that the hon. member for Eglinton extended himself considerably to have some special information about each department as it came forward and in this way attempted to expedite our business. We, on this side appreciate this and we look forward to his chairmanship for another year.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I would like to formally and enthusiastically associate myself with this motion. In the concluding days of the last

session—in the Budget Debate I believe—I spoke with great approbation of the job that the hon. member for Eglinton had done as chairman of the committee of the whole House.

Indeed, I suggested to the government that I thought the time had come to break with the tradition of bringing in a new chairman each year; because no matter how worthy and capable the individual, he had to learn this rather difficult role and by the time he had learned it he left and somebody else had to take over. I must say, Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to see that for once the government has heeded a suggestion from this side of the House.

However, Mr. Speaker, I have no illusions. They did not do what they had done because I suggested it; they did what they have done because of the obvious record of achievement in this role by the member for Eglinton, and therefore I welcome his reappointment this year.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into committee of the whole House.

House in committee of the whole; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: My first assignment, as chairman of the committee of the whole House, is to say to the Prime Minister and to the leader of the Opposition and to the leader of the New Democratic Party how grateful I am for the kinds words of approbation this morning. I did not realize that when the appointment of the chairman of the committee of the whole House was established that we were, so early in the session, going to get into some differences of opinion.

But one thing seemed to be unanimous, and that was from the standpoint of my reappointment and definitely I am most grateful. Words of commendation are always received well by everybody and under the circumstances, being human, I am grateful to the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party.

Thinking in terms of last session, it seems to me that there has been one improvement, the member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) has now come within my line of vision. I might remind him that others who occupy the seat he had formerly may have the same difficulty; but if they will call “Mr. Chairman”, even if I do not see them, certainly

I will hear them and I will respond as quickly as time will permit.

I will say that as far as last session was concerned, it does seem to me that there were times when the decision of the chairman was questioned, but speaking in generalities I think I had the complete confidence and co-operation of all members of the House. This was certainly appreciated by the chairman.

Even though the opinion of the chairman was questioned at the time, and even when we get going and some of us, because of the debate before us, get enthusiastic about it we still have to remember the dignity and decorum of the chamber and I would be delighted to assist in every way possible as we go through this assignment.

Just before I sit down, I would remind the members that it is my intention to rule firmly and fairly in the interest of all members of the House.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the committee of the whole House rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: The committee of the whole House begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, while there is a slight pause here. On a point of order, I thought the hon. member for London South (Mr. White), in his bookkeeping of statistics and attendance, might want to note this fact: As of 10:57 a.m. this morning there were 35 Progressive Conservative members in the House, which represents, if my arithmetic is correct, 44.872 per cent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE MILK ACT, 1965

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Milk Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, by way of explanation I would simply say that this is a

very minor amendment, or clarification, at the request of the Ontario milk commission to section 17 of The Milk Act, dealing with the establishment of milk transport cooperatives.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ACT

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture and Food Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, by way of explanation on the last bill introduced, it provides for the provision of the \$5,000 adverse weather assistance programme provided by The Department of Agriculture and Food as a low interest-free loan for those farmers who have suffered crop loss during the growing season of 1966.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE COUNTY JUDGES ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The County Judges Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, by way of explanation I might state that the bill authorizes the appointment of a second district court judge for the district of Cochrane and for two additional county court judges for the county of York.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Attorney General would permit a question on that?

Has the federal government passed complementary legislation to enable this to come into effect reasonably quickly?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the inquiry, the procedure is that we make the request at the provincial level, then pass the enabling legislation here for the appointment—we have been in touch with the federal authorities. Then the Minister of Justice at Ottawa proceeds with its legislation and with the appointments, but it is necessary

that we move first. This is the proper way to move.

Mr. Singer: Would the Attorney General care to guess when we will be able to get these judges working in the county of York?

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): If it depends on the federal government, it will take something like 10 years.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, we would have to ask the Minister of Justice at Ottawa for that date. I think he has some thoughts on the matter. Perhaps he will be able to move quite promptly.

THE COUNTY COURTS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The County Courts Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I might explain, Mr. Speaker, that the purpose of this short amendment is to move forward the date of sitting of the district court in the district of Sudbury from the first Monday of June to the first Monday of May, and from the fourth Tuesday of November to the first Tuesday of November.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That is especially for me.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is especially for the hon. member for Sudbury who has just spoken. The list is becoming heavy and it is desirable to get the court underway sooner.

Mr. Sopha: I am grateful for it.

THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in explanation, this is a very brief amendment to the Act which enables the maintenance portion of an order, made in one of the areas where we have reciprocal legislation, to be enforced without going into the background of such questions as divorce, custody, or other merits of the action; but it enables the maintenance portion to be enforced in this province. This is reciprocal legislation.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Municipal Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to affirmatively set out the duties and responsibilities of elected members of municipal councils and officers of municipal corporations and to provide a procedure for declaring conflicts of interest between a member's personal interest and those of a municipality and to provide remedies and penalties for breach thereof.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: The purpose of this bill is to remove the exemptions heretofore accorded to mining companies from municipal assessment and which have obviated their obligation to pay for municipal services.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is adding a provision requiring motorcyclists to wear safety helmets; and section 2 of the bill is to prevent motorcyclists riding in the lines between lanes of traffic.

THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

Mr. A. H. Cowling (High Park) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Air Pollution Control Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Cowling: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to make mandatory on all motor vehicles in the province of Ontario a device which is being used in other jurisdictions to remove the contaminants from the exhaust fumes of motor vehicles.

THE INSURANCE ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Insurance Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: When an insured defendant cannot be found, Mr. Speaker, or he is evading service, service may be effected by this bill upon the insurance company.

THE WAGES ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Wages Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: This bill abolishes wage assignments in Ontario, except that it preserves the right of credit unions to use wage assignments.

THE LAW SOCIETY ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Law Society Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, this bill prevents any disciplinary action of any kind by the law society against the Attorney General for anything said or done during the course of his duties.

THE GAMING ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to repeal The Gaming Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, this removes an archaic statute from the statute books of this province and puts forward the proposition that everybody should pay their debts.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): What has that to do with gaming?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I want to table a report entitled "Services for children with mental and emotional disorders."

Mr. Speaker, the report I have just tabled can best be termed a government white paper setting out in detail the principles and the policies of a coordinated programme for the

provision of additional services, facilities, and treatment of children suffering from mental and emotional disturbances.

This report or white paper is the result of more than a year's collaborative efforts on the part of Deputy Ministers and senior officials of the departments of Health, Education, Public Welfare, Reform Institutions and the Attorney General. And I might add here that they made extensive use of material from other sources. The programme detailed in the report has been adopted as official policy of the Ontario government in this field, subject to the decision of this Parliament, of course.

I wish to stress at the outset that many significant steps have already been taken to implement this programme during the past 12 months, as far as this was possible. To summarize the major recommendations contained in the report:

There will be close collaboration of the five departments I have mentioned, and maximum involvement of professional and voluntary agencies, in future planning and development of services for mentally ill and emotionally disturbed children. Coordination of the programme will be the responsibility of The Department of Health.

First priority will be given to additional facilities for assessment and treatment of children. All five departments will provide staff to participate in the programme and arrange adequate follow-up, so that it will be a team effort.

An educational programme will be directed to parents and all who have responsibility for children, so that the symptoms of mental and emotional disturbances will be recognized and the needs of the children understood. A training programme will be undertaken on the level of the agencies and services, to assist personnel of these organizations to recognize the child in need of special attention. Existing community resources for the care of such children will be fully identified and utilized.

Regional diagnostic, assessment and treatment centres throughout the province, providing out-patient, day care, and in-patient services are to be established by The Department of Health. Technical advice and financial assistance will be provided to local agencies, and pilot projects will be encouraged and supported. Bursaries will be offered to students who wish to enter the field of children's mental and emotional health care.

Seminars, workshops and institutes will be provided to improve qualifications of indi-

viduals and agencies. The basic services required by children suffering from mental and emotional disorders will be available to all residents of the province without charge.

Mr. Speaker, the government's overall objective will be to put the total programme into effect within the next five years, with every effort being made to implement the recommendations as quickly as possible; we are presently aiming at, or taking as our objective, three years.

Capital cost for new construction and renovation to provide eight regional centres for The Department of Health is estimated at \$7,500,000. These regional centres will be established at Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Windsor, Sudbury and Port Arthur. In addition, the Ontario hospital schools at Cedar Springs, Orillia, Smiths Falls and Palmerston will function as regional centres.

The establishment of an assessment centre for boys and girls by The Department of Reform Institutions will cost an additional \$2,500,000. This assessment centre is expected to be located in Metropolitan Toronto.

Initial maintenance and operating costs will be in the neighbourhood of \$4 million annually but will increase to an estimated \$12,524,500 a year during the next three to five years while the programme is being implemented. Of this latter amount, The Department of Health will spend approximately \$11 million annually.

Let me again stress, sir, and I cannot do so too strongly, that the five departments of government involved in the development of this programme for children with mental and emotional disorders have been rapidly implementing various recommendations contained in the report, wherever this was possible. This is not some vague plan for the future. We are acting on it now and, indeed, have been for some time.

A graphic example of this can be seen from recent developments in The Department of Health, and in explanation to my colleagues I can only say I have chosen this because of a greater familiarity with it.

A 15-bed unit for emotionally disturbed children has been opened at the children's psychiatric research institute in London, and renovations are nearing completion for a 22-bed unit in a separate building at the Ontario hospital in Kingston. These two units are the first stage of a larger regional centre to be developed at these locations.

Approval in principle has been given for a 40-bed children's centre at the community

psychiatric hospital in Windsor, and 100 beds at the Chedoke general and children's hospital in Hamilton. Renovations have been completed for an out-patient service as the initial stage of this Hamilton centre in a temporary location.

Approval has been given for a further expansion of the psychiatric facilities at the community psychiatric hospital in Ottawa. An 18-bed, in-patient unit for children is being added to the present out-patient and day care programme now being provided by the hospital, and should be ready for occupancy by July of this year. The expansion programme also includes the construction of a new building to accommodate a larger regional centre of 65 beds for children at this same Ottawa hospital.

The Clarke institute in Toronto, opened in June, 1966, includes a 20-bed, in-patient unit for children, and an expanded out-patient and day care programme. A mental retardation centre to provide 70 beds has been established in the former Toronto psychiatric hospital building. This will offer services for emotionally disturbed children as the programme develops.

Financial assistance has been provided for new construction at a 22-bed, in-patient unit with expanded facilities for out-patient and day care services for children and adolescents at the Toronto mental health clinic. An out-patient building has been completed at Thistletown hospital to augment the facilities of this treatment and research centre. A 150-bed unit for younger patients is being included in the reconstruction of the Ontario hospital in Toronto.

Negotiations have been undertaken to reorganize diagnostic and assessment services of the juvenile and family court of Metropolitan Toronto, under the direction of the Clarke institute, in cooperation with The Attorney General's Department.

The responsibility for the care of children at the Warrendale centre has been assumed by Thistletown hospital, and Warrendale will be included in a further expansion of the treatment and teaching resources of Thistletown hospital.

A new programme for adolescents will be established at the Lakeshore psychiatric hospital early in February—next month. Increased financial assistance has been provided to the local health authorities of the city of Hamilton and the borough of York in support of their programmes. Negotiations are also taking place with officials in other communities

in order to assist them in strengthening their community services for children.

The number of trainees enrolled in the child care training course at Thistletown, the only one of its kind, has been more than doubled to approximately 130, and a separate training programme for child care workers has been established at the children's psychiatric research institute in London in order to meet the shortage of trained personnel.

A programme of increased bursary assistance has been offered for those who wish to take post-graduate training in psychiatry. Bursaries are available for students enrolled in courses in psychology and social work. Revisions have also been made in salary scales for child care workers, and for all professional classes, to assist in the recruitment of professional staff for these programmes.

I would also like to mention some of the highlights of programmes which have been, or are being, set up by the other departments. More detailed information, of course, will be provided by the appropriate Ministers.

In The Department of Education the planning of school boards for special education programmes and service will be aided by proposed changes in various regulations. The department follows the recognized concept that special programmes and services are not optional learning possibilities, but the automatic right of those children with learning difficulties. It is the responsibility of the school boards to provide such services.

Legislation will be introduced which will emphasize the policy that all children must be provided for educationally, according to their recognized needs. The department's area superintendents have already made a preliminary analysis of the special education needs of children with emotional disorders in local districts throughout Ontario, and inspectors of schools have been informed of the importance of planning for special education for these youngsters.

Last fall, every school inspector was advised to establish a communication pattern in cooperation with school principals, which would reveal the resources at the community level and which could be marshalled to meet the broad needs of children with mental and emotional difficulties.

The anticipated need for an increase in teachers with special education training has received a great deal of consideration; and special education department summer courses for teachers will be conducted at Sarnia,

Sudbury and Toronto this year. In September 1966, instructions were issued to the principals of the teachers' colleges to emphasize those courses which would better prepare the teachers to understand and work with children with mental and emotional disorders.

The Department of Public Welfare—the 53 children's aid societies of the province considerably expanded their group homes so that over 200 beds were in use by the year's end for wards in need of these special facilities.

In the forthcoming year, some private organizations plan to provide over 300 additional beds for disturbed children. Approximately 18 new organizations have plans well advanced for the establishment of more than 200 beds for the retarded. Twenty-five of the children's aid societies are proposing to open new group homes that will add a further 200 beds for wards needing such special care, thus doubling in one year their group home facilities.

During the current academic year, The Department of Public Welfare provided bursary assistance to more than 45 students at schools of social work, and 26 at Ryerson polytechnical institute, and indirectly assisted a large number of other students on leave from institutions and children's aid societies taking a variety of courses. The department's assistance in this field is helping to overcome the serious shortage of properly trained child care and social workers.

Department of Reform Institutions—plans are under way for a reception and diagnostic centre for boys and girls admitted by the courts to training schools. Its purpose is to ensure effective programming for each student within the training school system and to refer wards who might better be treated by facilities within The Department of Health.

The Department of Reform Institutions has established Whiteoaks village, a new training school of the cottage type, at Hagersville, designed for younger boys under the age of 12. The reception unit at the Ontario training school for girls at Galt has been expanded to include a diagnostic and treatment unit.

Department of the Attorney General—an agreement is at present being negotiated between the Clarke institute and The Department of the Attorney General, under which the institute will staff the diagnostic and assessment facilities of the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court.

The association of magistrates and juvenile and family court judges has developed and held programmes involving psychiatrists and others to assist the bench in understanding and identifying the emotionally disturbed offender.

Facilities to assist the bench in the identification of the emotionally disturbed child will be improved, with The Department of Health providing increased instruction through seminars and special training courses for probation officers.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the government has been, is, and will continue moving at an ever accelerating pace, to ensure that Ontario has the very best programmes and policies specifically designed to meet the needs of children with mental and emotional disorders.

Top priority is being given to strengthening the community services for children and adolescents; development of regional centres throughout the province; recruitment of professional staff through the provision of appropriate salaries, bursaries and training assistance; additional facilities for the training of child care workers and other professional staff required if our programme is to be successful; and increasing emphasis on early diagnosis and treatment without institutional placement.

Arrangements will be made to accredit all facilities providing treatment services for children with mental and emotional disorders. Similarly, all programmes for training personnel will be accredited.

Particular emphasis will be given to preventive programmes, and consultation services, in an effort to identify and deal with children requiring attention as quickly as possible, so that unnecessary demands will not be made on facilities offering the most highly specialized range of diagnostic and treatment services.

In order to implement the various aspects of the programme, on the basis of the priorities I have just indicated, capital and maintenance costs will be made available for the development of new facilities and the expansion of existing services. But the most critical issue is the limitation of trained staff who can be directed to such activities. Arrangements are being worked out to provide more favourable working conditions which we hope will attract people to the programme. Close collaboration with universities and all resources capable of training personnel to work with children will also be an essential part of the programme.

I can assure the House, through you, sir, that every effort is being made to work closely with local health authorities, with welfare agencies, with the courts and education authorities, in the utilization of all resources in the most effective manner, to the end that the best possible can be done for those children in need.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Minister could make a copy of the statement available immediately?

Mr. Bryden: The press has them but we cannot get them.

Mr. MacDonald: They are not available to anybody but the press.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We did not get any of your releases either.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). Do the means of assisting children who are handicapped in the basic vocabulary and concepts of our culture, referred to in the Speech from the Throne, include language instruction for non-English speaking immigrant children? And is the hon. Minister prepared to make representations to the federal Minister of Manpower for federal contributions towards the cost of such instruction?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, sometime in February or March of 1966, a memo went to the various secretaries, directors, superintendents of the boards informing them that the grant regulations would be altered for 1967 to provide for special English classes for new Canadian children. These regulations are now in the process of being altered and distributed to the boards and the regulations, Mr. Speaker, will I think in most instances provide for a 50 per cent increase over what would be provided for the normal classroom.

We have had some indication from Ottawa, as a result of representations made, I believe, in October by officials from The Department of Education and also by officials from The Provincial Secretary's Department, that the federal government at that stage did not feel inclined to participate further in this programme. We are in the process, or have

already completed arrangements, to meet with the Toronto board officials to assess their costs for 1966 for the operation of the Main Street school. Our own grant regulations will provide them with substantially additional funds—I would say roughly 50 per cent more than is provided for the regular classrooms.

If we find, after discussions with the Toronto board, that there are still financial problems, I would be more than prepared to make representations again personally to the Minister of Manpower at Ottawa, with respect to increased assistance. But I will not be in the position, Mr. Speaker, to inform the hon. member just what the picture will be, until we have had a chance to discuss this with the Toronto board officials.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Minister would entertain a further question? I would like to ask him if he would consider making representations to Ottawa in any case, in view of the fact that they have been responsible for bringing the immigrants here. I wonder if he has seen a recent answer by the Minister of Manpower in Parliament to a question from Mr. Brewin, the federal member for Greenwood, in which he said that requests for aid of this kind should be channelled through the province. For that reason he refused to consider a proposition from Mr. Brewin. I think we should take him up on that, and go down and see him again.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I have never hesitated before about making requests for increased assistance for educational programmes in this province and if there appears to be some hope, for some reason, I would be more than prepared to do so again.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, on Monday we will sit at 2.30 in the afternoon, and we will proceed with the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. From there we will continue with the Throne Debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.40 o'clock, a.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, January 30, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Immaculate Conception separate school, Toronto, Great Lakes Christian College, Beamsville; and in the west gallery, William Treadway public school, Scarborough.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South) from the select committee appointed to prepare the lists of members to compose the standing committees of the House, presented the committee's report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee recommends that the lists of standing committees ordered by the House be composed of the following members:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD: Bernier, Butler, Carruthers, Cass, Demers, Downer, Evans, Ewen, Farquhar, Freeman, Gaunt, Gisborn, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (Victoria), Johnston (Carleton), Kerr, Letherby, MacDonald, Morningstar, McNeil, Nixon, Olde, Oliver, Paterson, Pittock, Rollins, Root, Rowe, Spence, Villeneuve, Whicher, Whitney, Yakabuski—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS: Apps, Carruthers, Carton, Cowling, Dunlop, Eagleson, Ewen, Guindon, Knox, Lawrence (Russell), Lewis (Scarborough West), MacDonald, Newman, Nixon, Peck, Pritchard (Mrs.), Racine, Rowe, Smith, Villeneuve, Worton—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONS: Apps, Ben, Bernier, Carton, Davison, Demers, Downer, Edwards, Ewen, Gaunt, Hodgson (Victoria), Kerr, Knox, Lewis (Humber), MacDonald, Mackenzie, Morningstar, McNeil, Noden, Olde, Paterson, Peck, Pittock, Pritchard (Mrs.), Renwick, Roberts, Rollins, Singer, Smith,

Sopha, Thrasher, Walker, Whicher, Whitney—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

HEALTH: Bernier, Bryden, Bukator, Butler, Carruthers, Carton, Dunlop, Ewen, Farquhar, Guindon, Harris, Knox, Lawrence (Russell), Lewis (Humber), Lewis (Scarborough West), Noden, Pritchard (Mrs.), Racine, Rowe, Trotter, Worton—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT: Apps, Bernier, Brown, Butler, Demers, Edwards, Evans, Ewen, Farquhar, Freeman, Gisborn, Guindon, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (Scarborough East), Hodgson (Victoria), Johnston (Carleton), Lawrence (Russell), Mackenzie, McNeil, Newman, Noden, Olde, Paterson, Rollins, Rowe, Smith, Spence, Taylor, Thrasher, Whicher, Whitney, Yakabuski, Young—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

LABOUR: Beckett, Ben, Braithwaite, Brown, Cass, Davison, Demers, Eagleson, Evans, Gisborn, Hodgson (Scarborough East), Kerr, Lawrence (Russell), Morningstar, Pittock, Reaume, Reuter, Roberts, Trotter, Walker, Worton—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

LEGAL BILLS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS: Beckett, Ben, Bukator, Cass, Demers, Eagleson, Evans, Hodgson (Scarborough East), Kerr, Lawrence (Russell), Morningstar, Price, Renwick, Reuter, Roberts, Singer, Sopha, Thrasher, Trotter, Walker, Young—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM: Bernier, Brown, Carruthers, Davison, Demers, Evans, Farquhar, Freeman, Guindon, Hamilton, Henderson, Hodgson (Scarborough East), Hodgson (Victoria), Johnston (Parry Sound), Johnston (Carleton), Letherby, Mackenzie, McNeil, Noden, Oliver, Paterson, Pittock, Rollins, Root, Rowe, Sandercock, Smith, Spence, Taylor, Villeneuve, Whicher, Whitney, Yakabuski, Young—34. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

PRIVATE BILLS: Beckett, Ben, Bernier, Brown, Bukator, Butler, Carruthers, Carton, Cowling, Demers, Eagleson, Edwards, Evans, Ewen, Freeman, Gaunt, Hamilton, Harris, Henderson, Johnston (Parry Sound), Kerr, Lawrence (Russell), Letherby, MacDonald, Mackenzie, Morningstar, Newman, Nixon, Olde, Peck, Pittock, Price, Pritchard (Mrs.), Reaume, Reilly, Renwick, Reuter, Roberts, Rollins, Root, Sandercock, Singer, Sopha, Trotter, Villeneuve, Walker, Whicher, Whitney, Worton, Young—50. The quorum of the said committee to consist of seven members.

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS: Beckett, Brown, Bryden, Butler, Downer, Dunlop, Guindon, Harris, Lawrence (St. George), Nixon, Oliver, Peck, Reaume, Reilly, Renwick, Roberts, Rollins, Taylor, White, Worton, Yakabuski—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Bryden, Carton, Eagleson, Kerr, Knox, Reuter, Rowe, Sopha, Trotter—9. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

STANDING ORDERS AND PRINTING: Apps, Benn, Cass, Davison, Downer, Edwards, Farquhar, Gisborn, Gordon, Hamilton, Hodgson (Scarborough East), Johnston (Carleton), Letherby, Lewis (Humber), Olde, Price, Pritchard (Mrs.), Reaume, Sandercock, Smith, Thrasher—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

WELFARE AND REFORM: Apps, Ben, Braithwaite, Carruthers, Cowling, Davison, Eagleson, Ewen, Farquhar, Henderson, Hodgson (Victoria), Knox, Noden, Peck, Pritchard (Mrs.), Racine, Reilly, Trotter, Villeneuve, Whitney, Young—21. The quorum of the said committee to consist of five members.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE LOAN AND TRUST CORPORATIONS ACT

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, in explanation of this bill may I say that I believe there should be a method in the province of Ontario whereby deposits made by investors in those companies that are under provincial control

be secured by deposit insurance. I am not satisfied that the steps being presently taken in the House of Commons will apply to provincial Acts, and that is the purpose of this bill.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to be guided by the House on the introduction of bills, whether an explanation of the purpose of the bill is given voluntarily by the member introducing the bill or whether the member introducing the bill should wait until he has been asked by some other member for an explanation of the bill.

We have had both ways of doing it in the House. There has been a little controversy before on this point, and I would like to be guided by the House on whether the members would like someone to ask for an explanation of a bill before the introducing member does so.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I thought that we established a procedure last year that governed this, because it arose on several occasions then. It seems to be a little bit unnecessary to have to wait for a request when naturally this can be forthcoming quite easily and it does give the reason for the introduction of a bill in just a few sentences. In that regard it is quite useful.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I was not aware of any agreement made last year. The custom of this House has been, particularly in regard to private members' bills, that unless someone asks for an explanation, no explanation is ever given. As a matter of fact I think last year was the first year in my experience that any explanation was ever given on the part of a member's bill. Now if somebody asks for it, I think that is all right; otherwise the procedure of the House has always been that no explanation can be given unless one is asked for.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Well, Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the leader of the Opposition in his observations. I think the hon. Prime Minister is correct in that the past procedure has been that there must be some request from somewhere in the House before the mover of the private bill would give his word of explanation. But may I suggest that the spontaneity of such queries is a little to be questioned. It is a little phoney, may I say, to wait for somebody to do it. The amount of time that is involved in an explanation—and I know you will watch this carefully, Mr. Speaker—is very little. I

think that the mover is entitled to give that brief explanation, but let it come as a regular routine rather than wait for somebody, prompted from some quarter, to ask for it. I think it is a more orderly practice.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the explanation, but I do say that I would object strenuously if it amounts to sitting here listening to a speech on the subject of the bill. I think this was the real reason, in the beginning, why it was not permitted, because it is a privilege that no doubt will be twisted a little bit in any event, as time goes on, if my knowledge of human nature is accurate.

If we want to experiment with this, fine. I am not putting myself in a position where I agree with it until I see how it works out. We might try it on the basis that a brief explanation is permitted; but I make the point that if it is abused, then I have not agreed to it. The rule of the House stands; and what we are doing, in effect, is changing the rules of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take the guidance of the House under consideration, in this matter. It has always been the practice, in previous years, that only Ministers are expected to give an explanation of a bill which they are introducing and that private members do so only when asked. So we will govern ourselves accordingly. If explanations of the bill are short and to the purpose of the bill, they will be accepted on that basis.

COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS AND ACTS

Mr. Singer moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to provide for the appointment of a commissioner to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies, and to define the commissioner's powers and duties.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to provide an ombudsman for the province of Ontario, who will give to the people of Ontario an opportunity to present their grievances when they feel they have been aggrieved by civil servants.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Ewen: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill has to do with safety helmets for people riding motorcycles. The second part of the regulations is the describing of standards and specifications.

SENIOR CITIZENS' WEEK

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to proclaim senior citizens' week.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Carruthers: Mr. Speaker, this bill creates senior citizens' week in honour and recognition of the invaluable contributions which older men and women from every walk of life have made to this province, and sets out the objects of the observation.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Provincial Treasurer, due notice of which has been given him.

What changes have been made in the application of the provincial sales tax and the tobacco tax as these taxes are applied to Indians in Ontario?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the two-part question of the hon. leader of the Opposition is as follows—it may not be in the precise order in which the questions were asked:

First, with respect to The Indian Act—a federal Act—the application of taxes to Indians is limited. The Attorney General's Department has provided my department with interpretations which have guided us in the application of retail sales tax and tobacco tax to Indians.

The Tobacco Tax Act came into effect on January 1, 1966, replacing the retail sales tax on tobacco products. Early in January, 1966, it was drawn to our attention that Indian merchants on reservations were paying tobacco tax in the price which they paid to wholesalers as the Act requires. The department then arranged to have wholesalers sell tobacco products exempt from tax to Indian merchants located on reservations, provided delivery was made to the reservation. It has come to our attention that on occasion some of these Indian merchants have made purchases and taken delivery of tobacco products from cash and carry wholesalers located off the reservation. Consequently, they have had to pay tobacco tax the same as any other purchaser in such an outlet.

There have been two problems raised by Indians with respect to retail sales tax. Indians living on a reserve are legally entitled to purchase goods exempt from retail sales tax provided delivery is taken on the reserve. We believe this problem has now been clarified as notice to this effect has been sent to all registered vendors whereby sales can be made tax-free to such Indians through the use of a simple form of exemption certificate.

The second problem has to do with Indian vendors who have stores on a reserve. Many of these merchants have been registered vendors under The Retail Sales Act for some time. They became vendors principally so they could purchase from wholesalers free of retail sales tax the same as any other vendor. Those who have not been vendorized have been approached to become vendors, partly so that they could purchase readily from wholesalers who did not have delivery facilities through the usual purchase exemption certificate system. Another reason for vendorizing Indian merchants was because we had received complaints from merchants that they were being subjected to unfair competition by some Indian merchants located near the borders of reserves who were not collecting retail sales tax. The Indian merchants, by becoming vendors, will have the means to purchase from their suppliers exempt from tax, but on the other hand they will have an obligation to collect retail sales tax from a relatively small number of sales made to persons who are not Indians living on a reserve.

It would appear from a survey made of the province that there are fewer than 100 Indian merchants on reservations and nearly all these now are vendors except for a small group on one reservation. A meeting was held with representatives of this group last week, at which time the whole problem was thoroughly discussed. I see no reason why this small group should not comply.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Provincial Treasurer for his answer. It was full and complete. If I may ask a supplementary question associated with it, it is that the complexity of the situation does seem to be bothering the small group to which he referred and he has indicated that a special meeting was held. Will there be any other educational meetings for the assistance of these Indians if there is a continuing difficulty?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I think I can assure the leader of the Opposition that it is the intention of the sales tax branch director and those associated with him to clarify this position as fully as pos-

sible and I suggest to him if this has not been sufficiently well done steps can be taken to further clarify it. I think the position is a fair one. What we are attempting to do in simple terms is to insure that the major benefits to which Indians are entitled accrue to them, and at the same time eliminate as many as possible of the abuses that can creep into this situation over which they may or may not have too much control. We are quite prepared to go further to clarify the position if need be.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I could send the Provincial Treasurer's answer to the Indians concerned and that may be of some assistance.

I would also like to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Education. Has the Minister received recommendations from the special committee on student awards and if so, would he inform the House of their nature?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, I have not received the recommendations yet. I understand they are ready to be sent on to me. There is, I hope, just one further meeting required with the federal officials, and it is taking place this Thursday and Friday in Ottawa. When this is concluded, I shall inform the House as to the nature of the recommendations.

Mr. Nixon: Supplementary to this, I wonder if the Minister could tell us how many meetings have occurred and their approximate dates?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I do not have the approximate dates here. The committee as a whole met, I believe, on three occasions, and there were meetings with the federal officials, I think, on either three or four occasions. But I cannot give the hon. leader the dates.

Mr. Nixon: One further question: Is it not true that this is a special committee to advise the provincial Minister?

Hon. Mr. Davis: This is correct.

Mr. Nixon: It is the Minister's committee?

Hon. Mr. Davis: It is a committee that I asked to look into the student award programme, that is correct.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General: Did the Attorney General on any occasion withhold his consent from the Ontario securities commission for an investigation into any matter in relation to Prudential Finance Corporation? If so, when and why?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the Ontario securities commission last June considered with me the question as to whether or not there should be an investigation into the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation and its associated companies and the equities of the transactions between these companies. At the same time, the commission asked me to consider the possibility of the appointment of a receiver under The Securities Act.

As I have already stated in reply to a previous question from the member, it was my opinion and that of my advisers, that the circumstances at that time, while they disclosed the insolvent position of the company, did not disclose a legal basis for the making of the order for an investigation. Similarly, I did not feel that the appointment of a receiver was justified within the authority provided therefor in section 27 of the Act. This section contemplates that such a receiver is to be appointed for the purposes of an investigation, an order or a criminal proceeding.

As the hon. member is aware, the facts which formed the basis for the present investigation were not apparent until November of last year when the necessary order was then made. I should mention that when the commission requests my consent for some proceeding under the Act, a formal document is prepared by the commission and then submitted for my consideration and signature. In every case where such request has been asked for, I have accepted and signed the consent immediately.

Mr. MacDonald: I wonder if the Minister would permit a supplementary question? Were there any occasions on which informal discussions took place between him and officials of the Ontario securities commission as a result of which the request was not formally made?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: As I stated in the answer to the question, Mr. Speaker, we had discussions with the commission, with our staff, and at that time there was not sufficient evidence of material available to act. It did not become available until November.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health.

In view of the statement in the Minister's white paper on Friday, January 27, that the basic services required by children suffering from mental and emotional disorders will be available to all residents of the province "without charge," would the Minister offer clarification in regard to:

(a) Is there any intention of applying a means test to income?

(b) When will the appropriate pieces of legislation such as The Children's Institutions Act be amended to provide for 100 per cent payment?

(c) To whom should individual families apply when seeking a justified private placement for their child, which placement was previously not possible because of the costs involved?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to offer anything by way of clarification at the present time. This question today is partly taken from the context of a paper which was tabled in this House on Friday as government policy in a very broad area of service. It was noted that five different departments of government are involved. This is a programme, a policy adopted by government and submitted to this Legislature, and as it will be unfolded as this session proceeds, I would submit to you sir, that it would be far more adequately and satisfactorily covered by the appropriate Ministers at the time and in context.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Agriculture, notice of which has been given.

In view of the statement made by the secretary-manager of the Ontario tender fruit growers marketing board, in respect of tariffs on imported processed fruit, would the Minister inform the House whether any representations have been made to the government of Canada in respect to these tariffs?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Would the hon. member tell me which statement he is referring to; when it was made?

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, the secretary-manager, I believe, made a statement last night prior to the meeting in Hamilton today, indicating that unless the tariffs were raised the tender fruit industry in this province would be seriously affected. That is the statement to which I make reference.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I must confess that I had not any knowledge of that statement. As a matter of fact, I spent an hour and a half with the secretary-manager — are you referring to Mr. Barney Wilson?

Mr. Gaunt: No, it is Mr. Mathie, I believe.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have not seen nor heard anything about that statement. I did have a meeting with the secretary of the

fruit and vegetable growers association this morning.

However, I do know, and this is speaking in generalities, without reference to this particular statement, that matters raised by the fruit industry in Ontario having to do with the importation of processed fruit from the United States have been referred to the Canadian horticulture council.

Their annual meeting will be held in February, the 12th to the 15th next, and this matter will come up for active discussion then. I understand as well, that arrangements have been made to meet with various departments of the federal government to discuss this very important matter with the Ontario fruit industry, at that particular time.

As far as representations being made by our government are concerned, we are wholeheartedly behind the Ontario fruit industry and if you refer to statements I have made in the House and which are recorded in *Hansard*, it will be amply demonstrated there the seriousness of the situation.

We feel, however, that the Canadian horticulture council, which is the official organ of the fruit and vegetable industry of Canada, are the proper people to make such representations to the federal government, as this is a federal matter. They can count on our wholehearted support, which they know they already have in this particular regard.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General, on which there will be no difficulty about the statement. The *Toronto Globe and Mail* stated in an editorial in this morning's issue that there were gross abuses in Toronto of electronic spying in areas where privacy should prevail.

Does the Attorney General know of such instances? If so, would he inform the House of their nature, of the times when they occurred? If the Attorney General knows of such instances, are any steps being taken to eliminate the practice of electronic spying in matters of privacy?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, yes, I am aware of cases where the courts have admitted evidence obtained by electronic devices. Last week the court of appeal admitted evidence in a betting and gaming house case, *The Queen vs. Steinberg*. This practice was also followed in the *Sylvester* case, whereby information obtained was found to be admissible in court.

I do not think that those instances of which I am aware come under the definition of

electronic spying. To develop the matter a little further, as to what the steps the Attorney General has taken I have expressed at least my personal views. And I think perhaps they would represent the views of the government — that if electronic evidence come by in this manner, by electronic devices, is to be used generally, that it should be by way of a court order on application.

We presented that view to the federal authorities at a conference held about one year ago and suggested amendments to the criminal code. I am not aware what has been done, but I understand amendments to the code generally are under consideration.

But with respect to these particular instances, they are submitted to the court. The court itself has made the decision the evidence is admissible and has acted upon that evidence.

There are, of course, cases where I am aware that such evidence obtained, in what you might call private areas, has not been admitted. But in a situation where the public interest is involved, such as gaming, and other criminal acts, the court has given its approbation in the getting of evidence in this way by admitting, and using it, in the decision of the case.

Mr. Sopha: By way of a supplementary. Is the practice consistently followed by the Ontario Provincial Police?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know what the member means by the word "consistently". If the member means as a matter of general course in every case, I would say no. But in those cases where the police feel from the direction which has been given by the courts—in those cases where they have decided that the public interest is so at stake in matters of criminal import—I would say that they then use the electronic device to get evidence and use it in the court.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is not in his seat. Would the members who have questions directed to the Minister wait until tomorrow?

Orders of the day.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move, seconded by Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South), that a humble address be presented to the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, as follows: To the Honourable W. Earl Rowe, P.C., LL.D., D.S.C.,

S.O.C., Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario:

May it please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us.

As I rise and hear my voice echo through these chambers for the first time, it does give me a feeling of pride and purpose, that the people of the great riding of Kenora have entrusted their confidence in me in the recent by-election of September 22. My thanks go out to them for helping me fulfill a lifelong ambition to work, to represent, to promote and to speak on their behalf in this chamber.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honour for me and for the constituency of Kenora, which I have the privilege to represent, to be called upon to move this address in our Centennial year.

I approach my task with enthusiasm and with deep humility, conscious of the great orators and distinguished parliamentarians who have preceded me in this task. I am also conscious of my inability to express myself as this occasion demands.

Not being any different than any other new member, I reviewed very carefully the remarks as recorded by other members who made their maiden addresses in this House, and I noted without exception that congratulations were extended to you on your importance as Speaker of this House.

You have a very important task to perform and from all reports, sir, you have filled it with distinction, ability and dignity. I, too, would like to add my congratulations to your appointment, even though they may be belated. I look forward to the months ahead with eagerness knowing that I will have your advice, guidance and assistance.

While I am a very junior member within this assembly, this is perhaps not an inappropriate task for one whose ancestors came to this country in 1674, some 200 years before Confederation. The Berniers settled in Levis, Quebec, and over the centuries their descendants have spread over Canada and the United States. My great grandfather moved to the great northwest in the wake of the railway line which played such a major role in the promotion of this country. He settled in the Red River area in the late 1880s. Some 40 years later his son, my father, moved to the Kenora district and settled in the Ear Falls area. Here he was employed constructing one of the initial hydro-electric generating

stations in the area. It is one of several developed under the genius of that distinguished Canadian, a member of this Legislature and of the Conservative Party, Sir Adam Beck.

It was not until 1908 that my riding was represented in this assembly. I am pleased to say that for many years the representative was a member of the Conservative Party. He was Sir Harold A. C. Malkin.

In the past it has been traditional for members in the Kenora riding, regardless of their political leanings, to set aside party politics and partisanship in looking after the requirements of their constituents. It was a practice of both my recent predecessors, the late Bob Gibson and the late Albert Wren. Mr. Speaker, it shall also be my own practice.

My victory on September 22 was achieved with the support of all elements within the constituency, not the least from labour, and in great measure was due to the efforts of my campaign manager, Mr. Lyle Stuart, president of the Dryden district labour council. It was a victory, too, for the administration of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and provides conclusive evidence of the popularity and support which this administration enjoys from the easternmost sections of the province through to the far northwest.

I believe that many in this area for some time thought that the NDP had won that election. However, as you know their candidate ran last. On arrival in Toronto I was informed that such a reaction by the socialists is normal. It was explained to me at that time that the socialists are the only politicians who can find victory and happiness in resounding defeat.

Our job, then, is clear: It is, as good Samaritans, to project the New Democratic Party into a suspended state of joyfulness.

It would be appropriate for me at this time to extend congratulations to each of the new members of the Cabinet, and to those who have received Cabinet rank, and to wish them every success in their new positions of greater responsibility. I would also like to mention particularly those who have served the Cabinet so well in the past and who have withdrawn to make room for the new and younger generation.

We in the northwest have been impressed for many years with the deep interest and the support which the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts) has shown to that area. I doubt if there is another member of this Legislature more widely known or respected

than he, in my area. His record of service and the wisdom of his legislative proposals as Attorney General speak for themselves. A list of his major accomplishments would include: a new Act governing the law on companies and a system of registering the ownership of land; establishment of the Attorney General's committee for highway safety; expansion of the Ontario Provincial Police; re-equipment of the force and modernization of its methods, particularly in the matter of conducting traffic cases in the courts; introduction of uniform traffic tickets and appointment of the first co-ordinator of justice administration.

It was in his latter appointment as Minister of Lands and Forests that he will be best remembered in my constituency. I will not embarrass him further by listing all the progressive and farsighted measures he introduced and applied. It will be sufficient for me to say that for his devotion to duty as Minister of Lands and Forests he, along with our own hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope), has become known throughout the great northwest as the guardian of the great northwest. I can pay him no higher tribute than that on behalf of my constituents, and I am sure that all members present would join with me in wishing him well in the future.

The hon. member for Prescott (Mr. Cecile) was first elected to this Legislature in 1948 and returned successfully in the following four general elections. He is one of only five remaining in this Ontario Legislature who took their seats following the general election of 1948. In 1955 he was appointed Minister of Public Welfare. His 11 years at the head of that department is the longest tenure of any Minister in Canada in this post. During this period The Department of Public Welfare's annual expenditure rose from \$29 million to \$132 million by 1966. Of the 21 separate pieces of legislation administered by that department, ten entirely new Acts were introduced by the hon. member for Prescott, and at least 15 different programmes have been added to the range of services. These include such programmes as an office on aging, the new Child Welfare Act, The Indian Welfare Services Act, and the Indian development branch. It is interesting to note that in 1962, when it became apparent that a number of newborn children had been deformed by that drug known as thalidomide, The Ontario Department of Public Welfare was the first to offer a plan of financial aid to the parents, and as a result, 23 families were able to care for their children in their own homes.

These are only some of his major accomplishments. His service to the people of this province in his home riding of Prescott can be summed up in the words of Shakespeare slightly paraphrased: "Your conduct provides a proof of our praise."

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I overlooked the recent events which have taken place in the official Opposition party. I would extend congratulations to the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), whom I first met at the by-election in Kenora on September 22. Needless to say, I was most pleased with the failure of his mission to the northwest at that time. All members would join me in wishing him well in his new responsibilities, with the full knowledge that like his distinguished father before him he will conduct himself with wisdom, integrity and responsibility (but not too much of the latter). I would like to caution the leader of the Opposition about the recently acquired unity within his party and refer him to the words of the immortal bard, of which I know he is familiar:

Those friends thou hast and their adoption tried,

Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel.

This legislative assembly first met in the town of Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake, on September 17, 1792. That assembly was addressed by the first Lieutenant-Governor of what was then Upper Canada, Lieutenant Colonel John Graves Simcoe, a distinguished pioneer who devoted his life to the building of an orderly community out of what was then just wilderness.

Firmly convinced of the great destiny of this province, he laid the foundation for our future development. In recognition of his distinguished service, he was called upon to take hold of the instruments of government in 1792 and put them to work in this new land. Thus when the first Legislature of this new province of Ontario was opened by Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Stisted at 2 o'clock, p.m., on Saturday, December 28, 1867, it was not a novel experience for either the residents of the city of Toronto or for the parliamentarians there assembled.

It is possible, Mr. Speaker, to sense from the newspaper accounts of the proceedings of that historic day a feeling of pride; that in fact while this assembly was meeting its 75th time, the federal Parliament in Ottawa was then in its very first session.

Inside the legislative building on that day, we are told the scene was gay and animated

with ladies in full dress invading the chamber in such numbers that many of the members' seats were surrendered to them. These ladies were magnificently attired, we are told, so that the scene was not one whit behind that which marked the opening of the House of Commons in Ottawa just a few days previously. I am certain Mr. Speaker, that all members of this House will wish me to say that our ladies added equal grace and charm and colour to the proceedings of this House on Wednesday last.

The House which assembled to hear the Speech from the Throne 100 years ago consisted of 82 members. It was led by a prominent citizen and politician, the Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald who, strangely enough, had been one of the chief opponents of Confederation. His administration was in fact a coalition and his Cabinet included representatives from both major parties.

It is most appropriate to recall, Mr. Speaker, that in 1867 the city of London was represented in this Legislature by a most distinguished Canadian, the hon. John—later Sir John—Carling. Were Sir John alive today I know he would be exceedingly proud of the fact that one of the members from the city of London in the Centennial year is our respected leader, one of this nation's outstanding statesmen, the Prime Minister of Ontario.

In that Throne Speech 100 years ago, there was evidence of the same trials and tribulations which confronted us today and which may ever be present under our federal system of government. The situation was doubly complicated at that time by the fact that members of this House could sit, and did sit, in the federal Parliament at one and the same time. Thus, we find, Mr. Speaker, that while the Hon. J. S. Macdonald was Prime Minister and Attorney General of this province, he was at the same time leader of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition in the federal Parliament at Ottawa. What marvellous opportunities this system afforded the politicians of those days.

I do feel, Mr. Speaker, that these periods under Liberal rule, which extended in Ontario from 1871 to 1905, and again from 1934 to 1942, have been unfortunate ones for this province. During these critical periods, too much effort was expended on judicial and other quarrels with the federal government at the expense of the development of this province. In harmony with the concept of the Fathers of Confederation, and particularly that of the chief architect whom we must honour today, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Alexander Macdonald, I would like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, to compare the squabbling of

these periods with the cooperation which has existed between Queen's Park and Ottawa under successive Conservative administrations and particularly during the 2,000-day stewardship of the present Prime Minister.

The moderation and the statesmanship which he has displayed, and the wisdom and tolerance of his legislative proposals, have established this province as the bulwark and spokesman for Confederation. It is therefore entirely appropriate, in keeping with our great Conservative tradition, and with the policies of the hon. Prime Minister, to find in the Throne Speech delivered last Wednesday an invitation to the other ten jurisdictions within this country to join us here in a "confederation of tomorrow" conference. I am proud to be a member of that administration which has initiated this imaginative proposal. I am certain that every member will endorse the government's invitation and hope that it will be quickly accepted by the governments concerned.

There is one other proposal, Mr. Speaker, in the 1867 Speech from the Throne, to which I would like to make reference. It reads as follows:

It will devolve upon you to consider the best and most appropriate means of husbanding these resources and of augmenting as far as possible the public wealth. I would earnestly press upon your attention the expediency of encouraging immigration to the occupation of public land by affording the working classes of Europe and to the young men of our province additional inducements to settle and remain among us.

It is clear from this passage that the government of 1867 recognized that public wealth, our standard of living in modern terms, depends upon the husbanding of the development of our natural resources.

Since those days, Mr. Speaker, Ontario has developed and prospered beyond the wildest dreams of those who listened to that speech 100 years ago. Then they were called together to administer revenues estimated at approximately \$1.8 million. The estimate of expenditures for the year 1867-68 totalled about \$1.3 million. Last year, this government collected, in round figures, \$1.75 billion and expended approximately \$1.5 billion. In 1867, education costs were \$300,000 in round figures, or about 16 per cent of the total revenue. Last year, the comparable figures for education were \$575 million, or 38 per cent of the total budget.

Hand in hand with this development, particularly since the end of World War II, we have seen a tremendous increase in the expenditures on social measures over almost the entire spectrum of need. I feel that the additional major expenditures in this sector, which have been called for by the Opposition parties and which could inevitably result in higher taxes for our constituents, cannot be justified at this time.

I am delighted, Mr. Speaker, that the Speech from the Throne recognizes this financial fact of life. I feel that further large expenditures on programmes of this nature can be supported only by additional sources of tax revenue. Since these sources were denied this province at the last federal-provincial conference, the Prime Minister of Ontario has taken the only responsible alternative course available to him. It was a courageous and wise decision. Courageous, because he refused to make rash and expensive promises. Wise, because he recognized as did those parliamentarians of 1867 that the only sure foundation on which to advance the public wealth is the development and the husbanding of our resources. He has therefore, marked this Centennial year as one of full scale programme for provincial development.

It is on this programme of provincial development that I wish to concentrate today, for it strikes a deep chord within me and all the residents of the north and the west, particularly my constituents of Kenora.

Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday in this House we witnessed the unveiling of one of those great meaningful documents which, like the 1943, 22-point programme of another Progressive Conservative government, charts for this province and its people a sure and steady course for the second century. The document is testimony to the imaginative leadership and the concern for the people of this province shown by the Prime Minister throughout his tenure of office.

This government, now only some 2,000 days old, has demonstrated beyond question that it is the government for all the people of Ontario and I would like to briefly review some of its major accomplishments.

In the past five years, 371,000 new jobs. Gross provincial product has increased by 48 per cent, or almost 10 per cent per year. Personal per capita income has climbed 32.6 per cent. More than 806 new manufacturing establishments. More than 800 miles of major highways constructed and all toll-free.

Farm cash income increased by 44 per cent. University enrolment has almost doubled, from 32,000 in 1961, to 62,000 in 1966. One

billion dollars given in grants to the less wealthy public and separate school systems throughout the province, under the tax foundation plan. Nearly 9,000 new hospital beds constructed.

The past five years have meant community colleges, a Department of University Affairs, the Ontario council for the arts, minimum wage legislation, an age discrimination Act, The Used Car Dealers Act, legal aid, consumer protection and The Securities Act. And the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, a new Child Welfare Act, the Ontario housing corporation, the Sheridan Park research community, and car safety legislation.

These accomplishments represent only a small part of what this government has done in its 2,000 days. It is a record unmatched by any other provincial jurisdiction in Canada and probably very few in the United States.

Let me give you just one example, Mr. Speaker. In the *Financial Post* of January 28 of this year, in an article entitled, "Two pronged pollution attack aimed at saving Great Lakes", we read as follows:

Federal officials, that is Canadian federal officials, are quick to say the Ontario water resources commission is the most realistic of its kind in North America. In the 10 years that it has been in business it has spent about \$1 billion and moved Ontario to a point where the United States might be five years from now.

Yet this area, namely water pollution control, is singled out in the Throne Speech for further improvement and expansion. This is just one example of many that could be provided to indicate just how much this government does care for the people of Ontario and their needs in this modern society.

My constituency is part of northwestern Ontario, but at Confederation the term north-west represented that area from Sault Ste. Marie to the Pacific coast and as far north as the Arctic circle. The most remote regions represented in our Parliament of 1867 was Algoma.

In the election of that year, a Conservative, Fred W. Cumberland, won with a total of 351 votes against 127 for the Liberals and 49 for the independent candidate. From this total of only 517 votes, it is obvious that even then Algoma was very much a pioneer settlement.

It is most appropriate for me to remind all hon. members of a real source of attraction which Canada held in the very earliest days. What did Canada offer, which attracted the

attention and the rivalry of both the French and English?

We must be honest about this, Mr. Speaker. It was not the agricultural land of southwestern Ontario. It was not the fruit growing region of the Niagara peninsula, and certainly there was no industrial potential here at that time. But it was the beaver pelt of the great northwest.

From the earliest days there was rivalry, competition and strife for the wealth of that area. While the source of wealth today has changed from the beaver pelt to the much more valuable products of the forest and mines, I would like to suggest that the rivalry still continues. It is a rivalry about which many in this part of the province are completely unaware, but it exists, nevertheless.

I believe we must take a greater interest in the struggle for the wealth of the great northwest which is now going on, for I believe Ontario cannot afford to lose, and need not lose that struggle.

In the beginning, it was a race between the French and the English. In deference to my French ancestry, let me quote these extracts from the book entitled *The Canadian Northwest* by Jean Mercer Adam:

By this and vast enterprises which followed it, the whole vast interior as far west as the Rocky mountains became known to the French and in these regions they speedily established their forts. In 1731, Fort St. Pierre was erected at Lac La Pluee—Rainy Lake—and the following year Fort St. Charles on the Lake of the Woods and Fort Maurepas on the Winnipeg River. The Kaministiquia, now Fort William at the head of Lake Superior was the key base of supplies for the operations in the west and the great rallying point for the French trader and the voyageur.

In short the whole country was probed and made known to the outer world by the enterprise of the French and the French Canadians.

After 1759 the rivalry and the competition for the wealth of the northwest continued, the Hudson's Bay Company trading out of Hudson Bay and the Northwesters with headquarters in Montreal. The Northwesters were headed by Scots of the calibre and drive of William McGillivray, and these great businessmen of the period would come out each year to Fort William for an annual meeting with their local representatives.

The book describes the pomp and ceremony, the business meetings, and the rivalry

which were occasioned by these annual visits from the east, from the seat of power to the east. We read how the local citizens, the half-breeds, the trappers, and the guides, ate the crumbs from the table of those powerful men from the east. To many in my area, this makes for very unpleasant reading today, for many of them feel that, to a certain extent, they are still eating the crumbs from the tables of the east. I think it is possible to find support for these views by statistics which I have picked out from the 1961 economic survey of this province. Let me quote you just a few examples.

During the period of 1901 to 1959, the Metropolitan Toronto area increased from 354,000 to 1,934,000 in population. This is an increase of nearly 1.6 million. During that period, the Lakehead and northwestern Ontario region moved from a population of only 28,000 to 216,000. This is an increase of only 188,000. The projected population figures contained in this pamphlet do not appear to offer much encouragement for the future. Here we read that the metropolitan area is expected to exceed three million in population by 1976, an increase of over one million, while the Lakehead and northwestern Ontario region is expected to increase to only 346,000, an increase of about 130,000.

I could, Mr. Speaker, continue to quote statistics of this nature to support my views, and these are available for all the members to read for themselves.

Again, Mr. Speaker, and here I will quote from the last economic survey conducted for this region in 1959, and I quote:

The Lakehead northwestern Ontario region is a huge and challenging territory; 213 thousand square miles of plain, forest and lake embracing more than half of the province's total area, endowed with an abundance of minerals, timber and water power. The region, although natural development is much richer in potential—

The wealth which initially led to the development of this nation is still there and still in the same place, although in different form. As in those earlier days there is rivalry still to exploit this wealth. This time, the contest is between the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

I want to see Ontario win this competition and so do my constituents. They proved this back home on September 22. It is for this reason that I am thrilled with the programme for development in other measures announced in the Throne Speech.

For instance, four new provincial parks will be opened in the province, bringing the total to 109. One of these parks, I am pleased to say, will be located between Dryden and Upsala.

Of extreme importance to my area was a mention in the Throne Speech that this government would investigate and formulate a policy in connection with the important need for landing strips and airports throughout the northern part of the province. Dryden, along with Sioux Lookout, Ear Falls, Sioux Narrows and Minaki are areas that require the full consideration of this investigation.

The labour people in my area will be pleased to learn of the government's intention to set up a body consisting of labour, management and government to explore on reported issues which may be raised by any of the three parties.

In the field of education, the people of the northwestern part of the province will be heartened to learn from the Throne Speech that an educational research centre is planned for northern Ontario. Also, the education of children in remote areas not served by schools or railway cars will be improved by the use of portable schools and the extension of boarding allowances.

The extension of the northern corps established in 1966 to encourage qualified teachers to provide their services to the isolated areas will also be most welcome. Our area welcomes announcement that the government will continue their rapid expansion of colleges of applied arts and technology.

The announcement in the Throne Speech that this government would expand recognition of housing problems of this province with a positive programme to promote ownership is of great importance to all of us in northwestern Ontario.

To illustrate the need for these programmes and where and how they can be applied, Mr. Speaker, let me conduct you through the vast territory of my riding of Kenora. I am shocked and disturbed to hear my area referred to as a bitterly cold forbidding land, commonly referred to as "the North" or that bridge between the east and the west.

I would suggest that a visit to this area would change their thinking. They would find a veritable vacation paradise uncluttered and unspoiled, with a people of great faith, determination, vision, hospitality, sincerity and warmth.

It has the facilities, the people, the knowledge and the desire to give one a vacation which cannot be equalled anywhere in the

world. And in the field of investment there are opportunities unlimited.

Let us first move up to the Trans-Canada highway from the Lakehead. This vital artery has seen much needed improvement in the past several years. We have just completed an 11-mile contract where over \$1.4 million has been expended. I am told that \$2 million will be spent on an additional 21 miles of reconstruction of this road. Over this highway each year come thousands of happy vacationers from the east and the south. The progressive improvements that have been made by the former Minister of Highways (Mr. McNaughton) to this road and to our overall highway system in Kenora riding will never be forgotten.

It was a pleasure to have him personally inspect every inch of our highway system last spring. It was gratifying to watch him take time to motor through the bush trails in order to determine their potential as future links within this highway system. Our first stop on this trip would be at Ignace, a growing lumbering community developed into a tourist centre. Through Ignace, one reaches such virgin areas as Pickle Crow and on to this province's most northern highway system. When this northern access road is completed west to Red Lake, it will form the most extensive northerly vacation route in the province—opening up areas that have yet to see the white man.

From here, we move on to the hub of the Kenora riding, to the community that is the envy of the great northwest, and of course I refer to that growing town of Dryden. This centre has a population of just over 6,000 where only 2,800 lived in 1953. Here we can witness the manufacture of that famous Dryden Craft from the raw materials of the immediate forest, and watch this same mill produce paper of exceptionally fine quality having a multitude of uses. This industry under the effective and capable management of Tommy Jones has provided the area with great stability and prosperity.

Here in Dryden one finds Canada's most modern and progressive printing firm, the Alex Wilson Publishing Company Limited. It produces coloured postcards and coloured materials of the finest quality unmatched anywhere on this continent. Closely associated with the Dryden paper company is a Dryden chemical plant and the St. Regis Bag Company employing hundreds of workers and adding further to the economy of this general area. I would remind members that there is room for a great deal more expansion of this type right here in Dryden.

Agriculture is carried on in this area and is growing in importance as the standards are improved and the local markets enlarge. In the late spring you will note the scent of fresh clover, for this is a major seed-producing area for this province. You will meet many successful dairy farmers and challenging contenders for potato honours at the Royal winter fair.

Before leaving Dryden we should move up the reconstructed Highway 72 to Sioux Lookout and to Hudson, where we will see 26 miles of new highway being ready for hard surfacing this coming spring. Total construction costs at present amount to \$1.8 million with paving costs estimated at another \$725,000. We will see two modern bridges being constructed at the entrance of the community of Sioux Lookout and at my own home town of Hudson. Total cost of these two structures is estimated at over \$366,000.

This area, Mr. Speaker, has had a very interesting history. It was the centre of activity during the great gold rush to Red Lake in the 1930s. These two communities had the busiest sea airport on the North American continent. These still form the base for operations in the vast region to the north which stretches to Hudson Bay. From this area has come some of our most famous bush pilots. I would name just a few to start. Starratt, Brown and Perry all worked through Hudson. It also produced skis and other equipment for many subarctic expeditions of the past. Here you once stepped on a scale and paid \$1 a pound to join those trekking north to seek their fortune in distant mining fields of Red Lake.

Both of these communities have since turned to the harvesting of the immediate natural resources, ever hopeful of more secondary industry. Following many disappointing announcements of proposed industrial expansion, a bold enterprising and hard-selling determined individual named Bert Seaman succeeded in establishing a sawmill industry which provides a measure of economic stability in that area.

When the two major continental railway systems announced a 10 per cent increase in freight rates of lumber products coming from northwestern Ontario, it became evident that this would put our lumber producers at a very severe disadvantage with the mills in British Columbia and the prairie provinces.

The Department of Economics and Development through its Minister, the Honourable Stanley J. Randall, prevailed upon the board of transport commissioners, The Department of Transport, the CPR and the CNR to defer

this freight increase. A study of the effects was made and Mr. Randall was advised that this proposal had been deferred until March 1, 1967. By that time the detailed study would be completed.

I hope and pray, Mr. Speaker, that this government will continue its efforts on our behalf to insure that our producers in northwestern Ontario remain in the competitive position in this vital export commodity. In this area, you will find no pessimism, but rather a rising impatience with the snail-like pace of new developments.

Moving back along the beautiful Trans-Canada highway we reach Vermilion Bay, the junction of the road to Red Lake, one of Canada's leading gold producing areas. Heading northward up this road we wend our way over one of our area's finest highways, expertly serviced and maintained by The Department of Highways.

We pass by dozens of luxurious tourist camps owned by people who love this area and are deeply concerned about its future. After a few miles we reach the throbbing community of Ear Falls. This small community was dependent on the Hydro development which I mentioned earlier, and the expanding Chukuni Lumber Company, and this settlement is now alive with excitement at its prospects for the future.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the area contains a major iron ore body. The Steel Company of Canada is spending some \$70 million to bring the Griffith mine into production by 1968. Approximately 500 workers are now engaged in this task but this is, of course, only one phase of the work involved in bringing this great mine into production. When it is fully operational, 1.5 million tons of iron ore pellets will be produced annually. It will be the largest pelletizing operation in the province of Ontario.

I do not need to explain to the members of this House the impact which an operation of this size will have upon the general area. I might also add that a railway branch line some 70 miles in length from Vermilion Bay is being constructed northward through Ear Falls to the mining site. As I mentioned, the Red Lake highway will be fully hard surfaced next year and the road from this highway to the Griffith mine will be completed.

In addition, another interesting and encouraging sign of the times was a recent announcement that TransAir would inaugurate a regular air service from the Lakehead to Red Lake via Sioux Lookout. Thus evidence already exists of greater interest in this area

and its potential in that part of the province. Mr. Speaker, I pray that in the days ahead I will be successful in focusing your attention and the attention of the members more and more upon this wealthy area. At Red Lake itself we find a broadly based community which is the area's main shopping centre. Of course this is a great attraction to our most northerly citizens who are anxious for a glimpse of life in the outside world. It is a community eager for all the facilities that urban means to the more settled parts of this province.

One of the issues of the Kenora by-election was that of water and pollution in the town of Red Lake, and prior to coming into this House this afternoon I checked on the situation with the Ontario water resources commission. The commission advised me that they are developing a proposal to control pollution and to assure a reliable and adequate supply of good water to the people of Red Lake.

In addition, the Ontario water resources commission are developing a rate and my information is that providing there is no delay in securing approval the Ontario water resources commission's proposal by the council on behalf of the citizens of Red Lake, construction of this system will get under way this year 1967.

The proposal being developed by the commission will be shortly placed before a public meeting for discussion by the residents of Red Lake.

Close by Red Lake we have the friendly, modern communities of Balmertown and Cochenour. Here, the gold miners live in homes of simple design but with all the modern day conveniences and comforts. Their lot, of course, is a difficult one since the price of gold has remained unchanged since 1935 and their future is always uncertain.

Back to Vermilion Bay and further west along the top of the famous Lake of the Woods into the area's most populous region, Kenora, Keewatin and Jaffray Mellick. It is an area of over 16,000 people and the population in this community swells to over 40,000 each summer. This area produces the finest newsprint and that famous Five Roses flour. Here we find people of strong convictions willing to give their utmost for the development of their community. They are determined to make the northland a better place in which to live and to raise a family.

It is interesting, Mr. Speaker, to note that Kenora is the only community of its size to have the distinction of winning the Stanley Cup—and they did it in 1907. During the

early years of settlement the Kenora area relied for its economic well-being on the fur trade. During 1880 to 1905 it was an outstanding mining centre. I predict that discoveries of silver, lead, zinc and copper will play an important part in the future of this area.

The lumber industry still dominates our economy, but tourism is rapidly becoming a major industry in that town. The railway, pulp and paper operations, and tourism together employed over two-thirds of the town's labour force. Kenora is located only 124 miles east of Winnipeg and it is rapidly becoming the educational centre for that part of the province.

Extending out from Kenora, and accessible by air, land and water, is a vacation paradise; thousands of lakes that contain thousands of islands, and miles of rugged shoreline, which prospectors have examined for gold and other minerals. The scenery is magnificent, beautiful and relaxing in such communities as Nestor Falls, Sioux Narrows and Minaki. In this area a magnificent holiday is assured.

Since the election, I have been in contact, Mr. Speaker, with the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) requesting a Kenora recreational study. I am happy to announce that the Kenora recreational study will shortly get under way and will include all of northwestern Ontario, including the vacation areas of Rainy River, Lake of the Woods, and Patricia.

There are three phases in the study: First is a critical examination of existing physical features and of the tourist plant in the area; second is an assessment of future potential for recreational development in the area and general comments on the probable effect of government incentives in stimulating recreational development; third—the final and most essential phase of this study—to develop a priority programme containing several sites which have a high potential for recreational development. The study will be initiated immediately after funds have been secured and it is hoped that it will be completed in about half a year.

Mr. Speaker, as all members of this House are aware, my area has received a tremendous amount of publicity in connection with our Indian population. I am concerned about the future of these people; certainly I am concerned as to why Charlie Wenjack died. I think it is obvious that the present administration in Ottawa is failing in this area, as it is in so many others. The result is that 50,000 Indians of this province are completely disillusioned, embittered and suspicious of even

friendly and honest approaches. We need to regain their trust.

Having been associated with these people and having lived among them for the better part of my life, I am well aware of the fact that they can never be changed into white men. But by honourable and intelligent understanding of their problems, we can devise programmes to return to them their self-confidence and pride in their culture and to give them a useful role to perform. We can provide guidance and assistance and direction to them on a regional basis far more effectively, far more efficiently, than is now being done on a national basis.

I think our government should be provided, from federal sources, with the funds required to implement appropriate programmes. And let me remind this House that Arthur Laing, the federal Minister of Indian Affairs, admitted that Canada never has done much of a job for the Indians. May I say further, Mr. Speaker, that it was this government in 1951 that allowed these people universal suffrage and it is only since then that the politicians have really taken a real interest in these people.

I feel that if we in this province are prepared to honour every aspect of their treaties we should establish an Ontario Indian affairs commission. Such a commission, with Indian representation and answerable to this House, would appear to be a much more appropriate Centennial project than many of those now being undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, in these few minutes we have travelled several hundreds of miles and, as a matter of interest, I would like to remind the members of the great size and distances that exist within the borders of this province. It is interesting to note that Kenora is 1,165 miles from this building. We are, in fact, closer to British Columbia than we are to Toronto. Sydney, Nova Scotia, is closer to Toronto than we in Kenora are. While Toronto is 240 miles from Ottawa, we are about 305 miles from Fort William. Now you would never dream of placing services in Ottawa to look after the needs of Toronto. We also disapprove of services being placed in Fort William to fulfil the needs of Kenora.

Again in this area, Mr. Speaker, we find the same craving to become caught up in the economic expansion which is taking place in the remainder of this great province. I hope that I will be able to inspire those on the Ontario development corporation to take a longer, broader view of the situation in that area.

I would like to see them adopt a more positive attitude in their approach to move industries. In some of these situations it is possible that they are unable to find the finest managerial know-how, but there is in my area a deep motivation and the will to provide industry for the general benefit of that area. I feel we need bold, imaginative industrial inducements to get industry under way. Once this has begun, the programme carries on. It is in building this foundation with which we are particularly concerned. Mr. Speaker, the potential is there.

This government's programme for development must surely be slanted to the north and northwest as the basis for the expansion our second century must provide. The people there are anxious and ready for the challenges of tomorrow. I do not feel that because they have chosen to live in the great northwest they should be penalized in any way — in education, social or economic benefits. They are as entitled to all the good things of life as any other citizen of this province. They are not crying for more social welfare legislation. This time they are crying for the tools with which to expand their economy, modernize their facilities, and expand their communities.

After all, Mr. Speaker, we cannot all live in the golden horseshoe. We have seen the problems here that an over-concentration of industry and people can produce, particularly in the field of pollution. Also we see thousands crawling to work each day along super-highways, jammed nose-to-tail with vehicles. Yet, unless the government intervenes, the concentration for economic reasons alone will increase more rapidly each year. I am certain that this government of Ontario is not going to sit idly by and witness a Los Angeles grow in this area from Oshawa to Niagara Falls. It is not going to neglect those of us holding and pushing back the frontiers of opportunity in the great northwest.

Mr. Speaker, we in northwestern Ontario are sensitive to any apparent sign of discrimination. Perhaps, because of that, I was shocked to see in many offices large maps showing the southern part of this province drawn to a scale of eight miles to the inch, while northwestern Ontario was set in the lower corner of the same map on the scale of 32 miles to the inch. The discrimination may not be intentional but it hurts. I believe we can begin by redrafting those maps of northwestern Ontario on the same scale as the rest of the province, even though they may take up half the wall space.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend, at this opportunity, a very sincere invitation to all hon. members to attend the Lake-of-the-Woods Centennial snow carnival on March 4, at which time we will inaugurate the first international power toboggan race. This novel race will commence at Baudette, Minnesota, some 100 miles south of Kenora, and we expect that we will have some 1,000 toboggans participating.

In closing, may I read into the record the text of a telegram which I received before entering this chamber. The dateline is Kenora. It says:

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY IN EXTENDING OUR HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU IN BEING GRANTED THE PRIVILEGE OF REPLYING TO THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS WILL BRING DISTINCTION TO OUR DISTRICT. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THINK THAT THIS SELECTION IS AN INDICATION OF THE RECOGNITION THIS AREA WILL BE RECEIVING UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP.

And it is signed by Mr. C. G. Stalker, president of the Kenora chamber of commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that with the new climate that exists in the Kenora riding since last September 22, this recognition will be achieved.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to have this opportunity on behalf of the people of the historic riding of Renfrew South to second the motion of the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) for the adoption of the Speech from the Throne presented by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, on this occasion I would like to extend to you, and through you to all members of this House, the foremost greeting in our land today, "happy Centennial year".

Also I am sure that all members will join with me in expressing both gratitude and our confidence in the conduct you have displayed in discharging your duties impartially, responsibly and with great dignity. It is, of course, a great honour for the people of the Ottawa area and the Ottawa valley to have one of their members Speaker of the legislative assembly of Ontario as we enter the second century of Confederation.

I would also like to congratulate, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) who was unanimously elected Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with the member for Kenora in congratulating those

who have recently been appointed to the executive council of this province and to those who have taken on new responsibilities.

An extra word of congratulation is necessary for the hon. Minister from Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan). It has been said on many other occasions that there is no security in politics. But, Mr. Speaker, if security escapes the politician, I think we all agree that usually a short political life awaits the Provincial Treasurer of Ontario. This has been the case in the House of Commons as well, as far as position of the Minister of Finance is concerned. However, the hon. gentleman from Haldimand-Norfolk changed this precedent and has held the post of Provincial Treasurer for six long years.

During this period he was the financial genius who guided this province through its greatest period of expansion in our history. In 1961, when he became Provincial Treasurer, the provincial budget was around \$773 million. Today, the provincial budget reaches almost \$2 billion. While this is indeed an enormous increase in a short period of time, it has been so well and so orderly planned that the province's financial position and credit rating are today more sound and more secure than ever before — indeed, in modern financing, a great accomplishment in itself.

Of course, besides being the province's financial wizard for six years he was, before taking that post, Minister of Public Works and Minister of Highways. I am told that, in 1962, he was made an honorary chief of the Six Nations Indian Mohawk tribe and named "Genedis" which in English means, "Tall Pine", a very proper title for a very fine and tall man.

I think one can also have the confidence that the precedent, set by the hon. Minister from Haldimand-Norfolk with regard to his long tenure as Provincial Treasurer, will be picked up by the hon. Minister from Huron (Mr. MacNaughton) whom we know will spend many long and fruitful days in the new responsibilities which he has assumed.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): How many?

Mr. Yakabuski: Many. I would like also to concur wholeheartedly with the remarks made by the hon. member for Kenora, with reference to the hon. member for St. Patrick and the hon. member for Prescott. I can only say, along with the majority of the people of Ontario, that with the gentlemen who form the government front benches, we in this province can be assured of good, sound government—a government that cares

for people, a government which believes in progressive change, a government that throughout the years has tried to create opportunities for our people and not to make our people serfs of the state, as some of the members of the Opposition advocate. Above all, this is a government which realizes that only through voluntary participation, and not compulsory participation, can a free, democratic people move forward to the ultimate goal—a society built on understanding and tolerance, with the final result unlimited opportunity and security for all.

It is also a pleasure to welcome to this legislative assembly the hon. member for Kenora, who only a few minutes ago concluded a very eloquent address. The other day in the Legislature, the hon. member for Youth South was trying to play down the great Conservative victory in the Kenora riding last September 22. In that election, as usual, the NDP ran last, even in view of the intellectual dishonesty of the polls which they produced a few hours before election day, claiming victory.

The pettiness of the leader of the socialists reminds me of a story of an ancient taxi which took a long time to get to its destination. At last, after a jolting ride, punctuated by a lot of stalling, the salesman got out and paid the driver. "How do you manage," he said, "when your fare is in a great hurry?" "Oh," said the driver confidentially, "I keep changing gears and honking my horn." That, Mr. Speaker, adequately sums up the socialist party.

In any event, we welcome the hon. member for Kenora and we know that he will carry out his new responsibilities in the interests of his constituents and in the broader field of the province as a whole.

Two years ago we had the opportunity of welcoming a new leader of the official Opposition. Today, we have that pleasant opportunity again. As the old saying goes, you never know the players without the programme. I would congratulate the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) on his—I think I should say appointment rather than his election.

But it is unfortunate the hon. gentleman seems to have got off on the wrong foot in his first days in his new responsibility. I refer specifically to the hon. Prime Minister of Ontario's proposal for a conference on Confederation, which it appears has received wide enthusiasm, even in the highest levels of the federal Liberal Party.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Where is the evidence of that?

Mr. Yakabuski: Indeed, Prime Minister Pearson is quoted in the House of Commons as saying:

This was an interesting and important proposal. It is the kind of thing that should be put on the agenda at the next federal-provincial conference in Ottawa.

Yet here in Ontario the hon. leader of the Opposition has come out squarely against this conference. Obviously, the hon. leader of the Opposition joins that small minority in believing that the federal Royal commission on biculturalism and bilingualism is the final and only answer to the challenges faced by the Canadian Confederation. We shall remind the hon. leader of the Opposition again and again, and in every corner of Ontario his stand on this question, when the times comes when all of us seek a renewed mandate—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Honk the horn and change the gears.

Mr. Yakabuski: The hon. leader of the Opposition is off to a shaky start. I am reminded of the words of Lord Macaulay when he wrote, and I quote:

His imagination resembled the wings of an ostrich which enabled him to run though not to soar.

Also I note in press reports that the leader of the Opposition is quoted as saying, "The government is only catching up with some of the needs of the people of this province and has not anticipated their new requirements".

We would remind the leader of the Opposition that his party should be the last to raise such an issue since we are still paying the costs of a former Liberal administration in this province.

One does not need to be an old age pensioner to remember what happened to this province in the late 30's and the early 40's when the last Liberal administration was in charge. It is the feeling of the people that this government has gone a long way towards catching up and moving ahead after the disastrous days of the last Liberal regime.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): What about eastern Ontario?

Mr. Yakabuski: Oh, we are coming along. In the past five years many changes have come to the agricultural community in Ontario. Not the least of these has been the government's legislative record in the field of agriculture.

This record includes the agriculture research institute, new programmes of land

acquisition for research, the Ontario food council, The Junior Farmers Establishment Act, crop insurance, new programmes to relieve the critical shortage in farm labour, The Meat Inspection Act, scholarships for students attending the Ontario agricultural college, the Ontario veterinary college and MacDonald institute and a new programme of bursaries. Another programme in conjunction with the federal government and of course, Mr. Speaker, a new and important Ontario Milk Act which was passed in 1965.

Moreover as far as agricultural income is concerned 1966 was indeed a most fruitful year. Total livestock and products cash receipts totalled almost \$1 billion. And as the hon. member for Kenora pointed out, since 1961 farm cash receipts have increased by 44 per cent and as far as the dairy industry is concerned dairy products alone increased by \$50 million or 27 per cent since 1961. These are only some of the things that this government has done and is doing in an attempt to bring about greater opportunities for the farmers in Ontario. We have not reached the sought after goal—parity of income—but we are certainly moving in that direction.

Further government programmes have been outlined in the Speech from the Throne which include an expanded programme of capital grants which will include wells, farm drainage and the construction of certain types of farm buildings. In addition there is a new programme for students of veterinary medicine. I would point out here, Mr. Speaker, that these two policies are a direct reflection of those resolutions which were passed by the Ontario Progressive Conservative association annual meeting in November of last year.

Other new government programmes outlined in the Speech from the Throne refer to the consolidation of small and/or uneconomic farms and additional bilingual personnel in agricultural extension. These are our new programmes and they deserve the support, not only of the farm communities throughout Ontario but of every member sitting in this Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, there is another important area of the government's agricultural programme that I would like to discuss and that is the ARDA programme. ARDA is a programme, the success of which depends greatly on local initiative and participation. The most successful programmes have been those that have been conceived by municipal bodies, other community spirited organizations or people, and nursed along by these same groups with direction from the ARDA branch of The Department of Agriculture and Food.

There are those who might say we are moving along slowly in this province under the ARDA programme. I cannot agree with this because ARDA was never intended to be a crash programme, although perhaps in some of the other provinces it has been used as such. We must remember that many of the projects being carried out with ARDA's money in the other provinces, are programmes we have done here under The Municipal Drainage Act and through our conservation authorities over a period of a quarter of a century or more. The former director of one of Canada's largest federal agencies, recently retired, said:

Problems arise not so much from the new policies we introduce but from the pace at which we attempt to implement them.

ARDA is planning for the people, by the people and through the people. ARDA is a long range programme and its potential is a menace. Projects must be well thought out, they must be feasible and should be projects that will bring benefits and contribute to the economy of the area. We have completed several such projects in Renfrew county and many more are under study.

The Ottawa valley parkway, and the Opeongo lime development are projects where ARDA will be called upon to participate. The Madawaska four seasons development in the western section of the county is progressing well. A feasibility study has been made for the Gordon Lusty Company and I anticipate their report will be released shortly. The hon. Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) has been greatly interested in this project and I am sure he too feels that it is the key to the development of tourism in that area.

Madawaska Valley Maple Syrup Co-op has been formed under ARDA and that body has done a remarkable job in bringing new hope to the marginal farmer who owns the sugar bush. As a matter of fact this project has led to the rejuvenation of the maple syrup industry right across this province and this in turn has led to the formation of the provincial maple syrup association.

We have proved that with initiative and determination by a small group in a far removed part of our province, an industry that was almost forgotten can once again become productive and possible. We are also in the process of setting up a similar type of operation in parts of Renfrew and Hastings counties to grow a market seed potato. I am sure that this too is a field that has immense possibilities

and I wish the sponsoring group every success in their undertaking.

Recently an ARDA sponsored programme class began at Palmer Rapids, Ontario and I want to wish these courageous people every success in their efforts to upgrade their education. So you see our people in that part of the province are not asleep at the switch. The government has provided legislation whereby they can better their lot and they are using that legislation to do just that. This is a record and programme that is both positive and meaningful. It differs from the NDP agricultural philosophy, that refers to farmers as rural tyrants as stated in the House of Commons by the NDP member for Danforth in 1963, and the Liberal Party policy on agriculture expressed by Walter Gordon, in the Royal commission in 1956 which charged farmers with only wanting handouts.

My friends in the Liberal Party will argue that this is Mr. Gordon's position and not theirs. Mr. Speaker, we all know that the Ontario Liberal Party is only a branch plant and control of the Liberal Party still lies firmly in the hands of the power brokers in Ottawa.

The agricultural communities across Ontario are being offered sound, progressive measures by the Progressive Conservative government, while the Opposition parties have not yet been able to take their bookmarks out of the 1956 Gordon report or their 1933 Regina manifesto.

Mr. Speaker, Ontario is the principal centre of heavy industry in Canada. We are very large users of water-borne materials and therefore we are particularly affected by the St. Lawrence seaway and Welland ship canal tolls. When the costs of moving such essential bulk commodities as coal, iron ore, limestone, and petroleum products to the industrial heart of Canada go up, a very unfavourable influence is exerted upon the economy of this province.

High power and raw material costs to primary manufacturers mean higher costs and prices in semi-finished products to secondary manufacturers. Hence, the cost of Ontario finished goods to wholesale and retail distributors in all parts of Canada goes up and this multiplier effect is reflected in the prices to consumers in every part of this country.

In similar fashion, the costs and prices of Canadian natural and manufactured products destined for foreign markets go up, thereby lessening the ability of producers throughout

the Canadian economy to compete in the ever-more competitive world market.

It is for these reasons that the province of Ontario along with the governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan opposed the seaway toll and Welland ship canal lock charges recommendations of the St. Lawrence seaway authority at the toll hearings held at Ottawa on May 25 and 26, of last year. Of the 58 submissions with respect to its recommendations presented to the seaway authority at the Ottawa toll hearings last year, only two were in favour of the recommended increase in seaway tolls and the imposition of lockage charges on the Welland ship canal.

Despite the opposition of the Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan governments, very highly qualified and responsible organizations, to the toll and lockage charges recommendations, and despite a unique debate in the House of Commons on May 26, 1966, inspired by overwhelming opposition when members of all five of our political parties, including four courageous members of the Liberal Party, opposed the recommendations, the seaway authority has ignored all the submissions.

In a report dated June 30, 1966, but only tabled in the House of Commons on January 9, 1967, by the Minister of Transport, the seaway authority chooses to slough off all protests. Instead it makes the unsupported statement that the recommended toll increases on the seaway and the imposition of lockage charges on the Welland ship canal will have little if any effect on the volume of traffic passing through those facilities.

And it completely ignores the effect of tolls upon the economy of this province and upon the national economy.

Nothing is said in the report of the seaway authority as to the economic effect of tolls. These include a reduction in the income received by the prairie grain growers, the multiplier effect on the price of Canadian manufactured goods and the domestic market. And the lessened ability of Canadian natural and manufactured products to compete in foreign markets.

There is some speculation that the hon. member for Sudbury is anxious to pursue new political fields. Perhaps he can before opting out, as the phrase goes, convince some of his colleagues in the Liberal Party to join with the provincial government in vigorously protesting against this unreasonable stand taken by the seaway authority.

Mr. Sopha: I think I will run for national leader of the Tory party; everybody else is.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Yakubuski: Mr. Speaker, after the exchange of gunfire between the member for Sudbury and the now leader of the Opposition, late last fall, I did not think they would be sitting quite so close.

In the Speech from the Throne last Wednesday, this government placed before the people of Ontario imaginative and dynamic programmes in many fields. The new "Home Ownership Made Easy" or the HOME programme as it has become known, is without parallel on the North American continent.

It is, I suggest, a programme reflecting the major Progressive Conservative principles, that is, a home-owning democracy in which the family is the most important unit. No society can long flourish, let alone strengthen its foundations, if the family unit is not kept sound and strong.

The new HOME programme will meet this objective. This programme, along with other family protection programmes introduced during the past seven years, such as hospital insurance, OMSIP, legal aid and consumer protection, offer the people of Ontario security and opportunity without compulsion and without reducing responsible individual freedom.

In connection with this housing programme, I would point out that a contract was recently awarded by the Ontario housing authority for the construction of new homes in Arnprior.

Arnprior is that bustling town in the eastern section of Renfrew South where Union Carbide recently located a large fibres plant and where among many products, the famous Kenwood blankets and Playtex girdles are made.

Ontario housing corporation is also poised to take care of future housing needs in Renfrew, Ontario. Renfrew, I might mention, is the farm centre of the Ottawa valley, and it, too, has many fine industries.

Someone asked me a minute ago what was happening in eastern Ontario—there is something. The chances are that the Norpoint stainless steel sink in your kitchen or the Bluebell jeans your teenagers are wearing were made in Renfrew.

Notwithstanding the government's record and proposals in all other fields, perhaps nowhere has Ontario moved forward more dramatically in the past five years than in the field of education.

Since 1961, 2,748 elementary and secondary schools, or additions to existing structures, have been built, meaning one and a half new facilities opening every day of the week. Five new universities have been chartered; free textbooks now extend to grade 13. The university capital aid corporation, the education capital aid corporation and the \$1 billion tax foundation programme—these are only a few of the major pieces of legislation which are bringing to the citizens of Ontario one of the finest and most modern educational systems in the world.

I might add that this is also one of the reasons why large numbers of the 250,000 young people during that period from 1943 to 1961 fled socialism in Saskatchewan and came to Ontario. These were young people in search of a future. And they found one in Ontario—a world of opportunity—not only for themselves but for their children, who are now using the province's educational facilities.

As education now more than ever before is a continuing process, so must government break new ground to meet the demands of the technological age. In addition, government must develop and offer even wider programmes to insure that our children, regardless of where they live or what their parents' economic position is, receive the full measure of assistance to enable them to benefit fully from the province's educational system.

One of the measures from the Speech from the Throne deals with children starting school who are handicapped by vocabulary or other reasons. This government is to be congratulated for proposing a programme to assist these youngsters.

While details have not been specifically outlined, it appears the plan will be similar to the United States head start programme. If it is, the people of Ontario will witness another major development bringing to this province a full, flexible and understanding system of education, open to changes variable enough to meet the needs of the scientific revolution.

I would like to mention two new high schools taking shape in my area. The Opeongo district high school, located at Kelly's Corners and perhaps more commonly known as the Eganville district high school, is now moving along. If my information is correct, they are, or will soon be, calling for tenders on the construction of this school.

The Madawaska valley district high school, located at Barrys Bay, and serving the villages

and townships in the western part of Renfrew South, is now undergoing construction. It will be completed in the summer and operating in September of this year.

The first meeting held in connection with the formation of the Madawaska district high school area was held on March 15, 1958. The results of that first meeting and many more meetings that followed, and a tremendous amount of work done by many people in the interval, have resulted in the acquisition of a fine composite high school for that region. I am very pleased that this high school will soon be open because it is a project with which I was closely associated right up until the Madawaska valley district high school board was appointed. I have followed closely its progress from the sidelines to the present time. We can now say that in Ontario there is equal opportunity for all. Every boy and every girl has an opportunity to acquire an education, whether it be in the academic, vocational or technical field. An opportunity to be trained or to train himself for a life in the technological world. My only message to our young and our young at heart is, make the best of it, because you are being provided with opportunity the likes of which the world and man have never before known. This was one of the goals of this government, and it has achieved, in my mind, one of the greatest achievements of our time.

I would like to mention the highways, county and municipal roads programme in Renfrew South. We are moving along in this area too. Highway 17 from the Carp bypass to Arnprior has been reconstructed and plans are shaping up for improvement to that section of the same highway between Arnprior and Renfrew.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Twenty years too late.

Mr. Yakabuski: On secondary Highway 508 from Burnstown to Calabogie and beyond, much reconstruction and improvement has been made. When the hydro-electric projects in the Calabogie area are completed and after the abnormally heavy, construction-generated traffic is no more, this highway too will be put in first-class order.

On Highway 41 in the Griffith-Dacre area, reconstruction has been taking place with further work planned in the near future. It is our hope that when reconstruction takes place in the Dacre area, the wonders of the Dacre magnetic hill will be preserved.

Grading on Highway 60, from the junction of Highway 17 to Douglas has been completed. This new highway will be blacktopped this coming spring. I know the Minister and his staff will waste no time in proceeding with the construction of this highway from Douglas to Eganville and from Barrys Bay to Madawaska and Whitby.

Work is also underway in the reconstruction of Highway 62 from Combermere to Purdy. Contracts have been let for three structures on secondary highways, two in the Round Lake area, one crossing the Madawaska River at Palmer Rapids. The one at Palmer Rapids will replace the structure known as the McGarry bridge which was built in the time of Tom McGarry, a former Provincial Treasurer representing the riding of Renfrew South in this Legislature in the 1910s. And should you ask, certainly, he was a Tory.

Pre-engineering is now underway for the rebuilding of existing highways through the villages of Eganville and Killaloe. This will be done at no cost to the villagers themselves under a connecting link agreement, and it will include storm sewers, curbs and gutters, grading and resurfacing. I am sure the residents of these villages will welcome this programme of improvement and beautification, at no cost to the local taxpayer.

Besides the work that is in progress through the village of Killaloe, plans are underway for the reconstruction of the same highway from that village to Brudenell. When this is completed, it will complete a very important link in that area.

A county development road, commonly known as the river road from Braeside to Castleford has been completed. This is one of the most scenic drives in our province. This county road follows along the Ottawa River from the village of Braeside to Castleford and I can recommend this drive to any visitor to our fair valley.

Municipal development roads are either in the pre-engineering or construction stage in the following municipalities in Renfrew South: Bagot and Blythfield; Admaston; Grattan; Sebastopol; South Algoma; Brudenell and Lyndoch; Sherwood, Jones and Burns; Radcliffe; and Raglan.

In addition to this, municipal roads have been reconstructed in the townships of Brougham, Griffith and Matawatchan by Ontario Hydro because of the flooding caused by the Mountain Chute project. This is indeed

a development road programme without parallel.

This government's development road programme has been of tremendous assistance to those municipalities that are unable to carry out these programmes themselves because they lack the wherewithal in their assessment to do so. We appreciate the fact that this is a large problem and that highway needs will always be substantial.

We are also aware that this government is striving in every way to meet that need and has built up over a short period a provincial highway system that is the envy of every province and every state on this continent.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): What of taxes?

Mr. Yakabuski: The member's policies would make them worse.

When speaking of Eganville, I want to say how pleased I am that since provincial redistribution, all of the village of Eganville is now in Renfrew South. I have known many of the residents on the north side of the village and I look forward to serving them. It is my hope that I can serve them as well as has my colleague from Renfrew North (Mr. Hamilton) over a period of nine years.

In Renfrew South in the past three years, we have seen steady progress. When I review the happenings of that period, especially those that can be directly attributed to programmes and policies of this government, it can really be considered as a period of great forward movement. The new hydro-electric power development on the Madawaska River at Mountain Chute, near Calabogie, and the enlargement of existing facilities at Barrett Chute and Stewartville have contributed greatly to the economy of a large area. Not only have they given many hundreds of people employment, but indirectly they have been instrumental in bringing about a great economic upswing in the entire region.

The head-pond, or flooded area created by this project has the makings of a tremendous recreation area. Ontario Hydro and The Department of Lands and Forests have been most careful to see that the clearing and other associated work of this project is being done so as not to mar the natural beauty and tourist potential of the area. I can envisage sections of the township of Bagot and Blythfield, Brougham, Griffith and Madawaska becoming one of the finest outdoor playgrounds

in this province. I am sure that Ontario Hydro and The Department of Lands and Forests are laying plans so that this will take place in an orderly fashion. It is almost impossible to calculate the benefits that the Mountain Chute project has brought and will continue to bring to that part of our province.

Because in my constituency the forest products industry is of prime importance, I would like to touch on that interest. In it, as in other industries, automation has set in. The bulldozer and the skidders are taking over from the horses. The chain saws have taken over from the crosscut, which is now almost a collector's item. River drives are fewer, with large trucks hauling logs from skidway direct to the mill over distances unthinkable 20 years ago. One might say that the exciting and romantic days of lumbering are over.

Nevertheless, lumbering plays, and will continue to play, an important part in the economy of Ontario. Although there are fewer small operations, the industry itself has become highly organized and mechanized. So efficient have they become, that a lumber firm in Renfrew, Eganville, Killaloe, Palmer Rapids, Quadeville or Barrys Bay can receive a telephone order until 3.30 p.m. in the afternoon and have the material on a construction job site in Hamilton, or almost any other point in southern Ontario, at 8 a.m. the following morning. We must ensure that this forest industry is maintained. We must ensure that they have adequate supplies of material and timber stands to work with. I know that this government is doing much toward obtaining that goal.

I would like to comment too on a recent announcement concerning the necessity of heavy imports of top-grade hardwoods in our furniture and paneling trade. Much of our area has a heavy mineral deposit in the soil and this lends itself to producing trees of a lower-quality grade, as laid down in our national hardware lumber association's rule-book. I refer here particularly to our own Canadian maple. I would like to point out that the Canadian lumbermen's association has embarked on a campaign to strengthen the markets of this mineral-streaked maple, using as a trade name the words "spiced maple." This campaign is meeting with considerable success. This could well mean a higher overall average price for such timber on our markets. I must say that this is badly needed by all the manufacturers operating in our area where the quality of timber is at best marginal.

I know that the trade promotion branch of our Department of Economics and Development will cooperate with the Canadian lumbermen's association in promoting this new species called spiced maple, which I am sure, when properly presented, will be in great demand in the furniture and paneling trade.

I referred earlier in my remarks to one of the political parties calling the farmers "rural tyrants." This is only one of the many instances where the Opposition parties in their desire to gain political power attempt to set the city dweller against the agricultural community and vice versa. This kind of politicking has no room in Ontario today. In fact, only politicians who are desperate for power will resort to this unethical practice. Unfortunately—

Mr. Sopha: Tell us that story about the road.

Mr. Yakabuski: Tell us that story about the shooting incident in December.

Mr. Sopha: Tell us about the road.

Mr. Yakabuski: No, we want to know the story about the exchange of gunfire.

Unfortunately, there are those who still preach division, those who say one thing to the urban population and then preach another conflicting theory to the rural population. In the Progressive Conservative Party, we do not subscribe to that philosophy. We advocate and practise that only through cooperation and understanding by both rural and urban population who appreciate each other's challenges can Ontario move forward on a broad front. For in the final analysis, both groups are dependent upon each other and cooperation is more important than division.

In the next few days we shall hear what will be perhaps some of the most extravagant and expensive ideas ever trotted out in this chamber. By the time the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party—who most certainly tries to outbid him in tax dollar expenditure—finish their political speeches, the people of Ontario will again be promised a free Utopia. But today perhaps more than at any other time in the past 30 years, the citizens of Ontario will understand that political promises are not free, that rather they cost precious tax dollars.

While the government stresses the need for restraint in spending, the Opposition parties, illustrated by the recent statements, demonstrate a complete carelessness with the opin-

ions of the people of this province. They show an even greater carelessness with the present net incomes of the province's wage earner. The penalty for such carelessness is obviously more years in the political wilderness for both of them. In the Speech from the Throne, the government offers programmes for the people, while it appears the Opposition promises only unlimited spending of the people's income.

Ontario today is sound, progressive and dynamic. We are witnessing unprecedented expansion, rapidly rising personal income and greater opportunities for all. Ontario today is marching into tomorrow secure in its position as one of the leading industrial complexes in the world. Our second century promises to be both exciting and rewarding. This is because our people reflect optimism in their province and confidence in the Progressive Conservative government.

I feel that in a brief way I have summed up some of the programmes initiated and carried out or being proposed by this government on a province-wide and riding basis. The record of this government and the plans proposed for the people of this province are indeed impressive ones. This government, under the able and dynamic leadership of our Prime Minister has governed well during a trying period of our history. Nowhere in any jurisdiction on this globe has government shown such stability during the turbulent period from 1961 to 1967.

Mr. Sopha: Indeed, in the whole universe.

Mr. Yakabuski: Right, the whole universe.

People will remember this when and if we seek a new mandate in this Centennial year. They will remember the steadiness and the leadership the Prime Minister and this government have demonstrated, not only on a provincial but also on a national level. I might remind the Opposition parties that ranchers do not fire good foremen and ranch hands, business does not dismiss good managers, and likewise people do not vote out sound administrations. However, we are not for one moment complacent, we recognize our duties and the needs of our people. We will continue to bend every effort to forge new and progressive programmes for our people. I know I bring little consolation to the Opposition parties and when I look across this chamber and see the smiling face of our Prime Minister—

Mr. Singer: It is not smiling now.

Mr. Yakabuski: It was there a moment ago and it was smiling. And our people know that

it is "a smile they can believe." They are aware that he has only begun to fight and that he and our province under his leadership have a tremendous future.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I had hoped the hon. member for Renfrew South might have continued but under the circumstances I have no alternative but to move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as happens occasionally in the early days of the session, the order paper is not yet ready. The bills that are there are not printed.

Tomorrow we will proceed with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.05 o'clock, p.m.

APPENDIX

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

(108 members)

Fifth Session — Twenty-Seventh Parliament

Speaker: Hon. Donald H. Morrow, B.A.

Clerk of the House: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Allan, Hon. James N.	P.C.	Haldimand-Norfolk	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Apps, Syl.	P.C.	Kingston	50 Roden St., Kingston
Auld, Hon. James A. C.	P.C.	Leeds	Parliament Bldgs, Toronto
Bales, Hon. Dalton	P.C.	York Mills	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Beckett, Hollis E.	P.C.	York East	66 Tranmer Ave., Toronto 7
Ben, George	L.	Bracondale	1134 Dundas St. W., Toronto 3
Bernier, Leo	P.C.	Kenora	Hudson
Boyer, Robert J.	P.C.	Muskoka	620 University Ave., Toronto 2
Braithwaite, Leonard A.	L.	Etobicoke	Suite E, 1500 Royal York Rd., Weston
Brown, Keith	P.C.	Peterborough	807 Armour Rd., Peterborough
Brunelle, Hon. Rene	P.C.	Cochrane North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Bryden, Kenneth	N.D.	Woodbine	65A Claxton Blvd., Toronto 10
Bukator, George	L.	Niagara Falls	Box 280, Chippawa
Butler, K. E.	P.C.	Waterloo North	907 Frederick St., Kitchener
Carruthers, Alex	P.C.	Durham	Garden Hill
Carton, Gordon R.	P.C.	Armourdale	217 Sandringham Dr., Downsview
Cass, F. M.	P.C.	Grenville-Dundas	Chesterville
Cecile, Louis P.	P.C.	Prescott	412 Cecile Blvd., Hawkesbury
Connell, Hon. T. Ray	P.C.	Hamilton-Wentworth..	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Cowling, Alfred H.	P.C.	High Park	21 Evans Ave., Toronto 9
Davis, Hon. William G.	P.C.	Peel	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Davison, Norman	N.D.	Hamilton East	100 Delaware Ave., Hamilton
Demers, J. C. G.	P.C.	Nickel Belt	Chelmsford
Downer, Rev. A. W.	P.C.	Dufferin-Simcoe	Box 239, Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Dunlop, Edward A.	P.C.	Forest Hill	45 Charles St. E., Toronto 5
Dymond, Hon. Matthew B. ..	P.C.	Ontario	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Eagleson, R. Alan	P.C.	Lakeshore	30 Kings Lynn Rd., Toronto 18
Edwards, J. Fred	P.C.	Perth	Palmerston
Evans, D. Arthur	P.C.	Simcoe Centre	Box 87, Bradford
Ewen, Donald W.	P.C.	Wentworth	160 Orchard Dr., Ancaster
Farquhar, Stan	L.	Algoma-Manitoulin	Box 421, Elliot Lake
Freeman, E. G.	N.D.	Fort William	625 Catherine St., Fort William
Gaunt, Murray	L.	Huron-Bruce	Wingham
Gisborn, Reg.	N.D.	Wentworth East	26 Martin Rd., Hamilton
Gomme, Hon. George E.	P.C.	Lanark	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Gordon, George T.	L.	Brantford	4 Ontario St., Brantford
Grossman, Hon. Allan	P.C.	St. Andrew	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Guindon, Fernand	P.C.	Stormont	7-13th St. W., Cornwall

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Hamilton, Maurice	P.C.	Renfrew North	R.R. #5, Pembroke
Harris, R. Jack	P.C.	Beaches	58 Pine Crescent, Toronto 13
Haskett, Hon. Irwin	P.C.	Ottawa South	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Henderson, Lorne C.	P.C.	Lambton East	R.R. #3, Oil Springs
Hodgson, Louis M.	P.C.	Scarborough East	1036 Military Trail, R.R. #1, West Hill
Hodgson, R. Glen	P.C.	Victoria	Haliburton
Johnston, Allister	P.C.	Parry Sound	South River
Johnston, W. Erskine	P.C.	Carleton	Carp
Kerr, George A.	P.C.	Halton	377 Brant St., Burlington
Knox, J. Ralph	P.C.	Lambton West	55 Grey Crescent, Sarnia
Lawrence, A. B. R.	P.C.	Russell	90 Sparks St., Ottawa
Lawrence, Allan F.	P.C.	St. George	35 N. Sherbourne St., Toronto 5
Letherby, Lloyd	P.C.	Simcoe East	Box 165, Coldwater
Lewis, Stephen	N.D.	Scarborough West	3025 Queen St. E., Apt. #5, Scarborough
Lewis, W. Bev.	P.C.	Humber	15 Ridgeway Cres., Toronto 18
MacDonald, Donald C.	N.D.	York South	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Mackenzie, A. Alexander	P.C.	York North	Box 35, Woodbridge
MacNaughton, Hon. C. S.	P.C.	Huron	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Morningstar, Ellis P.	P.C.	Welland	97 Alberta St., Welland
Morrow, Hon. Donald H.	P.C.	Ottawa West	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
McKeough, Hon. W. Darcy ..	P.C.	Kent West	Box 940, Chatham
McNeil, R. K.	P.C.	Elgin	R.R. #2, Springfield
Newman, Bernard	L.	Windsor-Walkerville ..	1290 Ypres Blvd., Windsor
Nixon, R. F.	L.	Brant	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Leader of the Opposition			
Noden, William G.	P.C.	Rainy River	517 Armit Ave., Fort Frances
Olde, Neil L.	P.C.	Middlesex South	Melbourne
Oliver, Farquhar R.	L.	Grey South	Priceville
Paterson, Donald A.	L.	Essex South	1 Georgia Ave., Leamington
Peck, George H.	P.C.	Scarborough Centre ..	36 Lyme Regis Cres., Scarborough
Pittock, Gord W.	P.C.	Oxford	Box 104, Ingersoll
Price, Henry J.	P.C.	St. David	27 Bloor St. E., Toronto 5
Pritchard, Mrs. Ada	P.C.	Hamilton Centre	93 Bold Street, Suite 904, Hamilton
Racine, H. S.	L.	Ottawa East	270 Besserer St., Ottawa 2
Randall, Hon. Stanley J.	P.C.	Don Mills	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Reaume, Arthur J.	L.	Essex North	1209 Canada Bldg., Windsor
Reilly, Leonard M.	P.C.	Eglinton	639 Yonge St., Toronto 5
Renwick, James	N.D.	Riverdale	20 St. Denis Dr., Suite #15, Don Mills
Reuter, Allan E.	P.C.	Waterloo South	45 Main St., Galt
Roberts, Hon. John P.	P.C.	London North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Roberts, A. Kelso	P.C.	St. Patrick	25 Adelaide St. W., Toronto
Rollins, Clarke T.	P.C.	Hastings East	R.R. #1, Bancroft
Root, John	P.C.	Wellington-Dufferin ..	Orton
Rowe, Russell D.	P.C.	Northumberland	546 Lakeshore Rd., Cobourg
Rowntree, Hon. H. Leslie ..	P.C.	York West	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto

Member	Party	Constituency	Post Office Address
Sandercok, W. E.	P.C.	Hastings West	226 William St., Belleville
Sargent, Eddie	L.	Grey North	868-2nd Ave. E., Owen Sound
Simonett, Hon. J. R.	P.C.	Frontenac-Addington ..	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Singer, Vernon M.	L.	Downsview	111 Richmond St. W., Suite 603, Toronto
Smith, Richard	L.	Nipissing	671 Ann Street, North Bay
Sopha, Elmer W.	L.	Sudbury	Box 1206, Sudbury
Spence, John P.	L.	Kent East	Muirkirk
Spooner, Hon. J. W.	P.C.	Cochrane South	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Stewart, Hon. William A.	P.C.	Middlesex North	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Taylor, R. A. H.	L.	Timiskaming	Box 235, New Liskeard
Thompson, Andrew E.	L.	Dovercourt	1222 Bloor St. W., Toronto
Thrasher, Ivan W.	P.C.	Windsor-Sandwich	1110 Ouellette Ave., Windsor
Trotter, James B.	L.	Parkdale	227 Riverside Dr., Toronto 3
Villeneuve, Osie F.	P.C.	Glengarry	Box 27, Maxville
Walker, Albert V.	P.C.	Oshawa	1184 Northridge St., Oshawa
Wardrobe, Hon. George C.	P.C.	Port Arthur	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Welch, Hon. Robert	P.C.	Lincoln	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Wells, Hon. Thomas L.	P.C.	Scarborough North	14 Robintide Court, Agincourt
Whicher, Ross M.	L.	Bruce	Warton
White, John H.	P.C.	London South	119 Base Line Rd., London
Whitney, Norris	P.C.	Prince Edward-Lennox ..	R.R. #1, Consecon
Wishart, Hon. A. A.	P.C.	Sault Ste. Marie	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Worton, Harry	L.	Wellington South	15 Queen St., Guelph
Yakabuski, Paul J.	P.C.	Renfrew South	Box 219, Barrys Bay
Yaremko, Hon. John	P.C.	Bellwoods	Parliament Bldgs., Toronto
Young, Fred	N.D.	Yorkview	717 Woburn Ave., Toronto 12

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HON. HENRY LESLIE ROWNTREE, Q.C.	} Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs
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Messrs. Beckett, Ben, Bukator, Cass, Demers, Eagleson, Evans, Hodgson (*Scarborough East*), Kerr, Lawrence (*Russell*), Morningstar, Price, Renwick, Reuter, Roberts, Singer, Sopha, Thrasher, Trotter, Walker, Young—21.

Natural Resources and Tourism

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Private Bills

Messrs. Beckett, Ben, Bernier, Brown, Bukator, Butler, Carruthers, Carton, Cowling, Demers, Eagleson, Edwards, Evans, Ewen, Freeman, Gaunt, Hamilton, Harris, Henderson, Johnston (*Parry Sound*), Kerr, Lawrence (*Russell*), Letherby, MacDonald, Mackenzie, Morningstar, Newman, Nixon, Olde, Peck, Pittock, Price, Pritchard (Mrs.), Reaume, Reilly, Renwick, Reuter, Roberts, Rollins, Root, Sandercock, Singer, Sopha, Trotter, Villeneuve, Walker, Whicher, Whitney, Worton, Young—50.

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Messrs. Bryden, Carton, Eagleson, Kerr, Knox, Reuter, Rowe, Sopha, Trotter—9.

Standing Orders and Printing

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, January 31, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome, as guests in the east gallery, St. Philip Neri separate school, Toronto, and Central public school, Hespeler; and in the west gallery, Blessed Trinity separate school, Willowdale.

Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petitions have been received:

Of the corporation of the municipality of Neebing praying that an Act may pass authorizing uniform estimates and rates for each ward in the municipality; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the town of Burlington praying that an Act may pass authorizing tax credits to elderly persons.

Of the corporation of the city of Windsor praying that an Act may pass authorizing an annual allowance to members of council not exceeding \$5,000.

Of the corporation of the city of Toronto praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to enter into agreements with owners of land abutting on highways with respect to walks thereon; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports by committees.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts). Does the Prime Minister intend to table immediately, the letter he has received from the Prime Minister of Canada with respect to the proposal for a Confederation conference? Has the Prime Minister received any communications from any other premiers of the provinces in respect to this proposal; and if so, does he intend to acquaint the House with their contents?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first part of the question, I can reply that yesterday I received a letter from the Prime Minister of Canada. He obviously considered the contents to be of a confidential nature because he marked the letter "Confidential". There is a practice between governments of respecting things that are marked confidential. As you must be aware there is at times correspondence passing between us. I do not intend to breach this rule of confidence which is one of long standing.

In reply to the second part of the question, I have had no letters from any other premiers of the provinces nor have I communicated with them since the Speech from the Throne was delivered here last week.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have two questions for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

The first question is: What meetings took place between the staff or members of the Ontario securities commission and directors, officers, auditors or legal advisers of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited during the period from January 1, 1963 to May 31, 1963, and who attended these meetings?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there were discussions during this period with Prudential officers, as well as officers of other companies who were soliciting short-term loans by way of deposit. These loans are made for 360 days to avoid provisions of The Securities Act. As a result of these meetings, The Securities Act was amended as of July 1, 1963.

Mr. Renwick: I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would permit a supplemental question. I would ask him whether any meetings, specifically relating to the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation to the exclusion of any other companies, took place between the staff of the commission and/or members of the commission during that period?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There were meetings, between the securities commission and the

officials of the Prudential corporation, representing that corporation alone.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the second question of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs? As January 31 was the cut-off date for holders of policies with Wentworth Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited, have the holders of such policies been able to obtain protection with other companies for automobile and general insurance?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I am informed by the provisional liquidator, the Clarkson Company Limited, that they are not aware of any Wentworth policyholders who have not been able to secure coverage if they so desired.

In addition, I might say that the Clarkson company has not received any complaints from people claiming that they were not able to re-insure. Every policyholder, claimant, creditor, and shareholder of the Wentworth Insurance Company was informed by letter on January 3 of the January 31 wind-up date; and on January 4, the same information was communicated to the agents and brokers of Wentworth Insurance Company with respect to policies, which as brokers they had placed with that particular company.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a three-part question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, which was submitted to him yesterday.

First, how often and on what dates did the Ontario securities commission confer with officers or representatives of Prudential Finance Corporation during 1966?

Second, how often and on what dates were financial statements required and received from Prudential Finance Corporation during 1966?

Third, how often did the OSC make an examination of the financial affairs of the Prudential Finance Corporation, during 1966, and on what dates?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, a demand was made for a financial statement from the Prudential Finance Corporation as of December 31, 1965 and an unaudited statement was delivered to the Ontario securities commission in February, 1966. On the basis of this statement, a meeting was held on March 30 that year, with the officers and the auditor of the corporation and the Ontario securities commission, at which time the Ontario securities commission director issued the order which denied Prudential the right

to sell additional securities to its own note-holders.

A demand was made on Prudential to supply a full audited statement and an undertaking was given to deliver this to the Ontario securities commission. There was, in the opinion of the commission, a delay in receipt of the statement, and frequent further demands were made for it to the auditor of Prudential. The auditor explained that he was having some difficulty in finalizing his figures but on each occasion expected to have them ready within a few weeks.

A financial statement was subsequently received and reviewed by the securities commission in July, 1966. In November, 1966, when there was evidence of Prudential having difficulty in meeting its obligations, an investigation order was issued and there has been a constant examination conducted since that date.

I might just say that last Friday, as recorded in *Hansard*, some questions were posed in this same general area to the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) and this material is relevant as well.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General.

Have there been any occasions upon which instructions were given to Magistrate Langdon, or to any other magistrate to the effect that he, or they, were limited to a specific number of pre-sentence reports? If such instructions were given, would the Attorney General inform the House as to the reasons for such limitation?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, there have been no occasions upon which instructions have been given to Magistrate Langdon or to any other magistrate to the effect that he, or they, were limited to a specific number of pre-sentence reports. Magistrate Langdon has, on occasion, asked for reports where they were not required or authorized. It was, therefore, necessary for the director of probation services to suggest to our learned magistrate that further consideration be given by him to the types of cases where reports would be requested. At the present time there are five probation officers in Magistrate Langdon's jurisdiction and it is my understanding that this important work is being carried out in a proper manner. We have had no comment on this type of problem from any other magistrates in the province to my knowledge.

Mr. Singer (Downsview): Could I ask the Minister by way of a supplementary question

whether it is a magistrate's responsibility to determine whether he wants or requires a pre-sentence report or the responsibility of the director of probation services.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I would think, Mr. Speaker, that there would be some responsibility on a magistrate, in dealing with a case before him, to decide if he felt that some help could be furnished by way of a pre-sentence report. I certainly think it would also, perhaps, be a very large area of the responsibility of the probation officer. I do not think you can put the responsibility completely on the magistrate.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General. Will the Attorney General table in the Legislature the representations he has made to the federal government about electronic bugging and the related matter of wire tapping to which he made reference in the House yesterday?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I am not able to give the Legislature the representations which have been made by myself and my officials to the federal government about evidence obtained by way of electronic devices. I might say, Mr. Speaker, that I would have no objections to tabling such material but the conferences and the meetings at which this subject was discussed were related to crime and law enforcement; and the respective conference conveners provided only limited public disclosure of the discussions.

I will say, however, that the subject was discussed at the conference of attorneys general in January, 1966, and before that at the national conference on organized crime in Toronto in June, 1965.

The subject has also been discussed by the criminal law section of the conference of commissioners on uniformity of legislation in Canada at their meeting in recent years. My position, and that of the officials of my department, at all these conferences has been that we would support a federal statute prohibiting the use of electronic and similar devices except with the leave of a court or a judge. We believe that it is in the best interests of all that it be a federal law since the problem transcends provincial boundaries, and communication regulations are already well known to the federal authorities. The subject is closely related to criminal law and might well be associated with it in this programme of regulations.

Mr. Renwick: If the Attorney General would permit a supplementary question. As I understand his remarks, he stated that he

would have no objection to tabling such representations. Surely the submissions of the government to such a conference are matters which should be made available to the Legislature if they are requested?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the conference to which I particularly made reference yesterday was a conference convened by the federal authorities, particularly the Minister of Justice at Ottawa. Our discussions, by the direction of the convener, were held in camera, and all the material which was presented was submitted there. A report was issued by the conveners of that conference but they did not make it public.

It was not our place to convene the conference. We were merely invited to attend, which we did, and made our representations. I made it plain that the representations I made there I made public here. I stated them publicly outside this House. I have no hesitation whatever in making our position known, but I think it would be improper for me, when the convener of the conference asked that our representations there be filed only with the conference, to then breach that by tabling them outside. I took it that the conference would decide on the publicity.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General, notice of which has been given. In view of the strong statement of Metro Toronto's chief coroner with regard to the conditions at Toronto's morgue, is this government prepared to assume its responsibility in this matter and give Metro Toronto a 50 per cent grant towards construction of a new building?

Mr. Speaker: I might inform the member I had this particular question held until tomorrow; the question that I was allowing today was the one addressed to the Minister of Highways.

Mr. Ben: I am sorry. I have one for the hon. Minister of Highways, notice of which has been given.

Is the final report on provincial grants for roads in municipalities, which was promised at the last session, ready? If so, when will it be tabled?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, I will have to advise the hon. member that, owing to various meetings and delegations which I had, I did not see this question until 2:20. I will take it as notice and have the answer for him as soon as possible.

Mr. Ben: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: First order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to begin my remarks by extending to you once again my congratulations on the fairness and wit with which you govern our debates in this House. It may be that because both of us have backgrounds as teachers, I am particularly aware of your ability to control the House with a stare or perhaps a movement of the arm, but in my brief experience here I believe that you are as good as, or better than, any Speaker that we have had, in your fairness of approach; and I can assure you of our continuing support.

I had considered, in preparing my remarks for this afternoon, that I might make some statement involving the possibility of making your position permanent following the next election but I must be careful that I do not in any way appear irresponsible, so I held myself in check in this connection. But when the new administration is formed, I can tell you we will give you every consideration.

I am also very much interested, sir, in the other changes in position in the Legislature since we met here some months ago, particularly in the new responsibilities that some of my close friends have received in being raised to Cabinet rank. I will not occupy your time, sir, by extending my congratulations individually but I want particularly to single out my good friend, the hon. Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship (Mr. Welch). The two of us have had many political battles in the past and sometimes we were on the same side. I believe I called to your attention once before that, during our university days, the Provincial Secretary assisted me in a campaign which I lost, and I in turn assisted him in one which he lost, so I presume that both of us are looking forward to considerable and continuing success in the years that lie ahead.

But without in any way disparaging the judgment of the hon. Prime Minister of Ontario (Mr. Robarts) I do find that one of my close friends and able administrators of the past—the former Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Roberts)—has now found him-

self sitting to my extreme left in the second row. He has been relegated from Lands and Forests to the real wilderness, and he is now occupying a position that is very close to the Opposition indeed. From reading his remarks in some recent publications I feel that all of us in this House are going to benefit from his independent spirit and his many years of experience in and out of government. I welcome him to the Opposition. I would even welcome him to move over here with us.

But in general the new appointees lack only one thing in their experience and that is some years in Opposition. We will do our best to provide them with that at the earliest opportunity.

One of the changes, of course, is really a transition to what has been called the "Senate of Ontario", the Niagara parks commission. Our good friend, the hon. Minister from Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan) is in his seat with his usual friendly smile on his face, and I would like to assure him of our continuing regard. I would also say that I hope he is not going to shuck all his particular and special responsibilities. I do not know whether he was in the Legislature yesterday afternoon when the new Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) expounded the regulations which in the immediate future are going to change the way in which the sales tax and tobacco tax of Ontario affect our Indians. I do not believe these changes would have been made if Chief Tall Pine Tree, the former Provincial Treasurer, had been retained in his position of responsibility. And my advice to my friends on the Six Nations reserve is that they should call the present Provincial Treasurer down there quickly and get those feathers on him so that he will be acting on their behalf.

Naturally, sir, I was interested in the speeches yesterday, moving an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) made an excellent address and I would like to recall to his mind that our first meeting was not in the by-election this past fall, although we did have some friendly discussions on that occasion. Our first meeting was some years ago when I was part of a legislative group that was touring the north. I well remember coming into the town of Hudson, where the hon. member for Kenora lives, and has a responsibility of business and family. As we came down the dusty old main street, which has been improved since then, there was a large banner hung right across where even we as the legislative delegation could not possibly miss it, and it said, "Mr. Premier, we have problems in Hudson, we

need housing". I do not know whether the hon. member remembers that, but I would say that if his problems have not been solved up there they have multiplied and spread across this whole province. The same banner could be raised in many of the communities down in southern Ontario at this time.

I was also particularly struck that the hon. member for Kenora took the opportunity to be fairly critical of one of the earlier Liberal administrations, at the end of the nineteenth century, when he was talking about Sir Oliver Mowat and some of the needless court wranglings that marked the 30 years of Liberal administration then. I am sure he knows, as we all do, that the western boundary of our province was moved considerably, as a matter of fact from the main street of Kenora to its present location because Oliver Mowat insisted on the rights of the province in this regard.

I must admit I have heard other members from the Kenora area regret that this boundary was ever moved in the first place, but the fact remains that the resources that are included in a large part of northwestern Ontario would not be ours if it had not been for the foresight and ability of Oliver Mowat in those days long ago.

So I would say that we have high regard for previous Liberal administrations but unlike the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski), we are not going to fight the next election on the record of either one of them, fine though they might be, because we have a view and a clear view of what must be done for the people and the province of Ontario in the years that remain in the twentieth century. We are convinced that the present administration cannot meet these challenges and we offer ourselves as a reasonable and strong alternative to that administration. It is on this basis that we look forward to success at the next test at the polls in Ontario.

In referring to the seconder of the address in reply yesterday, I always enjoy listening to the hon. member for Renfrew South, and he was in a particularly pleasant mood. He is one of the better roundhouse political debaters we have in Ontario, and in the Legislature of the province, so I really was thinking that he might give us a more severe attack than we were exposed to. One thing he did mention was that in his commendation of the hon. Minister for Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart)—and particularly his administration of the federal-provincial ARDA programme—he said that it is essential for us to realize that this is in no way a

crash programme and must be entered into with deliberation and care—and I paraphrase his remarks.

I would say to him that we have been more than deliberate and more than careful in that during the period of the first ARDA agreement, the information that has come to us is that the province lost close to \$7 million of federal funds because we were so careful and so deliberate that we did not introduce programmes that would allow Ontario to avail itself of these funds that could be used for the development of our agricultural community.

Mind you, I would say that all of us have to change our sights from time to time and to be fair, the hon. Minister of Agriculture, in responding to the second ARDA agreement, appears to be taking steps to fulfill Ontario's part in the possibilities of this great federal programme. My understanding is that we are going to fulfill all the financial requirements and take up all the federal aid that is available, particularly in the programme to expand the areas of small uneconomical farms, and I am sure the hon. Minister of Agriculture will be quick to set me straight on this point at this or some future time.

When I refer to lowering our sights, or changing our aims, I must of course also have a word in connection with my hon. friend, the leader of the NDP, the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald), because he has had to do some readjusting in the last few days, himself. All of us were rather impressed and somewhat fearful when, at his recent conference in Niagara Falls he set as their goal and aim, the winning of 67 seats in this Legislature in the year 1967.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): As usual, you do not have your facts straight.

Mr. Nixon: And even though his handful of followers are ecstatic at that proposition, he himself has had to lower his sights and says now his polls tell him he may have to be satisfied with only 48.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Which poll are you talking about?

Mr. Nixon: The hon. member for York South has been a great believer in polls. We of the Liberal Party, for reasons that I suppose are fairly obvious to all of us, sir, have been in a somewhat careful position as far as the interpretation of polls is concerned. But I well remember taking part in

elections and by-elections in Kenora and Nipissing and Bracondale when my hon. friend from York South predicted—

Mr. MacDonald: How about Riverdale?

Mr. Nixon:—on the basis of polls that were absolutely irrefutable, that his party was going to achieve success. We happen to know now, on the basis of our friends who are present with us in the Legislature here, that his polls were wrong and he was wrong and he is going to be wrong again.

As a matter of fact, as I say, our position in the Liberal Party down through the years has been careful and responsible with regard to polls and every other thing of importance. But we are in the excellent position now, where we can look at our friends in the other two parties scraping up reasons to explain why the Canadian institute of public opinion, which has been fairly close to correctness in years gone by, is predicting that the people of the province of Ontario are prepared to vote for and elect a Liberal government.

And for your enlightenment, Mr. Speaker, and you may not have a subscription to all of the metropolitan papers coming regularly into your home, I would say that the institute of public opinion predicts that if an election were held now 30 per cent of the people of the province is prepared to vote for the Liberal Party, 26 per cent is prepared to support the Conservatives, and less than 20 per cent is prepared to vote for the NDP.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Sounds like Walter Thompson's *Toronto Daily Star* poll.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that in our position of responsibility we are not prepared to predict our election on this basis; but we are prepared to say to you, sir, that we can win. And when we do win, it will be because we have earned that victory.

I am glad to see that my hon. friend the Prime Minister is paying attention to this matter, because he is having a little difficulty making up his own mind on the political situation in this province, and in Canada. I did not see his name prominently mentioned in the meeting that was held in Toronto over the weekend, at which a group of 20 or 30 of the party members got together—

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I was not there.

Mr. Nixon:—and decided very democratically that this time the federal leadership of the party was going to be decided by a much

larger number of delegates than had been called upon to do this in the past. But the people up my way—and although most of them vote Liberal, there are a good many Conservatives among the group—come to me for advice and they come to me to give advice. They say, "Why is it that John Robarts is so much against Diefenbaker? The federal leader of the Conservative Party has always been good to us farmers and we cannot understand why John has lined up with Dalton Camp."

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I do not know whether this has much importance in the provincial affairs that we are here to discuss, except for this. The impression I get is that the leader of the government has his mind and his eye cast on the federal scene. He is wondering when the federal convention will be held. He is wondering what the polls will permit him to do, as far as calling a provincial election is concerned. He has got a lot of worries.

Now, in our position—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You are worried that he will stay here.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, in our position, as the official Opposition, we are concerned with Ontario. We have an alternate plan for the development of our province, for the education of our young people. We are going to present to the electorate men and women of ability and distinction in every one of the communities across this province; people who will offer the alternative to the present situation; people who will be able to occupy Cabinet positions with dignity and with knowledge. And it is in this view that I would like to now turn my attention—

Mr. Yakabuski: You have not got them now.

Mr. Nixon:—I would like to turn my attention to specifically what was in the Speech from the Throne and in the programme of the government of Ontario that is failing to meet our modern requirements.

Before I do this, I think it would be fitting, sir, if I expressed to you my deep regret that my predecessor in the office of leader of the Opposition was forced because of ill health to retire from this responsibility. All of us here count the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson) as a close and personal friend, and it is with deep regret that we find that illness has forced him to move out of this position of considerable pressure and responsibility. I

know that you join me, sir, in wishing him a speedy recovery and quick return to his place in the Legislature, where he can again take part in the affairs of this province and the assistance of his own community.

In looking at the Speech from the Throne, I cannot help but feel, sir, that the clearest impression it gives is that it was written by the Prime Minister's advisers, who are completely caught up in advertising agencies. His Honour's speech was loaded with gimmickry that showed through regularly. It must be an embarrassment to him that the government would put such slick and meaningless phrases in his mouth. Time and again, the impression that a soap salesman gone wrong was ordering the affairs of the province of Ontario came through strongly.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: At least it did not sound like you.

Mr. Nixon: This started last year, actually, with a programme called design for development. If we were to watch the changes in the press gallery, the people who accept the government positions, the people who came from the advertising agencies into the government service, it would be interesting to note who came about that time, because it was at this period that the great phrase-maker got the ear of the Prime Minister. The design for development was presented with a fanfare. It is the sort of phrase that would look good on an election pamphlet but the programme that it covers is becoming an increasing embarrassment to those who are charged with regional development across this province.

But to go on, as far as the gimmicky phrases that were presented to us are concerned, I would next come to something called "a programme for people". It seems to me that during the last quarter-century this government should have been concerned with people before now. The one that leads directly from that — "home ownership made easy" — embarrassed even me to hear the representative of the Queen, the Lieutenant-Governor himself, explain to us in the prose that was provided for him that the first letters of this phrase put together spell the magic word HOME.

I suppose this is a good idea politically. Perhaps it is useful to sell a programme to those who have been sold housing programmes in the past without any houses following the programme. As far as we are concerned, the record in housing of the government has been an improving one. It is interesting to note that the previous Minister

(Mr. Macaulay), who had responsibility for this matter, is presently sitting in the House. He was a master at providing plans for building houses, which in fact did not put bricks on bricks, and did not provide the housing that was needed. But now we have a new Minister, a man who does not sell soap, but I believe can sell programmes, and I am convinced that the series of proposals that were put forward in the Speech from the Throne do add up to a meaningful proposal that will build houses.

I am here to say to you, sir, and through you to the Minister in charge of housing, that we in the Opposition are going to cooperate in every way we can to get the required legislation through quickly and to see that the Minister has a free hand in the proposals he has put before us. I will have more to say about this later but I am convinced that the time for action is now. The people require this assistance and leadership and I am prepared to say to you that the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) must do this and we will assist him in any way we possibly can.

The next proposal that came from the advertising agency was GO transit. We look forward to the successful inauguration of some means of interurban transportation but we are also looking carefully for the economics associated with it. What are the rates going to be that will permit these people, who live outside the metropolitan area, to come into business here? How is it going to be financed so that it can be extended into the areas that require it now and in the immediate future?

The next phrase that comes to my attention from the Speech from the Throne is a programme for wild, wild rivers—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Wild rivers.

Mr. Nixon: Oh, wild rivers! And it is here that I thought perhaps the government might find some use for the former Minister of Lands and Forests, instead of relegating him to an Opposition status. I know that his deep feeling for conservation and the preservation of our natural heritage would very well have put him in a place where the government might have turned to him with confidence to direct the programme.

The international task force sounds almost warlike in its implications. I do hope that the international task force will deal with the government of Canada in its great and expanding requirements. We have seen that the Minister of Economics and Development has taken a leaf from his predecessor's book

in stirring up again a series of television programmes which are designed to see Ontario. Now there are implications here that perhaps it is designed to sell the government of Ontario and we will deal with that on another occasion. The Minister, himself, is active; he is full of ideas; very much like his predecessor. We wish him well and are prepared to support his plans as they are put before us, particularly as they meet the needs that we see in the community around us.

But the last phrase that I would expect from the Speech from the Throne has all the earmarks of a decision that was ill-conceived, and hastily arrived at. It was cumbersome and I hope it will not be a complete flop. I refer to the call for a "Confederation of tomorrow" conference that was the cherry on the cake that the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor presented to us a few days ago. In response to the question of the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) a few minutes ago, the Prime Minister said that he had not communicated with the provincial leaders in Canada or the leader of the federal government with regard to this conference.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, I have to correct that. I said that I had not since last Wednesday. I think the leader of the Opposition is well aware that I raised this point at a federal-provincial conference last October.

Mr. Nixon: I am glad to be advised on that matter because I would say to you, sir, that in my view the call for such a conference does trespass on the federal responsibility and authority. Our place in this House—if it were associated with this at all and it would be—

Mr. Yakubski: What do you do when there is no responsibility in Ottawa?

Mr. Nixon: —would be for us to advise the federal government, by resolution passed by the Legislature of Ontario, that such a conference should be convened, and that we, in our capacity as members of the Legislature of Ontario, would advise this and also advise certain inclusions in an agenda. But in the words of the Speech from the Throne, the Prime Minister is extending the invitation to provincial leaders.

I am probably rather naive in this but I feel that if he had meant only Premiers he would have specifically said so. And I can assure him that if it does extend to the leaders of the Oppositions across the country, as I believe it should, that I would accept his invitation. I believe that any study that

might further Confederation would be of value, but it must be generally understood that the conference is a provincial conference and that we cannot possibly involve the federal authority in this regard because theirs is the prime responsibility. The people of Canada look to the government of Canada for leadership in this matter and the government is providing the leadership that is needed.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that in none of the programmes that were enunciated in the Speech from the Throne read to us by His Honour, is any phrase that indicates that this government is aware, or prepared to deal with, the most important immediate problem in our provincial responsibility. I refer to the need that is of crisis proportions—to assist the municipalities of Ontario to meet their financial requirements.

The reliance on a property tax at the local level has become unworkable, so unworkable that all parts of the province suffer from some or all of the symptoms. These include unequal educational facilities, housing shortages related to local high tax situations, inadequate programmes for local roads, welfare, law enforcement, parks, sewage disposal and water supply. But, of course, the real symptom is the discontent of the people, particularly the home owners, who must suffer this oppressive load of local taxation. Home ownership a century ago may have been a measure of the individual's ability to pay taxes, but it is not true today. Our older citizens, particularly those on fixed income, look forward to living out their days in comfort and dignity in their own homes. Their local taxes, particularly those associated with education, are driving them into high-rent apartments and flats, or as public charges in county homes. Young couples looking forward to home ownership and family responsibilities are frustrated, not only by lack of adequate housing, but also because high home taxes put payments beyond the average ability to pay.

Local taxes on farms have mushroomed to impossible proportions in most agricultural areas. This is reflected in the inexorable pressures forcing families off the land and into urban centres. It is particularly true of farmers' sons, who see the situation in agriculture which their fathers must try to cope with. Under this government the attractions of rural life are obliterated by the unfair municipal tax load required by the financial policies of this government.

The costly process of education does nothing for these communities because the end product, the young people who have received their education, move away for better oppor-

tunity. Years ago, in November, 1962 to be exact, the government set up a committee chaired by a Mr. Smith to look into taxing arrangements in Ontario. Nothing further has been heard from this group for four years. They have either smothered in their own paper work, or an Alphonse/Gaston attitude with the federal Carter commission is rendering their work meaningless and useless. Now, we are a patient people, Mr. Speaker, in Ontario, but the cry is now for government leadership in this matter and the Liberal Party is prepared to provide it. Rumours of the Smith report have been heard for two years, but we can wait no longer. Even if the report came down tomorrow, it would have to be studied carefully by this House before changes based on it could take place.

The Speech from the Throne should have contained a concrete plan for redressing the inequalities of taxes at the local level. This could be amended when further information is available, but the local taxpayers waited long enough. It is clear that in the field of education, welfare and law enforcement the priorities, the minimum requirements and inspection, in fact the direction, comes from Queen's Park. These provide services to people and should not depend to such a great extent for financing on property tax. On the other hand, policing, fire protection, sewage, certain roads and administration in general can all be reasonably a charge on property and should remain so.

Other areas of responsibility must be shared to be effective. Connecting roads, conservation, parks and recreation are two that come to my mind. Local involvement of people in education has always been at a high level, even though most of the autonomy has been taken away by the department. Individuals are so concerned with excellence in education that no problem exists in getting their involvement in local boards and in other responsibilities. The autonomy aspect is very blurred since almost all decisions, even those arrived at by the local board of education, come under the jurisdiction of the department either directly or through their inspectorate. The present grant system is insidious in this respect. Freedom of action and initiative at the local level has all but disappeared except for the larger boards with access to very high local assessment.

It is also true that the present grant system tends to lead the local boards in increased expenditure. Frequently it has been said—and I have seen it reported in local newspapers—that new programmes have been

embarked on simply because the provincial government will pay half the cost of the programme. I suppose some leadership in this regard is essential but costs have become depressively high and certainly reforms are needed. I believe it must continue to be necessary for local taxes to meet a part of the cost of education. Twenty-four years ago this government promised to meet half the cost of education, a goal which it has not yet achieved. I believe that relief to the local taxpayers is needed now. I believe it can be accomplished by giving the solution to this problem of financial priority and by careful economy in our educational expenditure. Over a period of years, a shift in tax responsibility must set a goal of 80 per cent average provincial involvement.

Now, this refers specifically to education but as I have already indicated to you, sir, there are other areas of provincial involvement at the municipal level where changing proportions must be considered very carefully. Some of the western provinces have given this consideration. They have given relief to the local taxpayers by refunding part of their educational levy through direct cheques to the homeowner. Although this is a possibility to be studied, surely the government of Ontario could work out a plan with the municipalities whereby a greater share of education costs taken over by the province would guarantee a lower tax bill for the property owner.

It is in this area where lack of leadership is most provoking for the municipalities. The Prime Minister is grandstanding for federal attention when he calls for a conference on Confederation. I believe he should turn around to his own responsibility—if you wish, the confederation of municipalities. He might well convene a conference of municipal leaders, mayors and wardens particularly—and if it were possible, the Reeves themselves—so that we can discuss what can be done if, in fact, provincial funds can be funnelled at a greater proportion into the financing of education.

The Prime Minister has said in the past that he was afraid that, if more provincial funds go to the support of education, the slack, if it can be called that, will immediately be taken up by municipal governments. I feel that this means he regards municipal administrations as irresponsible. I would say that a conference of these leaders—one in which they are not received in any condescending way, one in which they are not expected to come in with a formal brief and spend a few hours with the Prime Minister

and his Cabinet, but one that is carefully prepared, a full-blown conference where the Minister involved, the Prime Minister of Ontario, the Cabinet and representatives of the various communities in the Legislature would take part—could work out a means whereby men of goodwill, through cooperation, could provide the relief to the taxpayers that is so sorely needed.

As I say, he should call a conference with our municipal leaders who are working under an Act far older than The British North America Act itself. He should sit down with our mayors and wardens and work out a plan on the basis of cooperation and goodwill that will restore fairness to the municipal tax system.

I believe at the same time that it would be necessary for the government to stop threatening the local municipalities with phrases such as "Either you plan or we will plan for you", "Either you undertake regionalization or we will impose it on you." Threats of this nature should be replaced with concrete plans put before the municipalities by the responsible government which can lead the municipalities into not only a fair share of taxation but to the development they need to face their problems in the year that lies immediately ahead.

Since the last election this government has raised the premiums on hospitalization by 50 per cent—actually a bit more than that. They have raised the sales tax from three to five per cent; the government has raised the gasoline tax to 16 cents a gallon and has received a larger share of the income taxes collected by the government of Canada on our behalf. All these things have increased the tax base in this province. We are not expecting any announcement of new taxes this year for reasons that are obvious. The new taxes were levied in the quiet years between elections, they were opposed by this party but they were discussed and finally approved by a majority of the members of this House.

But our income grows without tax increases as our economy expands. I believe we have a tax base broad enough now to achieve the reform that we in the Liberal Party promise to carry out.

I do not want to spend too much time, Mr. Speaker, in talking about the examples in other jurisdictions but if the statistics were to be examined, which are presented year by year in the briefs from mayors and reeves and other responsible officials, it becomes apparent that the weight that is given the property tax in this province is far out

of proportion to that which is assigned to it by other jurisdictions in the United States, Europe and the United Kingdom. We are not keeping up with the times in this regard, we are looking back to the view that was held by Baldwin and Lafontaine when they set up the municipal administration more than a century ago. We amend this Act year by year but it is a patchwork which does not meet modern demands and the serious area where it is not being met is in the area of taxation.

The Conservative government of Ontario is so entrenched in its thinking that it is increasingly obvious that a change of government is needed to solve this problem.

We as Liberals believe that the present tax base will accommodate a fair tax balance resulting in the lowering of local taxes. Our aim and goal is to assume 80 per cent of the cost of education or similar relief affecting other areas of shared responsibility. This aim and goal should be achieved in the life of the administration following the next election. This would normally be four or five years. When the campaign is upon us we can be specific as to how this can be achieved but I have said, and I say it now and I am prepared to stand by it, that the tax base is broad enough to meet this responsibility, that an area of coordination between the municipalities of the province and the government of Ontario has not been properly looked into, that there is a lack of communication because of the attitude of this government, and it can be corrected only by a change of government.

Mr. Speaker, failure to act decisively is the fault that the people of Ontario see most clearly in the government of the day. The financial situation has become chaotic because no firm response came from the government even though the list of financial miscarriages in the last two years has become alarming. Northern Ontario Natural Gas was not the first, but is the one that first imposed itself on public attention. British Mortgage, FAME, Windfall, Atlantic and Prudential are all examples of situations where this government did not act in the best interests of the people of Ontario.

Our securities legislation was approved by this Legislature almost a year ago, but has been brought into force only in part in the last few days, long after the horse, as it were, was removed from the stable. I am not here to criticize that legislation. We discussed it fully a year ago, we offered amendments. Certain improvements were made at that time and it was carried by the House. But the failure of the government to implement it,

the failure of the government to appoint the new Minister, whose position was also approved at that time, is an indication to the people of this province that the government has lost the will, lost the ability to act firmly in these situations.

A full investigation of the Prudential situation is essential, one in which the public is assured that no one is protected or any detail omitted. Yet the government refuses to let the proper standing committee of this House look into the matter. The people have lost confidence in the Conservative Party to order their affairs in this and other areas. The answers, Mr. Speaker, have been weak. There is no assurance that the wretched events will not be repeated in the days that lie ahead.

As a matter of fact, the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada, Mr. Diefenbaker himself, said in the House of Commons that the Ontario securities commission has failed in this matter. I say to you that this government cannot restore confidence in the securities market and must be replaced by a new government that will take the stand needed to clear out this part of the Conservative family compact.

Just recently, even the panel of advisers that the Minister has announced will help him, is a part of the in group. This group of people who are going to advise him on a continuing basis are themselves a part of the securities market. They, themselves, I am sure, are responsible and upright men, but at this stage we need people who can advise objectively and for the general good, not to maintain outdated procedures and institutions that have resulted in the fleeing of investors in years gone by.

The new Securities Act covers most of the requirements, save one. It must be amended, I feel, to make the Ontario securities commission responsible to the House, rather than to a Minister of the government. Independence is the cornerstone of effective policing. Even a well-staffed commission, armed with adequate legislation and regulations, could be stymied if the responsible Minister were hesitant about his duties.

The new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has been in office for really just a few weeks. I feel that he has answered the questions as fully as possible in this House. My chief complaint is that a full and public investigation has not been made possible by the government. We have provided alternatives that would have accomplished this, but they have been turned down by the government and the majority in this Legislature. I hope that no recurrences of these

financial disasters and losses will take place. I do not believe they will, because this government, after a series of warnings, on which they did not take appropriate action, must surely realize that the people of Ontario will not tolerate further dallying in this important area.

Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me, I would like to come to an area of particular importance; so far as I am concerned, that deals with the responsibility of the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). Some weeks ago we were surprised to read that a government committee, chaired by Dr. J. W. P. Spinks, president of the University of Saskatchewan, had recommended the amalgamation of our universities into the University of Ontario. There was a general outcry of protest from university presidents—not all of them—and as well as that, from editorial writers, who properly do not want to lose the important autonomy and individualism that is essential for a useful academic community.

The report itself, however, is so severely critical of the government's actions in the fostering of a truly efficient and progressive system of higher education that I believe that it was a distinct service to the community that this one recommendation was leaked to the press weeks before the report itself became generally available. All the public fury against the University of Ontario was vented, without consideration being given in any way to the real meat of the report—the sad state of coordination and government involvement in post-secondary education.

I know we will have a chance to deal with this fully when the Minister himself will be able to take a better part in the discussion, but there are three quotes from the report that I feel should be put before the members of the Legislature at this time. The first is as follows:

The most striking characteristic of higher education in Ontario is the complete absence of a master plan of an educational policy and of a coordinating authority for the provincially supported institutions.

The second quote that I would like to bring to your attention:

In the course of its study, this commission has become acutely aware of the pressing and immediate urgency for the establishment of a strong coordinating agency to plan and oversee the orderly development of graduate work in the province for the purpose of arriving not only at a rational fiscal policy—

And I should say in parenthesis that this concerns us here very deeply.

—but equally important at a sound academic policy which is the responsibility of the universities themselves.

Finally, as the last excerpt from this report, I would say as follows, in the words of the chairman and his committee:

The committee on university affairs, as presently constituted, is quite unsuited to deal with a task of this magnitude.

And in referring to his proposals for certain adjustments which would permit the government to deal with this task, he goes on to say, and I quote:

The only portion of its autonomy that each institution would surrender is that which now permits unrestricted competition and ill-advised expansion.

It is true, Mr. Speaker, that in other areas of the report the committee is very laudatory as far as The Department of Education in the province is concerned; and there are other quotes that are sure the Minister and his supporters will put before us. But these are the ones that concern us as those who direct the affairs of the province of Ontario.

The report is not recommending changes that would erode the autonomy of the universities; it is recommending ways to remove control from the vest pocket of the hon. Minister of University Affairs (Mr. Davis) and his government. We have always favoured a university grants commission rather than a separate department to deal with universities. Our present method only appears to put a buffer group, the advisory committee on university affairs, between the government and the universities. In fact, the advisory committee is inadequate for this and exposes the whole system of higher education to too much direct control by this government.

In discussing this for the last two years, the Liberal Party has called for public investigation into this matter so that we could be assured that real economy, coordination and efficiency controlled the sums we vote for universities. Now these difficulties have been brought out into the open again. It will take a change of government once again to open up our community colleges so that they will not be dead-end institutions, and to put our university financing on an open, fair, co-ordinated plan that will be in the best interests of this province.

The speech also calls, Mr. Speaker, for bringing labour, management, and government together to deal formally with matters

of mutual concern. This of course was originally proposed and advocated by John Wintermeyer a few years ago, particularly before the election of 1963. Many of us can recall his speeches in this House when he spoke about the importance of the government representing the public interest in the development of the affairs of labour and management. I believe still that it is good for the government to put itself in the position to speak for the public interest in these important negotiations. This has been Liberal policy for many years.

We further advocate the abolition of ex parte injunctions, and the enlarging and strengthening of the labour relations board so that it can be given the responsibility of a true labour court. A simplification of legal procedure, speeding up the system, and generally staffing the new board, could do much to re-establish confidence in the formal procedures involved in labour negotiations. I believe this confidence has been severely eroded in the last few years, particularly in the last 12 months. But the public interest must be exerted in other situations that have developed. Surely the government must exert this public interest when higher automobile insurance rates are announced. Let the insurance companies publicly justify their stand before an open hearing of The Department of Insurance—

Several hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: With regard to the public interest, which is what I am concerned with in this part of my remarks, I would say the medical doctors of Ontario have recently announced new and higher rates. These rates, as you know, are enshrined in the statutes of Ontario because the Ontario medical insurance programme agrees to pay a specific proportion of these rates, whatever they may be and however they may be arrived at. It would surely be in the public interest if the president and executive of the Ontario medical association would be called before an appropriate body responsible to this Legislature, I would suggest the standing committee on health, to explain the need for these changes.

I, as the member for Brant, have had several phone calls from constituents who have asked me to inquire as to these new rates. The public interest is deeply concerned with this matter and we in this Legislature must represent the public interest and give the doctors an opportunity to state their case and to justify the changes that have come before us.

The same is true of the new teachers' salary requirements, and the whole matter of pay by merit. The government has now agreed that the public interest must be represented in labour negotiations. The same is true of food pricing. The decisions by the milk marketing board, for example, on pricing of this particular commodity—I will have something to say about that a bit later, but in all these areas I believe that the same is true. Other important and far-reaching economic changes take place from day to day and at a rapid rate, whether they involve the cost of labour, insurance, medical services, teaching skills, legal advice, the cost of food, machinery for public justification for these changes should be set up.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would not favour socialist control but the middle road of responsibility has not been properly occupied by this government. A Liberal government will provide this area of responsibility and we would say so at this time.

When we talk about public authority in the province, look over the past year and some of the events that have occurred. I feel that the breakdown of the collective bargaining system and the law governing injunctions resulted in the defiance of the law by citizens of this province, many in leading capacities. I blame these people for some irresponsibility. It may be my unsophisticated rural background but I cannot believe that the circumstances of the labour disputes at the time merited all the public huffing and puffing on the part of the NDP and their friends. Nevertheless, the government lost control of the situation because of its inability to act ahead of public pressures, and, as usual, it responded only in an emergency.

The same attitude reflects the paralysis that seized the Conservative Party in the recent financial crisis. Inability to take action to lead the province out of the financial swamp of failure, personal losses and continuing rumour is a disease of aging that affects the government. At a time when every encouragement should be made by buying Canadian investments, our citizens have lost confidence in the Toronto market and are returning to the New York market and other centres.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: This is really a loss of confidence in our government itself and can be rectified only by the time-honoured remedy of voting them out of office.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: As I said previously, Mr. Speaker, this speech does deal with housing, a matter of great immediate importance. I am impressed with the proposals put forward by the government in this connection and look forward to working carefully in this House to see that the required legislation is passed quickly, and every encouragement is given.

For years the government has been guilty of housing by headlines but I believe that all parties agree that action is needed now. I will submit, in a few moments, some facts on second mortgages as a means for assisting with down payments, as one means that has not been covered in the proposed HOME plan. And I hope that the Minister will consider it.

However, the development of land not made available through leasing is still hamstrung by the red tape involved in government offices. Here is where a fresh and anti-bureaucratic government could work wonders. Private land must be subject to careful zoning and planning, of course, but on the other hand the forms, committees, agents and pressures involved in re-zoning and development in general have had as much to do with the housing shortage as any other single factor. This freeing of red tape should be given equal priority with the land-lease system that has been described by the responsible Minister.

I would also say that in conjunction with the proposal that the government has made, that serviced land for leasing and for housing purposes be made available, should be extended to local school boards so that in their acquisition of property for expansion of the school system this type of serviced land would be made available at least cost. I think real savings in the educational system might be forthcoming if this part of the programme were included.

I have also proposed publicly that the government should re-enter the field by which they can grant a subsidized second mortgage, particularly to young families who want to take on the responsibility of home ownership. There is something about the phrase second mortgage that causes responsible people to shy away from it. And yet if we look at the record even in the province of Ontario, we can see that in the years immediately following World War II the government did have a similar programme, and that their losses associated with this were very small indeed. Something that goes along with home ownership makes people, I believe, financially

responsible. If we can provide a programme that will assist in meeting the down payment, it will be of great use to those citizens who are looking forward to home ownership.

But housing itself has another problem that does not seem to be in the forefront of solutions provided by the government. This problem has to do with slum clearance and the provision of adequate living facilities for the disadvantaged people in some of the down-town areas of Toronto, and other urban centres across Ontario. Many of us have visited these areas in our capacity as members of the Legislature. It is not necessary to describe the conditions in any detail, we are aware of them and the press has certainly made us aware of them in their accounts in years gone by. But here is an area where surely our responsibility is very great. In the years remaining in this century, in this province of opportunity, we do have an economic base where we can assist those needy families. We must provide far better housing than is generally now available.

The municipalities, of course, have taken up this as their responsibility with both provincial and federal assistance. But the truth remains that the red tape involved in this, the hesitation associated with The Expropriation Procedures Act, all have held up good programmes and people are still living in squalor.

I cannot conclude my remarks, Mr. Speaker, without saying something about agriculture. I was very interested to see that the hon. Minister (Mr. Stewart) had included in the Speech from the Throne, some recommendations that would enable the government to provide subsidies and assistance to individual farmers, to update their operations and make them much more able to compete economically in the very competitive field of agriculture.

I suppose we must point out that the government of Quebec has had programmes of this type for three years, almost four years, and that we have discussed them in the Legislature in years gone by. And for this reason I can tell the hon. Minister that when he brings his recommendations before us in the form of legislation, if we believe the general principles are good, anything that will permit our farming population to come into the twentieth century with all of the facilities, machinery and the ability to expand that is needed, we will certainly favour. There may be certain areas where we would want to correct some errors that the government might be about to make but, of course,

these will be made to you, sir, at the appropriate time.

One thing that I do want to bring to your attention, Mr. Deputy Speaker—and I know that coming from Eglinton riding your main interest is in the pressures that the housewives in your area would have in buying the food that they need to put on the table and meeting the generally rising costs of providing for a family. But too often the particular pressures that are exerted on the farmers are not widely enough known. The Minister, and particularly his staff on the food council, should take as one of their prime requirements the education of the people of Ontario with just what kind of life the farmers of Ontario are leading. Now, nobody is saying it is a bad life, because I know that the hon. gentleman would agree with me that in many respects it outclasses almost every other endeavour. But it is also necessary to dispel the impression that I get from people within any of the political parties that the farmers are somehow doing better than they let on.

For this purpose, I would like to put on the record at this time the most recent statistics associated with the best farmers, in what I would consider one of the best farming areas of Ontario—and you have guessed it, Brant county. These are the results, and I can state them briefly, that are available from the Brant county farm management association, a group of the best farmers in the area, who keep careful books for income tax purposes and for purposes of assessing the economy of their operations. I would draw to your attention, sir, that these farmers divided themselves into three groups, the first group, dairy specialists, has milk contracts with the fluid milk trade. There are 30 of these farmers, and you would be interested to know that their average net income is \$5,925, a fairly reasonable sum, indeed. I would like you however, to regard that figure, close to \$6,000, in this light. Each of those farmers has an average investment in his plant of \$60,000. Taking the usual return of five per cent—and of course if he wanted to invest it in some other things, like Prudential Finance, he would be promised far more—but the return of five per cent means that the interest on his investment would be about \$2,725, leaving this farmer, who works long hours, with some specialized skills, \$3,000 as a return for his labour.

Very briefly then, there are two other classifications. Dairy general, where the farmers do not have access to the fluid milk

trade, the average income is \$2,255 per farm; and there were 15 of them who entered this particular management association. Five per cent of this investment, \$1,655, is a return on their investment, leaving \$600 for a year's labour.

I have heard a lot of wise people say the farmers live on their depreciation. I suppose that in this case this is precisely true, that the return on the investment that these farmers have—that is probably the investment made by their fathers and grandfathers in more prosperous times—has been the only thing that has permitted these farmers to stay on the land. And pressures are presently driving them off the land in large numbers.

The final group—beef, hog and cash crop classification—is the best of all. There are 22 farmers in this classification. They have an average net income of \$6,800. Once again this must be viewed in the light of their investment, which averages something around \$60,000. It leaves a labour return for the best farmers in our area, the most prosperous farmers in our area, of \$4,000 for their labour.

This does not compare adequately with what has been accomplished by workers in factories, by teachers in schools, by any other group, even unskilled labourers. The problem remains of providing income in the farm economy of this province. I am not saying that the Minister is unfamiliar with the problem. He had a conference last year which, to all reports, was a very useful one, carefully prepared for, in which the representatives of the farm community took part. Conferences are one thing but we must take action. For the last 11 to 12 years, economical pressures on the farm community have been mounting. One way in which relief could be forthcoming immediately was if the province took some action in giving relief at the taxation level.

We are all aware of the high levels of taxation, particularly associated with the assessment, not only on farm buildings but on the farm in general. This is a burden that this part of our economy can bear no longer.

I would like to say something that is also of importance to landowners. It has to do with expropriation in the province of Ontario. You have probably heard time and again how I happen to live on a farm that was developed by my great-grandfather. We have 260 acres. But, over the years, Highway 5 has sliced the farm in two. I can well remember the occasion when the highway was developed and improved and it was necessary for them to cut down 90 maple trees. They had been planted by my grandfather but, of

course, had to go in the way of progress; and we dealt with The Department of Highways at that time.

Ontario Hydro decided that a high tension line from Niagara Falls to Kitchener-Waterloo had to go diagonally across our farm. We had seven of those enormous towers, each with four metal legs, which we had to work around with implements and so on. Each year they are sprayed by Ontario Hydro with defoliating material, so that nothing can grow up to interfere with the carrying of the electrical energy. I remember very well dealing with Ontario Hydro in the expropriation procedures. The settlement involved giving us \$75 for each tower; this gave them rights in perpetuity to come on our land, and so on.

The next thing that happened was that the Imperial Oil Company, with expropriating authority, at one time put a pipeline directly through our land. Mind you, it is buried and it is of no inconvenience, yet they did have the authority to come through our land; and under those circumstances, of course, we were prepared to deal with them.

The Canadian National Railways cut our farm from north to south, and I must tell you I was not around when that happened; it was one of the earlier lines and probably my great-grandfather had some dealings with them.

The conservation authority of the Grand River is presently, although they are not negotiating, dealing in the immediate vicinity for the establishment of two reservoirs. So I have had this experience, and a good many of my fellow members of the Legislature have dealt with expropriating authorities in the same way.

None of us wants to stand in the way of progress. None of us is saying that the government cannot have expropriating authority, because it must have it if the general good is going to come first, which it must. But surely, for the landowners and the people of Ontario, the time has come when we have to settle this situation once and for all.

The people of Ontario do not have confidence that this government has at their heart the fairness and justice for all principles that is essential if you are going to go into a person's home and deal with them under this legislation. Bargaining itself becomes a bad thing. I feel that the fact that a landowner has got to phone his neighbour down the road to compare prices, and often is surprised that the information is "If you stick on this you are going to get a better price later," is the sort of attitude that the expropriating arms

of the government have developed—and certainly is the belief of the people of Ontario.

I feel that the principle must be laid down. It is a principle that we in the conservation committee have discussed many times, that a fair price must be arrived at and paid. The idea that the government is going to get the land as cheaply as possible must be put out of your mind entirely.

I believe further, Mr. Speaker, that the landowner himself must not be put at a position of legal disadvantage when dealing with the expropriating authorities. If he decides to stick and not accept the price that is offered, and go to the Minister's kitchen cabinet of negotiations or beyond to arbitration, he must be provided with the facilities to get the information needed to bolster his case. He cannot face all of the strength of government with only his own meagre resources.

I personally believe beyond that there is great merit in the centralization of expropriating procedures. Some people feel that if a local person, who has local knowledge of farming conditions and the values of land, comes in and deals for an expropriating authority with his neighbours, this is a good thing. I believe it is a bad thing. I believe it breaks up friendships. It is not in the best interest of either of the people concerned. The farmers or other landowners want to talk with an expert in these fields, an expert who is going on policy laid down by the government along the lines I have tried to lay out.

The last matter in this does not affect farm families so much as city families in expropriation. When homes are taken, particularly at the bottom of the economic ladder, it is very difficult for even a fair price to be set on a home. And to go in and expropriate the land and put a cheque for \$8,000 in the hands of the owner and say, "Okay, move out"—well obviously in metropolitan areas, and in most other areas, he cannot possibly provide himself with accommodation similar to what he had. He has to fall back on whatever is around.

There must be some accommodation and it should be written into The Expropriation Procedures Act, which will not only permit municipalities but force the municipalities to find the funds to permit these people to have homes to which to move. This is a matter of urban renewal, it is a matter of relocation, the involvement of welfare workers, and is a very complex and intricate matter indeed. But we can set the policy, we can set the tone, that will permit these municipalities to

do the right thing by the citizens of this province.

I did want to say something about the government's stand on pollution of land, air and water. Very briefly, I would say that once again I am delighted to see a firm recommendation in the Speech from the Throne that action will be taken. I was rather frightened a year ago when the Minister in charge of this responsibility said that he believed it would take \$300 million to abate industrial pollution in the rivers of this province. And he further said that something less than \$10 million had been spent in the year previous.

Now, this is a matter of great public concern. The fact that the government is going to move strongly and swiftly, we will support, but I would say to you, sir, that we have been assured in these matters in years gone by and are going to be looking carefully to see that adequate measures for the abatement of pollution of land, air and water are forthcoming.

I mentioned a moment ago that I was privileged to work with the select committee on conservation. One of the most interesting things we saw in our tours was on a visit to the state of Ohio, which is a jurisdiction similar to our own, and an area where one third of that state has had its conservation relatively completed some 20 to 25 years ago. It is a most interesting thing to go into an area where the dams are old and accepted and paid for, where the reforestation is not a bunch of little trees with goldenrod growing up through them, but stately, mature trees that are being harvested, where the recreation facilities have been planned and are being used by the community in the best possible way. It is something that would open all our eyes if we could all have an opportunity to see it, because in the years that remain in this century the same opportunity is ours. Action taken now will give us the maturity of conservation that our children and hopefully, some of us, will be able to enjoy.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: There is the wild rivers programme.

Mr. Nixon: All right, the programme of wild rivers is an interesting one and it may very well be that some of us, if we have access to Lands and Forests planes, will get to see them. It is essential of course that these natural resources in nature be preserved, but I do not believe that the large body of population in the metropolitan area and across southern Ontario, although they

will approve of this programme, are going to get the benefit from it that we on this side feel must be made available.

We must have an expanded concern for conservation and I must apologize to my colleagues on the committee if they feel I have trespassed on our particular views on these things. I hold them personally and I state them strongly and I look forward to debating this very matter when the report comes before the House in the next few weeks. But I feel that we must plan so that we develop a pride in our province, health and beauty in our cities. We have a goal for these years and a goal that can be accomplished.

All of us, of course, are concerned with economy and there is a tendency to talk about these programmes as if money did not enter into them. The Provincial Treasurer is looking at me over the top of his glasses and I know that he is concerned with this matter as are we all. I had hoped that the Speech from the Throne, since it is based on the statements of retrenchment that the Prime Minister of Ontario made when he left the last federal-provincial conference, would have contained an overall plan for economies in government — something about a central purchasing agency, which has been recommended; more about a study of standardization of school plans or something about the American lead in modular construction of schools; something about a car pool for the use of the government itself—and maybe the member for Renfrew South will say I am running on a Hepburn platform but this still gets to me. There are areas where this government can save money, that they are not prepared to enter into or they are simply not aware of.

I feel myself that one of the areas of economy that we must be most aware of is reform in the Cabinet itself. It has been pieced together over a quarter of a century and they now almost have one member of the Cabinet for every one of those years. It has simply grown with overlapping responsibilities and is becoming a costly and an anachronistic feature of the scene in the province of Ontario. I believe that it is not designed to deal in a satisfactory way with the problems that modern life in Ontario is presenting. One of the first reforms that a Liberal government will carry out will be a complete revamping of the whole Cabinet system.

This government has shown time and again, particularly in the last 12 months, that it has lost its capacity, if it ever had it, to deal

effectively with modern problems. The leader of the government has his eyes on other jurisdictions—and we have talked about this before. The Confederation of tomorrow conference was dreamed up by some political or public relations adviser and I say again that if it comes off and we are invited, I would be delighted to take part in our Centennial year. Any of these discussions may in fact turn out to be valuable but I feel that it was entered into clumsily, that the Prime Minister was misdirected in this and that surely our role in this, if a role does exist, would be to call on the federal government to convene this conference. I find it incredible that he could issue such a call without having assured himself by the means of communication he has referred to today—the confidential letter—that there would be some assurance that all of the governments concerned would take part.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): It was presumptuous arrogance.

Mr. Nixon: This is an area where I feel the leadership of the government has fallen down. There are two areas, and I have mentioned them before, where the leader of this government does have responsibility. It has to do with calling the municipal conference that I have suggested, and another conference I have suggested out of the House and I now want to put it to him, Mr. Speaker.

We share the responsibility of pollution and measures that should control pollution in Ontario. I believe that the pollution of the Great Lakes is of national importance. The fact remains that the water resources commission has its own ships and research stations there. We have the responsibility too. If the Prime Minister wants to call a conference of international importance it should be a conference of the governors of the states bordering the Great Lakes. This could be well prepared, it could be a conference that would lay out once and for all, the steps that will have to be taken in the next 15 to 20 years to abate the pollution in this province.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, we concluded with the whole matter being referred to the international joint commission. This resulted from a conference called by this province to which were invited the governors of the eight states bordering the Great Lakes, as well as observers from the federal government.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if that is the case, I believe the Prime Minister of Ontario did not accept his responsibility if he allowed it all to be shuffled off onto the international board.

I well remember the announcement that was made in this House some years ago, that the Prime Minister of Ontario was going to call all these people together to discuss lake levels. While that was important then, the good Lord has answered this problem. The rains came, as the federal Minister predicted they would, but the good Lord is not going to solve the problem of Great Lakes pollution. This is the solution that man is going to have to solve. It is going to cost money, it is going to take careful planning, and the Prime Minister of Ontario has a high responsibility in this plan.

An hon. member: We need a different man.

Mr. Nixon: The Liberal Party is prepared to embark on this programme. We are prepared, as I said, to offer these responsible alternatives to the present government, which is recognized as having lost any effectiveness it has.

With this in mind, Mr. Speaker, I move, for your consideration, seconded by the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer), that the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor now before the House be amended by adding thereto the following words:

But this House regrets that the government has failed to state a positive policy to relieve the tax load on the home-owners of Ontario, particularly with regard to the cost of education.

Deplores the fact that the government, through its carelessness and inattention to its responsibilities, permitted situations to develop within the financial community whereby many of our people suffered grave harm to their economic security. It is further to be noted that the government has failed to take the necessary steps to restore confidence in financial institutions under its jurisdiction.

Regrets that a coordinated plan has not been presented by the government to ensure the proper, efficient development of our post-secondary system of education, above all ensuring academic freedom and autonomy.

Regrets that the government's lack of sound policy and positive leadership has failed to prepare Ontario for her second century, particularly in the areas of con-

tinuing farm income problems, northern development, land, air and water pollution, municipal reorganization, law reform and economy in government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in this debate, my first words would be words of appreciation to you on behalf of the New Democratic Party in this House for your efficient work and your consideration of all the problems that we present to you. I cannot say anything more today than I have said many times before, and repetition is not going to convey our sentiments any more effectively, I am certain. But I do want to say that. I say it in spite of the fact that on occasion we have found ourselves in disagreement; and no doubt, on occasion, we shall again. But disagreement often adds a little bit of zest to life, particularly if it is honestly held. We want to wish you our very best for the days that lie ahead.

Mr. Speaker, since the last session there have been a number of Cabinet changes. Some have gone, some have come, and some have taken part in that rather familiar game of musical chairs. To those who have gone, we say a fond farewell. For those who have come, a word of caution: Do not count your chickens before they are hatched, because I have known of the odd person who got his foot in the Cabinet door, thinking that was a guarantee of entry, only to discover that on the next move he was out, rather than in. And as for the few who vaulted from the junior ranks into the big league, particularly our hon. friend from Lincoln (Mr. Welch), we want a special word of congratulations to him. I am not surprised of course that this took place, because it is something of a common practice over in the St. Catharines area that players should move from the junior league to the big league in one step.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, that the only thing that fascinates me more than the shifts that go on in the Cabinet is the game of musical chairs that is played so frequently in the Liberal Party, for its leadership. There have been 10 leaders in the Liberal Party in the last 25 years—three in the last four years. So the only comment I would have is for the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent), who unfortunately is not here this afternoon: "Do not despair, your turn may be up next."

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate, in the traditional way, the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Quite frankly, I felt that the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yaka-

buski) was a little bit below par yesterday. He did not swing with his normal abandon. He was even quoting Macaulay and to my amazement it was not Robert Macaulay, it was Lord Macaulay.

I came to the conclusion that the burden of statesmanship is beginning to settle upon him. Unfortunately, he is not here to accept these words of wisdom and comment. The burden of statesmanship seems to be settling upon him and I wonder if he is ever going to be his old self again. But I wish I were really persuaded that he is not going to be his old self again.

I would like to make a comment or two with regard to the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and his motion in moving the address. Like the leader of the Opposition, I first met the hon. member for Kenora some two, or was it three, years ago, when there was a visit by members of the Legislature to northwestern Ontario. We travelled out from Sioux Lookout by bus to the little town or village—whatever the appropriate description of it is—of Hudson, and when we arrived I have never seen a group of visitors from Queen's Park submitted to such a concerted and organized onslaught. There were lobbyists — it was all very pleasant; I do not want to give any false impressions. There were lobbyists. We were buttonholed in the grocery stores. We were buttonholed in the little factory there, and as the leader of the Opposition has pointed out, the main street was bedecked with a banner that was making the latest complaint that the area had with regard to Queen's Park.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, they were lambasting this government and I repeat what I said a day or so ago, in this House, in my words of welcome to the hon. member—he got elected to this House by lambasting the government in as careful a way as he could. When the member was indulging in the usual paeans of praise, that always have to be indulged in by the mover and the seconder with regard to the government, I found it a little unconvincing. But when he began to talk about the extent to which northwestern Ontario has not shared in the development of Ontario, when he began to talk about the ways in which the northwest is discriminated against, when he began, for example, to document, as we have in this sheet which he has given us allegedly from the *Kenora Miner and News*—“Forgotten Kenora”—then it really began to ring true, Mr. Speaker.

I repeat: The member was elected because he persuaded the people, for the time being at least, that he would be able to blast

this government into some action in meeting the needs of northwestern Ontario more effectively from within the Tory caucus. Kenora, or the voters in Kenora, had become so disillusioned with the Liberal Party that many former Liberal voters decided that they had nothing to lose but to give the Conservatives a chance at least for the one session before the next general election.

The gentleman is going to have some difficulty reconciling the kind of critical speech he must make back home to get elected with the kind of laudatory speech that is needed at Queen's Park to survive or progress, because if he has not learned it now he will learn very soon that independent-mindedness is not appreciated too much around here. If he does not believe it I suggest that he have a quiet little friendly talk, for example, with the hon. member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) to begin with. And when he is finished talking with the member for St. George, he can move rather close to the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts).

The member for St. Patrick has spoken his mind very freely in his career down through the years and he has had, on occasion, a rather rough course within his own party as a result of that. And when characteristically he resigned from the Cabinet—characteristically, I say, because he did it in his own good time and in his own way—it is perhaps significant that immediately he has moved over into the overflow section on the Opposition side of the House. I say significant because I suspect that the government, or many within it, has regarded him as being an Opposition spokesman for quite some years.

I join with the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) in welcoming him to the Opposition. I invite him, for example, to take up in this Legislature some of the things he has been saying outside the House with regard to our securities legislation in Ontario; and when he does so, he will be putting a little pressure on the government to accept, this year, amendments to the securities legislation which my hon. colleague in Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) introduced last year and which were voted down by the overwhelming majority that the government happens to have.

However, Mr. Speaker, back for a parting word to my good friend from Kenora. He had a little fun taunting the NDP for its satisfaction in the Kenora by-election. I just remind him and the House, in case they do not happen to be aware of it, of a rather

basic fact in the Kenora by-election. The Liberal vote dropped 2,300; the New Democratic Party vote rose 2,300—it more than doubled—and I give him fair warning: Look to your laurels.

Mr. Speaker, so much for the pleasantries—let us get down to the Throne Speech. Mr. Speaker, this government has marshalled as formidable an array of press relations men as any government—not only in Canada, but North America, or the world or indeed, the universe—in the characteristic fashion in which they operate on that side. It has reached the point that no self-respecting member of the press gallery is safe from their clutches. More or less voluntarily they are plucked, almost one a month, and pressed into the service of the government, or should I say the Tory party. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing is that it now becomes obvious that the PR boys have taken over.

If you do not believe me, read the Throne Speech. If there ever was a document produced by PR men, that is it—a tinsel package designed to cover up an empty content. Consider the slick phrases—GO transit. Well for heaven's sake, Mr. Speaker, what other kind of transit would you have—"not go" transit? GO transit! Home Ownership Made Easy—now, Mr. Speaker, somebody must have really burned the midnight oil on some occasion to get that. I hope he is being given a leather medal. Home ownership made easy!

Programme for the People; programme for provincial development—well, quite frankly, I think those two are a little bit below par. There is no alliteration, there is no slick turn, they are pretty dull. Quite frankly, I think they are a little unworthy, those two, of the high-priced help. But Programme for Wild Rivers—now there is an imaginative one, Mr. Speaker. That is the kind of thing that I would expect the alumni society of the press gallery, now ensconced in the public service, to come up with. That has all the authentic atmosphere of the press lounge. Risqué, titillating—I am just waiting breathlessly to find out what the programme of wild rivers is.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, some things in the Throne Speech are potentially good. There is a programme for housing. It is not as good as it looks and I intend a little later to go into some detail. I shall point out that it is still missing the main problem that we have faced down through the years, which housing programmes have never tackled. There is the programme for mental health,

particularly the facilities for emotionally disturbed children. I want to suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the person to thank for that programme is none of the PR boys, and none of the government, but the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis).

The fact that we got it this year—and not in the fullness of time, two, three, four, or five years—is the product of his efforts. He led the fight on the issue in this House and outside. He effectively gave voice to the great public concern, so that on the eve of the election the Scrooges of the Treasury board in that government finally were willing to do something about meeting a need that had come to shock the people of Ontario. The decision was such an eleventh-hour decision that we have the spectacle of the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) defending the indefensible last week, and then promising this week that he is going to replace it. In brief, Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech simply will not stand up in face of critical analysis; and taken in conjunction with the government's record it is not only dull but it offers little hope for effective action.

I want now to turn to two major areas to illustrate my point in that connection. The first one that I am going to turn to is the question of Prudential. Now I want to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the responsibility for the Prudential fiasco falls in three areas.

First, the policies and operations of the financial corporation itself. These are now being investigated by the securities commission, assisted by Clarkson Gordon and Company, and we are promised a report by early March.

Second, the criminal conduct of certain principals. Mr. J. B. Brien, Prudential's president, now faces six charges of theft, fraud and uttering. The Minister has stated that further charges are under consideration. These will go before the courts for investigation and appropriate action.

Third, the scandalous neglect of this government, and agencies acting on its behalf and under its direction, to fulfill their obligations.

Ultimately the public will be given the full story on the first two areas of responsibility. But this government is determined to hide the truth on the third—its own failure. It is our responsibility in this Legislature to dig out that truth, to the full limit of our ability and resources, even though it is obvious by now that the government is going to frustrate every effort in that direction. The first such example of the government's determination

to keep the full story of its own failures from the public was given last week. Having refused a public inquiry, the government went one step further and throttled efforts to have a standing committee of this Legislature investigate why The Attorney General's Department and the securities commission did not fully exercise the powers it had, or come to this Legislature during the last session for the necessary new powers—and it has always needed them—to cope with a corporation under its jurisdiction, which it knew to be heading for bankruptcy.

The government's tactics are now clear. Having set up a new Ministry to which the Ontario securities commission has been transferred, it is going to try to bury its past failures in a discussion of proposals for avoiding any future repetition of such collapses. Worthy as more effective legislation may be, it can be shaped only in a full knowledge of those failures which make it so obviously necessary.

Moreover, the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) is also intent on distracting public attention from the government's past failures by introducing issues, such as the "near bank" question which has no relevance to the Prudential collapse but which has infinite potential for jurisdictional feuding with Ottawa, which can capture the headlines.

It is obvious that the government cannot, and does not wish to, defend its past record. When pressed, the new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs rather impatiently protests that his department was set up only a few weeks ago. So far he has studiously avoided associating himself with the Attorney General's laboured and most unconvincing explanation of the government's failure to take effective action. The proposition of a government, fully aware of an impending bankruptcy, yet standing helplessly on the sidelines because, allegedly, no law was being broken, is just too ludicrous to entertain. I don't wonder that the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs does not want to be associated with that kind of pathetic apology.

But the hon. Minister cannot escape responsibility. He is a member of the Cabinet. The government as a whole is responsible, and as a member of the government he shares that responsibility.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) himself shares responsibility in a very real way. One of the reasons for the mess we are now in may well be the Prime Minister's procrastination in appointing

the new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs to relieve the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) of a burden of responsibilities which it was impossible for any one Minister to exercise fully and effectively, as the government itself conceded when it formally established the new Ministry at the last session of this Legislature.

Normally, how and when the Prime Minister shuffles his Cabinet is his own business but on occasions—and this is one of them—it becomes very much the public's business. It is now obvious that in the prolonged delay in setting up the new Ministry, the public interest was not being adequately safeguarded in areas designated for it. Significantly, when the new Minister did take over, not only did he carefully—and on occasion publicly on TV—dissociate himself from the government's past mishandling of this affair, but by appointing Clarkson Gordon and Co. to bolster the investigating efforts of the Ontario securities commission, he very quickly underlined the inadequacy of the action which had been taken up to that point to cope with the problem.

Now let us take a look back at the record which the government very understandably wants us to have forgotten. In July, 1964, so the Attorney General reminded us at his December press conference, the authority of Prudential Finance to sell notes to the general public expired, and was never renewed. The Attorney General has admitted that they were aware of Prudential's financial difficulties as far back as 1963, and in 1964 they apparently came to the conclusion that the interests of the general investing public could no longer be entrusted to Prudential.

Early in 1966, the government demanded and received additional information from Prudential which disclosed the possibility of eventual insolvency. In March, the commission held a hearing with the officers of the company who conceded that the company was in difficulty, but contended that the difficulties could be solved in time. But apparently the commission did not quite believe them so it issued an order denying the company the right to sell notes even to those who already held Prudential securities. In spite of the orders of July, 1964 and March, 1966 forbidding sale of notes to either the public or existing security holders, Prudential went on its merry way soliciting and receiving investment funds from the public. The government must now have evidence that this was the case.

The Attorney General's reply to my question last Thursday as to why the OSC's

orders were not enforced, was that they had no knowledge that they were being violated. Nobody complained to the commission, said he. Mr. Speaker, that reply taxes credulity beyond endurance!

Since when does this government wait for complaints from the public before it enforces its own law? And since Prudential's management record had already aroused their suspicions, as far back as 1963, and Prudential's continued solvency was already seriously in doubt, why would the government not take extra precautions to make certain that an order to protect the innocent investor was being upheld? Presumably the order was issued to prevent the public being further fleeced. Negligence in enforcing it simply made a mockery of the original issuance of the order, and left Prudential free, let's put it bluntly, to defraud more small investors of hard-earned savings.

What makes the government's attitude and the Attorney General's reply even more incredible is that Prudential was engaged in a typically slick promotional campaign. Their bulletin for January 1966 opens breezily—and I quote:

1966! Another good year. Another milestone on our journey into the future. We wish you the very best of good fortune along the next measured mile of the road and look forward to walking alongside of you and sharing with you whatever good fortune may come our way.

Before the year was out they certainly shared the fortunes that came their way!

In retrospect, the whole thing has a ring of bitter irony about it. But the bulletin glowed with an outline of Prudential's expansion plans.

In September, 1966 there was another bulletin, in the same free-wheeling style. Captioned "August", it read as follows and I quote:

A month that has become known as "vacation time" for most people but not however for the companies of your group. The last bulletin dealt with the acquisition of O'Brien Gold Mines Ltd., making the second purchase in the province of Quebec. What about other provinces and other companies? What has been done there?

And the bulletin proceeded to outline in the usual glowing terms the expanding business prospects of all Prudential subsidiaries.

Mr. Speaker, all across this country while all this was going on, the Attorney General now tells us there were frequent worried consultations over the threatening insolvency.

After the hearing in March, when the OSC apparently didn't believe Prudential's story that their difficulties would be solved by time, and issued an order forbidding sale of notes even to present security-holders, it also notified the Quebec securities commission which ordered a cessation of Prudential securities sales there.

Presumably the OSC was holding a watching brief over Prudential all this time, and the Attorney General informs us—and I quote from his statement in December—that "during the summer of 1966, the Ontario securities commission and the law officers of the Crown further reviewed all of the newly obtained facts acquired by the commission". Did these "newly obtained facts" not include the basic one that Prudential was continuing to solicit and receive investment funds?

Then, of course, in November, the roof fell in. Prudential defaulted on liabilities to note-holders. The trustee had to seek the assistance of the OSC in order to obtain the cooperation of the officers of Prudential. The commission learned at this time that the financial statement received by the trustees was different from that received by the commission. So an audit was ordered, followed by a full investigation.

But why, Mr. Speaker, why did the securities commission take so long to act? The Attorney General's feeble excuse is that no law was being broken, so they could not intervene.

And that, Mr. Speaker, if I may go back to the answer to the reply I got today from the hon. Minister when I inquired as to what audit or what financial statements were gotten throughout the year 1966, may I remind you he told me that they solicited a financial statement in December, 1965. They did not get it until two months later, in February, 1966; it was an unaudited statement. On the basis of that they held a hearing with the officers of the company, and in light of what they got at that hearing the Ontario securities commission issued an order cutting them off from any sale of notes, not only to the public, which had been cut off in July, 1964, but now to their own note-holders.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, the Minister, in replying to my question this afternoon, said that they were not satisfied—and why should they be?—with an unaudited statement; so they asked for an audited statement and then, sir, ran into repeated difficulties in trying to get an audited statement from them, and they did not finally get an audited statement until

July. Now, Mr. Speaker, this surely is an unconscionable length of time to deal with a company which is obviously a company out to fleece the public. If you think I am being unfair, let me go back once again to the comment of the Attorney General in the statement—this lengthy apologia of his—in December 21, 1966. He goes back to 1962 when the company started issuing short-term notes to mature in 360 days and what was his comment?—"This was an obvious and direct attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding full disclosure." In other words, in 1962 and 1963 the company was out to get the public. In 1966 they refused to come through with audited material and then, as we find later, of course, the trustee, when the first default took place, had such difficulty in trying to get the necessary information from the company that they had to enlist the support of the Ontario securities commission to be able to get the full story. In other words, Mr. Speaker, for years it was obvious that this government was dealing with a shyster operation—let me put it in blunt language. And yet they could not find a law that was being broken which would permit them to move.

However, let us leave that for the moment, Mr. Speaker, let us go back and argue on the basis of the terms of one which this government insists in arguing.

If the underlying principle of the securities legislation is full disclosure, was it not consistent with that principle that much earlier in the day the government should have taken whatever step it deemed necessary to let security-holders and the general public know that Prudential was getting deeper and deeper into trouble?

If the government's function and purpose was to protect the interests of the investor, and not to aid and abet a free-wheeling operator until the day when he openly violated the law, then did not the government have an obligation to speak up, to disclose to the public a situation which it alone knew existed?

However, let me go back for a bit in the story to re-examine the Attorney General's incredible assertion that the OSC didn't know that Prudential had continued to sell notes to both existing security holders and the general public because nobody had told him that they were violating the law.

Now, Mr. Speaker, even if nobody did the government's job of enforcing the order by informing them, how conceivably could the Ontario securities commission not be aware

that Prudential was continuing to sell notes when they were making periodic examination of Prudential's financial affairs?

The receipt of further investment moneys must have appeared in the financial statements of Prudential, and been readily available to any competent accountant. Or was Prudential cooking the books, and this government's examination was so lax and incomplete that they didn't even find out?

No matter how you approach the question, this government should have known, not only that Prudential was heading for insolvency but that it was violating OSC orders, and in so doing was carrying more and more people to financial ruin. It should have been in a position to have exercised its basic obligation under the securities legislation, and fully disclosed a situation which it alone could be informed about, so that the investing public could be protected at least against greater losses.

But that's not the end of the story, Mr. Speaker. By its failure to inform the public, the government lulled the whole financial world into a false sense of security with regard to Prudential, and as a result many respected and trustworthy individuals and organizations unwittingly advised their friends or their clients that Prudential was a good investment, with the consequent results that we now know.

Repeatedly in the letters which have flooded into our office regarding the Prudential fiasco, there is the anguished query: "Whom can we trust?" Little people these "relatively unsophisticated investors" as the Attorney General is wont to describe them, went to the better business bureau; they were told by the bureau that they had no complaints about Prudential. They went to their banker in many instances and were advised that Prudential was regarded as a sound investment. Why, one bank manager in London even accepted, Mr. Speaker, if you can believe this, unsecured Prudential debentures as collateral for a bank loan! He now admits: "We made a mistake", but it's easy to be wise in hindsight. In light of incidents like that, perhaps the Attorney General will consider broadening his definition of "relatively unsophisticated investors", because it might well include a lot of his financial advisers.

Let me read just one letter which provides an illuminating glimpse of the kind of thing that went on. It is from a man in London, and reads in part:

I invested \$4,000 in Prudential in short term notes at 8½ per cent when Mr. Rafuse

was head of it. At that time Mr. Carrothers owned a large amount of shares in Prudential. After Mr. Rafuse died a Mr. Woodcock became business manager. As my \$4,000 short term notes were due to be cashed and I would have my money returned, Mr. Woodcock suggested I turn these short-term notes into Prudential Finance Co. debentures. He said these debentures would only bear 7½ per cent interest but that they would be safer as they were held by the Metropolitan Trust Company of Toronto. He pressed this point very strongly. When I received these two debentures they had the title Prudential Finance Co.—Trustee: Metropolitan Trust Co., and Mr. Carrothers' name appeared as secretary and Mr. Fuller as director along with other names. So there was a high-pressure sales promotion. A year ago I called Mr. Carrothers to ask what he thought of these debentures. He assured me they were quite sound and not to worry about my money because it was quite safe. At this time there was talk on the street that Prudential was something to lay off of. In August last I had some further money to invest and I called into Prudential Finance Company's office which was at 257 Dundas Street, London. I met the manager, a Mr. O'Brien. He assured me that he would phone Toronto and have a man up to take my money. Fortunately I missed the appointment as I had moved and did not get the letter in time, or else I would have lost another \$5,000.

At this time, August 30, 1966, these investments were simply theft as these men knew that Prudential was broke. But remember, they used the names of substantial companies and London people to commit fraud, and Mr. Wishart did nothing nor did the securities commission.

In my files, I have another case of a man in Oakville who was urged in 1965 to convert his securities into a 7¼ per cent sinking fund debenture, and the pressure was so great on him by Prudential that they actually gave him a bonus of \$30 per 1000 that he held at that time.

In short, Prudential salesmen used every trick in the prestige book to lure people into purchases—in violation of existing OSC orders. The name of Metropolitan Trust was bandied about freely. The name of the secretary, Cecil Carrothers, Q.C., and the fact that he was a law partner of the Prime Minister of the province was regularly introduced into sales pitches. I have many letters to indicate this.

The prospective buyers didn't know, and of course were not informed, that the Prime

Minister had severed connections with the firm in 1961. And quite frankly, even if they had been told I do not think it would have made any difference. This was a prestige con job. The failure of the government to do its job of enforcing its own orders, and of keeping the public informed of what only it could know, resulted in thousands of people, many of them with their life savings to supplement a pension, losing all the reserves they owned. These were not people who were seeking risk investments. They were merely trying to maximize their incomes while retaining their security.

Indeed, I cited one example a moment ago of a man who deliberately took what he thought was a safer investment at 1¼ per cent interest less.

They assumed, and they had every right to assume, that a financial institution operating under the laws of Ontario would be subject to strict government supervision and control and that this was their guarantee of safety. Certainly, Prudential promotional literature, which the government must have been aware of, did everything possible to create this impression in their minds. It is for this reason that the New Democratic Party feels that these people are entitled at least to partial compensation.

The question is asked: Where do you draw the line in regard to the principle of public compensation for victims of financial skulduggery of this kind? Will this not set a dangerous precedent?

My answer is that the line can be drawn between people who advance loan capital, whether it be deposits, debentures or notes, and those who invest in shares. If it is felt necessary that there should be a limit, that might be entertained; for example, as has been widely suggested in the Prudential case, a limit of 50 per cent of the investment up to a maximum of \$10,000 so that nobody is left penniless.

If this principle is combined with a tighter regulation of financial institutions, it will provide genuine rather than false security. Collapses can be made as infrequent as in the banking industry. Therefore, the losses to be sustained by the public would be trivial in the overall.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have at least opened up the issue of the government's responsibility on this, but in light of the replies that we are getting from the Minister, we are going to pursue it, because quite frankly, we obviously have not gotten to the bottom of this issue yet.

I want to turn to a second issue, and that is with regard to economic development, as spelled out in the Throne Speech.

Nowhere is the bankruptcy of the government record more completely revealed by the Throne Speech than in the area of economic planning and development. With a flourish of verbal trumpets we are informed that "Canada's Centennial year will be marked by a full-scale 'programme of provincial development'."

Then unwittingly, Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech reveals how empty and hollow all the verbal trumpeting of past years has been because even the government now acknowledges the inadequacy of its own past proposals. Consider carefully the next two sentences of the Throne Speech: "A review of all existing programmes relating to human and natural resources and social capital will be undertaken. From this re-appraisal will evolve a general economic plan for the development of Ontario".

Now, Mr. Speaker, on any normal reading of the English language, that last sentence carried the clear admission that the government has no plan now for the economic development of the province. This is precisely what we have been saying—and what they have been denying. Now they admit it. In effect, the government now admits that it intends to review its past failures and inadequacies and out of that re-appraisal there will "evolve" a general economic plan. And with their unlimited capacity for PR slogans, this unborn plan is already christened programme of provincial development.

Mr. Speaker, this is idle verbiage. The government is engaged in its annual effort to kid the public that it is really intent on doing something, this time, to compensate for its past sins of omission. Need I remind members of this Legislature that last year the government went through this same performance. Indeed, their production was one worthy of Cecile B. DeMille. The Prime Minister led off with a general account of the government's design for development. The hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) followed with a speech outlining all the exciting details. He told us of earth-shaking developments such as the changing of the name from regional development association to regional development councils. The propaganda mills ground out their material, and I can remember the banner headlines with which newspapers obliged. What did it all mean, Mr. Speaker? That programme is obsolete already. This government's paper programmes for economic devel-

opment are so unconvincing that even the Tories are not persuaded and, in an incredible display of manufactured obsolescence, last year's model is scrapped this year in favour of another which we are asked to believe will evolve, presumably in the fullness of time.

Let us take a look at the record, Mr. Speaker, and the facts speak for themselves across this province. Early in November, the Minister of Economics and Development announced with a characteristic flourish — he always adds smiles to his flourishes—that one million dollars would be available for the regional development councils to spend next year. One million dollars to be divided up among ten such councils! An average of \$100,000 apiece! Now Mr. Speaker, weighed against the immensity of the job to be done, such a figure suggests an attitude of contempt, not commitment, to regional economic development. No wonder the government has decided to review the inadequacies of such a programme and evolve something different—a general economic plan for the development of Ontario.

Consider, for example, the situation in the eastern part of this province. The overall figures for the eastern Ontario regional area present a deceptive picture. On the basis of certain indices, such as average family income, it stands second only to the metropolitan area around Toronto. On the basis of percentage of the population with university degrees, it stands first in the province. But when you separate out what I would describe as the urban cream from the rural skim milk, what you have is a shocking picture of poverty and economic stagnation. I described some of the conditions as rural slums last fall and Tory members throughout eastern Ontario rose up in righteous wrath to deplore this facing-of-the-facts as an insult to the good people of the area.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I invite this House to consider the facts for a moment. And, in anticipation of their immediate dismissal, if I were to present the product of my own research, I am going to borrow from an expert who has been engaged in a study of eastern Ontario.

In Ottawa, last September, Mr. Speaker, a number of knowledgeable persons presented papers and led discussions in one of the many conferences which the New Democratic Party has held across the province, on regional development. One of these persons was Dr. Michael Ray, a sociologist with the Spartan Air Services Ltd., which did a survey for the eastern Ontario regional development council,

with the approval and financial assistance of this government. I quote from Dr. Ray:

Eastern Ontario is one of the main dairy farming regions in the province. Much of the milk is used for manufactured purposes, particularly cheese and butter. Eastern Ontario produces half the province's cheese and a fifth of its butter. The prices received for this milk are substantially less than the much more lucrative fluid milk market. The result is that the region's farmers have averaged much lower incomes than for the province as a whole. In the year ending in May, 1961, gross farm sales in eastern Ontario averaged \$3,878, compared with \$6,278 gross farm sales for the province, and the highest incomes were made by those farmers who farmed only part-time and took off-farm work. Henry Noble found that among a sample of 299 farm families in eastern Ontario, the net family income of full-time farmers averaged \$2,528. For part-time farmers, net family income from all sources was \$1,000 higher, at \$3,433.

The rural farm poverty that is implied by these low figures for average farm income can be measured more directly by looking at the percentage of hard-core poverty farmers. ARDA, that is the agricultural rehabilitation and development administration, defines hard-core poverty farmers as "farm operators having capital investment of less than \$25,000, gross sales of agricultural products of less than \$2,500, less than 25 days off farm work and less than 55 years of age."

I just interrupt, Mr. Speaker—that is the definition of ARDA's hard-core poverty. I continue. I am quoting from Dr. Ray:

Sixteen per cent of all farmers in Ontario fall within this classification of hard-core poverty. In eastern Ontario, the percentage rises to 25 per cent, and in Lanark the figure is 28 per cent, in Glengarry 30 per cent and in Renfrew 38 per cent.

Faced with statistics like these, and seeing at first hand the hardships and deprivation which they represent, it is hardly surprising that Barbara Moon, in last year's *Globe and Mail* series, called this region the "Ozarks of Ontario". She wrote: "It takes a wrench of the imagination even to begin to credit extreme poverty and extreme conditions of social and economic disadvantage chronic throughout an area as big as Belgium right in the heartland of the richest province in Canada."

That is the end of the quotation from Barbara Moon. I continue with Dr. Ray:

In recognition of the special problems of eastern Ontario, ARDA has designated eastern Ontario as a special research area and, up to the present, has sponsored 14 major projects costing \$750,000 for research and conservation in eastern Ontario. One of these projects was a case report of families in Lanark county by Miss Bessie Touzel of the Canadian welfare council.

And if I may interject, Mr. Speaker, a very respected person in this field who was used for many years as a consultant by this government. Continuing with Dr. Ray:

She found that among the families she interviewed, income was inadequate to meet their needs. Food was generally monotonous with few extras. In many instances the children's clothing, though presentable, was second hand or a gift. Toys or books were almost never seen. Even more disturbing is the fact that parents were apprehensive about consolidated schools and public health units because these involved contact with higher income people and a set of standards which they could not afford. Consequently they became withdrawn and formed a separate sub-culture. Thus, what started as an economic problem of low income of rural families has become complicated by a social problem and narrow economic solutions by themselves will no longer be adequate.

That is the end of the quotation from Dr. Ray:

Now, Mr. Speaker, those are the conditions as noted by a disinterested and non-partisan professional in the field. Those details should be set in the context of the basic statistics which have emerged in various ARDA studies: for example, that 70,000 of the 200,000 rural folk in eastern Ontario do not earn enough to pay income tax; that the per capita cost of public welfare in the area is double that of the provincial average; that 30,000 of the 200,000 people have only grade four education.

If the facts are squarely faced, we have economic and social conditions which in any city would unhesitatingly be described as slum conditions. I suggest that instead of pretending that such conditions do not exist, we face the facts and start doing something about it.

And yet, what was the reaction?

Yes, from the laughing Minister of Energy; let us deal with him.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): He thinks these facts are funny.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): The people I represent do not agree with your facts.

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management, the MPP from Frontenac-Addington, indulged in the usual cheap political tactics—

Mr. Bryden: Typical of him.

Mr. MacDonald:—in trying to set one part of the province off against the other. He retorted that he did not like anyone coming from Toronto moving into eastern Ontario and describing conditions as a rural slum.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I did not either.

Mr. MacDonald: I have given the facts, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member has not given any facts.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister was not listening; that is the trouble, he will not look at facts.

An hon. member: The member would not know a fact if he saw one.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. MacDonald: He will not look at facts, that is why the situation is as it is.

May I say to the Minister, Mr. Speaker, that I grew up in the St. Lawrence valley; that I taught school for years in the Ottawa valley; that I have lived for years in eastern Ontario and summered there for even longer; that I have travelled the back concessions and seen the conditions which people have to face in the constituencies of eastern Ontario, even more, I venture to predict, than the Minister ever will.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Oh, smarten up.

Mr. MacDonald: Cheap politics of this kind will never meet the desperate problems faced by many people in that part of the province for which he claims to speak. For example—

Mr. Bryden: Oh, he laughs, sure, the Minister laughs; he thinks it is very funny that people are deprived.

Mr. MacDonald: When a reporter from the Kingston *Whig-Standard* queried the hon. gentleman, he could not name any

ARDA projects in his riding since, he explained, we are mainly a tourist riding.

Mr. Bryden: The hon. Minister does not even know what is going on.

Mr. MacDonald: What the hon. MPP from Frontenac-Addington has not yet learned, despite the fact that he is a member of the Cabinet, is that ARDA is not restricted to agricultural rehabilitation; that where ARDA programmes have been imaginatively developed, they encompass the tourist industry and anything else which can be used to generate economic activity in a rural community. My complaint is that this is not being done.

The Cornwall *Standard-Freeholder*, for example, chided me in an editorial entitled: MacDonald Should Check Facts Before Making Political Speeches. With respect, Mr. Speaker, I have checked the facts, as provided in official studies. And it is those which I am using. Moreover, the New Democratic Party has held regional development conferences all across this province in which our local people have studied the available information and pursued the studies themselves—more, I submit, than any other party in this province.

“For Mr. MacDonald’s information,” the *Standard-Freeholder* states, “it should be pointed out that although no ARDA projects are actually under way in eastern Ontario, several are in the planning stage and are scheduled to get off the ground soon”.

Well, Mr. Speaker, for the *Standard-Freeholder’s* information, that is precisely the point I was making: no ARDA projects are under way, years after other provinces have been in action, years after the facts have become known.

Mr. Douglas Alkenbrack, MP for Frontenac-Addington, entered the picture: he disagreed that there were any rural slum conditions, and he is quoted as saying—“we have all the amenities of life they have in western Ontario”.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I quoted that at a meeting in Belleville and somebody in the audience spoke up to point out that across the street from the very hall where we were meeting, there was a home with an old-fashioned out-house, right in the heart of the city.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): Oh, that is good.

Mr. MacDonald: For the hon. member it is good, right. And in the rural hinterland, there are hundreds of these.

In fact, my mind goes back to a most revealing incident some five or six years ago. I happened to be visiting a young couple living some 15 miles back from the river-front in the riding of Grenville-Dundas. The young man was a minister of a small rural congregation. They pointed out to me that the manse where they were living was the only home of all the people in that congregation which had indoor plumbing. Unbelievable? Yes, but a fact nonetheless. There, a few miles from the St. Lawrence seaway, one of the greatest engineering achievements in the world, the people shared so little in the benefits of modern technology that not a single member of that little congregation had the modern amenity of indoor plumbing!

Now, Mr. Speaker, to illustrate the case that I have been trying to make in general terms, I have been concentrating on conditions in eastern Ontario. But the pockets of poverty are to be found all over this province.

An hon. member: Hear, hear.

Mr. MacDonald: "People and land in transition", a study by the Ontario economic council, presented to this Legislature last year, has documented similar rural conditions in Hastings and Bruce counties in the south and the districts of Timiskaming and Rainy River in the north. May I remind you again, Mr. Speaker, and particularly the hon. Minister of Energy, that 16 per cent of Ontario farmers, one in every six, are faced with ARDA's definition of "hard-core poverty". The north has for many years complained with full justification, that it is not sharing equitably in the economic expansion of the province.

In the Lake Ontario regional development area, editorial voices were raised about my comments on eastern Ontario, suggesting that I should explain what I meant—which I hasten to add I did at a subsequent meeting in Belleville. But ironically, right in the middle of the whole public debate on the issue, which was generated by the local newspaper, the municipal councils of the area jointly requested the federal government to classify the region as a "designated area" in order to get tax concessions which might encourage industry to move in and check the economic lag. Once again, here is another area which is not sharing in the burgeoning economic growth to the west in the province.

The assistance given to new industry in a designated area is one form of regional development planning—a cautious, partial kind which, I venture to predict, is not going to be effective in attracting new industry into eastern Ontario—for the economics of the branch plant economy militate against developments east of Oshawa in spite of their basic advantage of market distances, transportation and labour supply.

My concern, and the concern of the New Democratic Party, is to see that the government uses all the modern tools at its disposal to make the lives of our people better and richer. This is what regional planning can do. But not if you have a different plan every year! Obviously this government is just drifting on the issue, with little more than periodic propaganda displays to lull the public into the belief that something is being done.

A regional development programme starts with finding out the true facts about the land and the people and then incidentally not ignoring them. It means working out with the people themselves a coordinated total series of programmes which can restore opportunity and equalize conditions.

It is planning, not just for people, but by and with people. It may be conceived centrally, but it cannot be imposed from the top. Planning must grow with the region; it must enlist the support of the area. In short, it is so completely different from the normal kind of paternalistic approach of this government that there is little wonder that all its programmes languish, and have to be replaced every year.

Clearly the role of the provincial government is to provide the initial impetus and to put its tremendous resources to work. The specific programmes open to regional development planning are many. They include industry location policies, manpower and adult education, drainage, reconversion of land use, irrigation, better transportation networks to bigger markets, improvements in rural services, an income incentive policy for farmers.

In short, Mr. Speaker, there is a positive and constructive alternative which is what the New Democratic Party has been presenting. A government which refuses to take advantage of these kinds of programmes is living with its head in the sand and its feet in the last century. That is precisely the position of this government.

Its doctrinaire free enterprise beliefs stand in the way of a modern approach. At the heart of any commitment to regional planning which is basic to any meaningful economic plan for the development of Ontario (and

which presumably this government is evolving towards) to use their own phraseology must be a recognition that private enterprise has not, and cannot, cope with many economic problems; that when evidence to this effect becomes available, there is a role for public planning, for government assistance on a cooperative basis, and for public enterprise to whatever extent is necessary to get effective economic planning.

This basic belief underlies the ARDA programme, the Canada development programme, the Ontario development agency. The problem is that the government has a basic distrust of all these variations of public intervention and public enterprise. That is the reason why the ARDA programme has never really got rolling in this province.

Hon. Mr. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Every dollar of ARDA money made available to Ontario is being used.

Mr. MacDonald: For the first time this year and in every year before that the government was using a very small fraction of what is available. And the number of projects that it has lost is a very small fraction, for example, to the only comparable province, the province of Quebec.

Mr. O. F. Villeneuve (Glengarry): They got more than their share.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh, they got more than their share, did they?

Mr. Villeneuve: Yes they got more in three years than was allotted to them in five under the grant of ARDA.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that right? Well, that is interesting. It is an interesting comment from a French Canadian representative from a French Canadian constituency, with regard to his French Canadian colleagues in Quebec. A most interesting comment.

All the same, Mr. Speaker, this basic lack of belief on the part of this government is the reason why the ARDA programme took so long to get started, and if it is going a little bit better now, we are all very appreciative of it.

To resume, that is why the Canada development corporation is opposed by the dominant right wing element in the federal Liberal government; why our Ontario development agency is restricted merely to the periphery of our needs and is not getting into the real economic development in the areas that are lacking. That is why regional development

plans in Ontario have withered on the vine for a decade; why last year's design for development is already being washed out in favour of another propaganda show-piece to be known as "programme of provincial development".

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have dealt with two issues in depth by way of showing the inadequacy of the government's programme, and therefore I think it is appropriate and possible to take a look at the overall Throne Speech, its general pattern.

I had hoped that the Throne Speech would show an appreciation of the specific problems facing our people. For the most part it is a re-affirmation, or vague extension, of existing legislation. Where it does break new ground, as in housing, there has obviously been little or no research. It is a panic programme, with a maximum of pre-election headlines and a minimum of immediate relief of the critical housing need.

I had hoped that the government's programme would give evidence of some basic understanding of the world of the sixties and the seventies. There is none. Instead we have stop-gap measures to ease the crisis, not a real solution.

I had hoped the Robarts administration would have seized on the year 1967, which is not only our national Centennial year but the 175th anniversary of the opening of the Upper Canada Legislature, to state in forthright terms its determination to come to grips with the real issues of the day.

The Throne Speech does not do that, Mr. Speaker. As a statement of the aims and purposes of Canada's largest province, it is a signal failure. It is rich in slick public relations slogans, but thin in real substance. It shows insensitivity and indifference to the real needs of the people of Ontario. It reveals a basic lack of comprehension of today's society, with its difficulties and challenges. With rare exceptions, admittedly highly publicized, corporate conservatism pervades the government programme.

It has not dealt forthrightly with a number of specific issues which have plagued this province in the last two or three years.

It does not reflect the sense of purpose and direction which I would have hoped the government of Ontario would bring to a Confederation under stress. It has not nurtured the aspirations of a genuine and legitimate Canadian nationalism.

The Throne Speech is an indictment of this administration's incapacity to govern our province. When I say that this government

must go, I do so not merely for partisan reasons. I do so because the good of Ontario and its people demand that it must go. Many times in the past year this government has failed to respond when people made their needs and problems abundantly clear. Consider the record.

What did it do when several hundred farmers came to Queen's Park to protest the government's failure to help them win a fair income? It confessed its inadequacy to deal with the issue and called a conference to study the matter.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): We talked to them while the hon. member was inciting them to riot.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that right?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Lay a charge against him if that is what—

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister of Agriculture over there was waving his hands like a frantic man. I was standing there. I had an opportunity to speak, at their request, and incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to speak to them without the protection of three plain clothes policemen, which the Minister of Agriculture needed because he was so fearful of the farmers that presumably he was working for.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I did not even know there were any plain clothes policemen in the outfit. Did not even know there was one there.

Why did the farmers fire the friend of our friend across the road who led the farmers with the march at Queen's Park? What has become of him? Is he working for the hon. member yet? He is not working for the farmers any more.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, he was not working for us then. What the farmers want to do is their business, Mr. Speaker.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): They did not hire anybody the government sent up.

Mr. MacDonald: What did the government do? It must have affected the government's record. They are obviously very touchy about it.

What did it do when housewives, not normally a group given to overt demonstrations of protest, made it clear that they wanted something done about rising prices?

Nothing. What did it do when car manufacturers, in open defiance of assurances given the Canadian people, raised their prices again this year? Nothing. What did it do when university students made it clear that the much-vaunted student aid programme was a bureaucratic nightmare, inadequate in terms of finance and inequitable in terms of administration? Nothing but a few gestures. What did it do when Prudential Finance collapsed, taking with it the life savings of many of its noteholders? Too little, and tragically too late.

Did it speak up when northern Ontario lost out on the second gas pipeline? No, it was silent. Well, let me be perfectly fair, the Minister responsible was silent and another Minister who happens to come from the area was speaking against it so that we had the double voice. And they are still silent.

Did the government really have to wait until honest citizens went to jail for their convictions before taking action on the question of labour injunctions? Where was the action when car insurance companies raised premiums, arbitrarily cancelled policies or shifted people on to the expensive assigned risk plan? There was no action. Did the government really have to wait until a housing crisis of historic proportions built up before they even began to consider a programme? Where was the action when the prices of agricultural implements were raised this year?

I could go on and on, Mr. Speaker. There has been no action, no concerned response from the government in so many areas of vital concern to our people. Seldom have protesting groups got an adequate hearing. Usually they were characterized as malcontents and troublemakers against whom the full weight of legal sanctions was threatened.

This record of indifference belies the flackery of a Throne Speech which presumes to call itself a "programme for people". The irony is bitter indeed because people have consistently been the last factor to be taken into consideration by this government. This government's basic approach is one of heavy paternalism, bolstered by a corporate conservatism which is the traditional motivation of Ontario Tories. As a result, there is, among great groups of our people today a growing sense of frustration and of alienation from the working of the democratic process.

People sense the government's withdrawal from critical areas of concern. They sense the government's impatience with those who would seek change. And because they sense

it, the government's one-time popularity has dropped and dropped sharply.

Yet there is really no surprise in this, Mr. Speaker. The Tories have been in office for 24 years—over a generation. Their ideas and attitudes are out-of-date. Old age has caught up with them, and a few youthful additions to the Cabinet are not going to hide the fact.

Rather they have bolstered the government's corporate conservatism. Let me spell out what I mean. Or, should I say, let the Minister of Economics and Development spell out what I mean. I quote from an article he wrote recently for the chamber of commerce publication, *The Ontarian*.

The bigger government gets, the more challenge there is to those in government to operate it on a business-like basis and make decisions similar to those made in industry.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Who said that?

Mr. Bryden: The Minister of Economics and Development.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I bow to the insistent demands and I will read it again; but I will precede it by the comment that the hon. Minister stated that he had been told by people who were in politics longer than he that this was not the case, but the longer he was in politics he was convinced it was the case. And what is the case?

The bigger the government gets, the more challenge there is to those in government to operate it on a business-like basis and make decisions similar to those made in industry.

Now certainly, Mr. Speaker, the government of Ontario is a big operation. Certainly, its department must be administered efficiently—business-like, if you will. But government and business are about fundamentally different things.

The purpose of a business is to make money. The purpose of government is to serve the people. It is because the present government cannot recognize this paramount purpose of government that they no longer deserve the confidence of this House, or that of the people of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, the government's indifference, its misdirected notion of its function and purpose, is matched by an incomprehension of the most significant phenomenon of our times: the technological revolution. This revolution has combined science, cybernetics, and the

explosion of knowledge, to create a new technology of production.

As every year goes by, a growing segment of our industry will be automated, a larger number of decisions will be made by computers, the communications media will further extend their network of influence, pressures on education will intensify. The new technology will affect all of us more and more in our daily lives.

Yet this awesome revolution is taken as a casual and accidental one. It is planned neither by governments, nor industries, nor society as a whole. Innovation presses inexorably over our continent, not because society wills it but because society has made no effort to control the number of unrelated, narrowly-focused decisions which spawn the revolution. We must see that the revolution of technology ceases to be accidental. It must be made conscious and democratic if we are to remain a free society.

Our institutions must be extra-sensitive to the new problems and pressures brought to bear on society. And if these pressures have not penetrated the comfortable chambers of the Cabinet, let not members assume that the pressures therefore do not exist. They do, and they grow.

If in the past it was good and necessary that people be consulted, and participated in the decisions which affected their lives, it is imperative today. Otherwise the adhesive which holds together the social fabric is going to dry and crumble.

Ours today is a mass society, with great new pressures of population. The new science of communications makes it possible for all of us to know a bit more about what is going on around us. Today we know enough to be deeply suspicious of bland assurances that everything is going to be looked after, to be intolerant of delay and to be angry at the narrow limitations of corporate conservatism. We know the technological revolution brings with it a great potential which can be harnessed for the good of all our people.

We therefore insist that people be involved in decisions about how that potential is going to be tapped. Their expressions of feeling must be welcomed as manifestations of a free and vital society. Yet this government rebuffs them, calls them disrespectful of law and order, and employs the sanctions of the law against them.

Mr. Speaker, the responsibility of government can be abused just as surely by inaction and indifference as it can by the unrestrained use of the power of the state. Of this former

abuse the government stands convicted by the facts. Add to this their incapacity to understand the nature of our modern society and you have a government indicted by its own weaknesses and disqualified by its own incompetence from governing the province of Ontario.

So much for a general assessment of the Throne Speech. I want to get down to a couple more specifics. I want to turn now to what I believe to be the problem of deepest concern to our people—prices and the cost of living. While income levels have improved, for the majority the budget squeeze is getting tighter every month. This is particularly true of those who are unorganized or living on fixed incomes. But even for the organized worker living costs have mounted, so that real wage gains are consistently lower than the productivity rise, a fact that is not usually known or repeated by those who dominate our economy today.

Constitutionally, the responsibility for price levels is shared by the federal and provincial governments, but many experts contend that the basic responsibility lies with the province. For that reason it is not good enough for this government to stand by idly just because the joint committee of the federal Parliament is investigating consumer prices. Obviously it would be unwise to duplicate their efforts. But in areas which the federal committee does not cover, or deliberately avoids, this government has a responsibility which it has almost completely shirked.

Let me cite one example to illustrate my contention. Last September when Finance Minister Sharp was crying havoc over the threat of inflation, he reminded the Canadian automobile manufacturers of their obligation under the Canada-U.S. auto pact to lower prices and he sternly warned that there should be no price increases this year.

Before the month was out, the auto manufacturers defiantly increased prices. What was Mr. Sharp's reaction? Not so much as even a whimper of protest!

When the House of Commons met in October, the NDP sought to have the matter debated because it was an important matter. The government countered that this matter had been referred to the joint committee. Efforts of the NDP to raise it at the committee were blocked. Obviously the federal government was determined not to investigate car prices in spite of their special responsibility to see that the Canadian consumer shared in benefits of the auto pact agreement.

Under circumstances such as these, Mr. Speaker, the provincial government had not only an opportunity but an obligation to accept its responsibilities and investigate car price increases in this province. After all, 96 per cent of Canadian cars are manufactured in Ontario, so that there was an opportunity to serve the interests not only of Ontario but of all Canada. With characteristic insensitivity to the interests of the people, the government did nothing.

Admittedly it is too late to protect the consumers' interests for this year's models, but an investigation right now might protect our people from next fall's inevitable increase. The case for a full investigation of prices, costs and profits in the automobile industry is a solid one in view of the evidence that is readily at hand.

For example, under the auto pact, the industry is enjoying the economies of longer runs with few models. Removals of the tariffs alone transferred \$50 million a year from the public treasury to the manufacturers. In itself, that represented a possible cut of \$85 per car that is manufactured in Canada. Instead we have had increases.

Cars manufactured in Canada are being shipped to the United States and sold for \$350 less than here in Toronto. There is no justification for this kind of a disparity in prices. Profits in the Canadian automobile industry are not known. All companies but one bury the figure in the parent companies' financial statement. We have to look to the United States to get some idea of the profit levels of Canadian companies. Well, let us take a look for a moment.

United States auto industry profits after taxes, and including earnings from Canadian operations, represented a fantastic return of 20.9 per cent on their stockholders' investment in the first half of 1966—one and a half times the average for all U.S. manufacturers.

Commenting on U.S. car prices increases last September, UAW president, Walter Reuther, noted that if the U.S. auto industry had been satisfied with an average manufacturing rate of return, they could have cut the price of cars by \$251 wholesale, equivalent to a reduction of \$350 on the consumer price. That is if they had accepted an average manufacturer's return rather than their high one.

Some indication of the profits in the Canadian auto industry were given in a *Globe and Mail* report of January 19, 1965:

According to one estimate, the average annual profit of the auto manufacturers

often has run to around 30 per cent of their net worth, that is the total amount of their invested capital, compared with a normal 10 to 15 per cent return in other industries.

While the balance sheets of most of the major producers are closed to public scrutiny, one federal official estimated that in a good year the profit earned by one of the leading Canadian auto producers might run as high as 80 or 90 per cent of invested capital.

That is the end of the *Globe and Mail* quote. Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not know if these figures are correct. If the *Globe and Mail* report reflects accurately the financial position of the Canadian auto industry, then the return of the Canadian subsidiaries on their parent companies' investment in them was at an astronomical rate, well in excess of the rate of return of the U.S. companies even before the impact of the auto pact agreement began to be felt in this country.

Under that agreement, the Canadian manufacturers are achieving cost savings every year from the new technology developed by the parent companies. It was thus gross misrepresentation for them to claim increasing costs as justification for raising the price of the 1967 models. Their profit levels, swollen by savings from new efficiencies and the \$50 million tariff removal, provide them with ample margin to absorb any higher costs, and at the same time to pass on a price cut, to the consumer.

The federal government's refusal to do anything in this situation makes a mockery of its professed concern for the consumer. The provincial government's inaction is worse. For the most part, the consumer in Ontario remains a helpless victim of this kind of private exploitation. And when the government does go through the motions of assisting, how pathetic they are!

Last November, for example, the farm machinery companies announced price boosts. The Minister of Agriculture appealed for a rollback. The manufacturers replied there was no chance of this; that was sufficient to silence Queen's Park. Nothing more was heard. The Minister's protest was so feeble that it simply invited another price hike next year, at which time he will protest once again. In recent months, of course, the main consumer protest has centred on food. Let's continue with the Minister of Food's record for a moment.

Last fall, I was one of 325 delegates from farm, allied industry, consumer and government circles whom the Minister invited to a

conference on basic agricultural policies at Vineland. Quite frankly, it was potentially a very useful and interesting conference, and I shall have more to say about it on later occasions. But to me, one of the most interesting results of that conference was that these invited delegates voted unanimously in favour of the provincial government banning trading stamps and all the other gimmickry which has become part and parcel of food merchandising today.

They did so because experts in the field told the conference that 40 per cent of the promotion and advertising costs of supermarkets today are represented by this gimmickry. Furthermore, these experts stated that supermarket executives privately admitted that they were all now on the merry-go-round; the net result was a built-in increase in food prices; and the only way they could be rescued from it was by government action making all the gimmickry illegal.

Well, what happened? As usual, nothing! Faced with this unanimous request to provide at least some relief from unnecessarily high food prices, one would have thought that the Minister of Food would have hastened back to enlist the support, and immediate action, of his Cabinet colleagues.

After all, he should have had at least a twinge of conscience. Some six or eight years ago, when the issue of trading stamps was first debated in this Legislature, New Democratic members were the only people to oppose them. The government took its usual *laissez-faire* approach; all this was a legitimate part of free enterprise, was their line.

In other words, this government was responsible in the first instance for opening the door to the rash of gimmickry in food merchandising, which started with trading stamps, but today involves bingo games, horse races, car raffles—an ever-growing range of "bribery to buy" that has no relation to the merits of the product at all.

Little wonder that Douglas Williams, chairman of the Ontario food council, ten days before that Vineland conference, told some 300 representatives of the supermarket, drug, variety and confectionery show down at the CNE grounds that the food industry is facing stringent government controls unless it returns to sensible practices.

Mr. Williams predicted that consumers will demand a return to selling merchandise on the basis of its quality, utility and true value "instead of trying to buy the consumer's affection with gimmicks, prizes and come-on". Obviously, Mr. Williams is much closer to

the consumers of Ontario than the Minister of Food or this government. Once again, we had a display of characteristic insensitivity to the needs of people, even when the government has been bombarded with the most convincing kind of evidence. Nothing happened! Two or three times, immediately following the Vineland conference, I called upon the Minister of Food—and it got publicity in the newspapers—to seek implementation of the unanimous recommendation.

Then, a couple of weeks ago, there was a revealing event here at Queen's Park. A delegation of the Ontario branch of the Canadian association of consumers visited the Attorney General. Supporting them were some 20 different farm, labour, women's, ethnic and other organizations including, incidentally, the Ontario food council's consumer section. They asked the Attorney General to ban trading stamps and other promotional schemes.

According to the press reports, the Attorney General was impressed. They made "a strong case that you don't need trading stamps." There was a burst of knowledge upon a government that had had this issue drawn to their attention for some six or eight years. And he added that he "would take the matter up with his Cabinet and see what action to take". I wonder, Mr. Speaker, do these Cabinet Ministers not talk to each other? Did the Minister of Food not even take the unanimous Vineland recommendation to the Cabinet? Did he not? Let him bounce up in his seat now and answer that question, if he wants to, I would be glad to concede the floor. And if he did not, what is the worth, what is the value of all of this conference and recommendation from it? Here is a good example, one on which he could have moved. He is going to be making excuses about not being able to get a farm income incentive programme because that has to be studied and the committee has to get all of the information which his department has never had; they have to do the basic job from the ground up. But here is something on which they could have moved. Did he take it to the Cabinet?

Was the whole affair just a bit of window-dressing to kid the boys back in the farm and the housewives in the kitchen that something was going to be done? Is there any wonder that more and more groups of our people are rising in angry protest at a government which simply won't do anything until it is blasted into action either by events or a public outcry? Is it any wonder that the popularity of the Robarts government is skidding?

The New Democratic Party's concern for the consumers is not a new one. We are not a Johnny-come-lately in this picture. Our programme in 1963 was consumer-oriented. Before this government even acknowledged that the problem existed, we had worked out a programme to meet the needs of the consuming public. Any government that pretends to offer a "programme for people" must accept the obligation to protect the public from unnecessary and unjustified price increases which cut into the family budget; add to the pressures for wage increases to maintain the real wage level; make it impossible for the average family to realize its reasonable expectations in life.

I do not suggest we return to the strait-jacket of across-the-board price controls. What we need is to get the facts to the public. We must bring an end to the secrecy of business operations behind which the public is exploited. Those who manage prices today should have to justify their increases before a public agency, in the full glare of public opinion. Something along the lines that I would suggest perhaps differently from the kind of thing that is being done in Ottawa today. With the full knowledge of what is happening, the consumer will be able to do something to protect himself.

We therefore call on the government to implement immediately the following programme:

1. Establish a prices review agency with the authority to require sellers to give reasons publicly why they are raising their prices.
2. Put into operation not just on the statute book a consumers bureau responsible for ensuring that retailing methods are fair and open; that misleading advertising and packaging is checked and reported; that uniform weights and measures are employed so that housewives can shop without having to use a slide rule or a computer to calculate a bargain.
3. Legislate immediately against trading stamps and other retailing and promotional gimmicks.
4. Develop comprehensive research on consumer products.
5. Encourage and promote consumer cooperatives as a means of keeping costs down, ensuring a fair return to producer and retailer and helping our people to help themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I started out by saying that this is an issue which in my view is one of the most important issues faced by everybody

in the province of Ontario today. Those in the lower, and indeed in the middle income, brackets find that it is the thing that is getting a tighter hold on their budget; and this government nowhere has been more neglectful of its responsibilities than here.

Mr. Speaker, I have another completely separate section. I wonder if I could move the adjournment of the debate at this point.

Mr. MacDonald moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.55 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, February 1, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, Holy Family separate school, Toronto; St. Veronica's separate school, Toronto; and in the west gallery, Grove public school, Peterborough.

I might also say we also have, in the Speaker's gallery, guests from the Fiji Islands, whom I had the pleasure to meet this morning. I would ask them to please stand.

Presenting petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the following reports:

1. The public accounts of the province of Ontario for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1966.
2. The provincial auditor's report, 1965-1966 for the province of Ontario.
3. The report on the audit for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1966 for the public service superannuation fund, and The Public Service Superannuation Act, part one.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I rise on a point of privilege. I wish to make a statement on the select committee on aging.

May I express our regrets that an account of what were alleged to be our final recommendations was printed today in the Toronto morning paper over the byline of Mr. John Dafoe. Obviously we never intended to have this tabled before the hon. members of the Legislature. It was planned to have a final meeting on our actual report tomorrow, February 2. Somehow, certain aspects of our ideas in draft form at this stage were read by

a press gallery representative. They were, I emphasize, merely in draft form.

Mr. Speaker, this is an affront to the privileges of this House. Under our terms of reference as set forth in the resolution of May 8, 1964 and under House rules, we of the select committee intend to request this reporter's presence to explain his breach of faith in the obtaining of a confidential draft document.

We do this reluctantly but, in order to preserve the trust placed in this and other select committees to make recommendations known to the House first, we feel we must.

All three parties represented, namely the hon. member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton), the hon. member for Hamilton East (Mr. Davison) and myself, concur.

Mr. Speaker, we shall shortly table the actual and final version of the report.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, if I may just make a comment on the question of privilege.

It occurred to me last night when I read the report in the *Globe and Mail* that there must have been a serious leakage of this information and yet it also occurs to me that in the many cases where this has happened in the past it has been the result of an enterprising reporter, rather than of any particularly nefarious procedures that the reporter had undertaken.

I understand, of course, that my colleague from Wellington South has concurred in the position taken by the hon. chairman of the committee. It does occur to me, however, that the select committee is perhaps stepping beyond its own bounds of authority when it undertakes to call this reporter before the committee itself. My understanding in the original motion that set it up, was that it has the power to act during the interval between sessions. Naturally it has become customary for finalization of reports that something other than this is possible.

It occurs to me, sir, that the affront is to this whole Legislature, since the report is to be delivered to the Legislature, and has been made public before it is complete and before we have had an opportunity to examine it

ourselves. I would say that I have a great deal of sympathy with the chairman of the committee, who has just spoken. It is an embarrassing situation for him and I know that he is anxious to find out just how this information became public but I should say to you, sir, that I have some misgivings as to the procedure that has been laid down for this matter.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Quite frankly I find myself of two or three minds, on this issue. As a former journalist I think it is the right of a journalist to seek out information that is available, and I cannot help but feel that if information is available the finger should not be pointed at the journalist, it should be pointed at the person who gave the information to him. Now I would concur with some of the observations of the leader of the Opposition, but I can quite understand the embarrassment of the committee, and I think the point to be ascertained is who gave the report to the journalist, not to pillory the journalist. Maybe that is the important question that some attention should be focused on.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the first I heard of this procedure the committee is going to follow was just at this moment when the chairman spoke. As I view the situation, surely it is a question of the conditions under which the journalist got the information. If he is sufficiently enterprising to get this information this is not the first time the conclusions of the committee have been forecast pretty accurately by the members of the press. I do not even know who is the reporter involved, but if it was given to him in confidence and he breached that confidence, then I would say the committee has some reason. But these are facts that I do not have and I presume that this is what will be threshed out before the committee.

We have, in relation to the leader of the Opposition's point, permitted committees—while I think perhaps they are not completely legally able to meet while the House is in session, nonetheless it has been the practice here to permit them to meet. I can recall chairing a committee myself and carrying out a whole series of meetings while the House was in session, and in recent years when the sessions have been so long, if the committees do not meet while the House is in session—

Clerk of the House: Any committee may meet during the session, sir; special permission is needed to sit between the sessions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I have been corrected. Apparently what this Legislature has given these committees is the right to sit between sessions and they may sit as they please during the session. But it used to be a matter of agreement that they would sit. Regardless of what the rule might have been in the past, when any committee did sit while the House was in session, this was a matter of prior agreement and some discussion before they did sit. In recent years perhaps it has been taken as a matter of course that they could conduct their deliberations while the House is in session, and I think this follows simply from the fact that we are now in session for a much longer period than we used to be. I think we can leave this to the committee to settle.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport, a copy of which has been given him, a two-part question:

(1) Has the Minister received a copy of the document tabled before the Commons justice committee yesterday listing defects in Canadian-built cars during the past five years?

(2) Is the Minister satisfied that Ontario owners of cars having these defects have been notified of them?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the member for Grey North has a not dissimilar question and I wonder if he would ask it now and let me deal with the two at the one time?

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): I thank the hon. Minister. My question is pretty well of the same nature. What steps, if any, does the Minister propose to take to investigate the literally tens of thousands of defects in Canadian-built cars that were listed in documents filed yesterday with the justice committee in the House of Commons by six Canadian car manufacturers—so far as the cars' defects occurred in cars built in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the report which was tabled before the Commons justice committee yesterday is the same report that was prepared by the motor vehicle manufacturers in Canada at my request at the end of last year, and submitted to me on December 28. I released it to the press with an accompanying statement on December 30. Answers to the questions of both the members for Yorkview and Grey North are contained completely in the remarks I made at the time I released that report. And for the information of the House,

I crave your indulgence now so that I may read that release.

Canadian vehicle manufacturers called back 780,609 new cars in the past four years, for re-inspection of parts ranging from brake tubes to ashtray lights. The six manufacturers listed details of their re-inspection programmes from the fall of 1962 to December 1, 1966.

The report said that "relatively few" of the cars recalled were found to require adjustments by dealers. In one programme to re-inspect 100,000 cars, for example, less than one per cent needed adjustment.

Despite the extreme viewpoints that are sometimes expressed in the current public debate on this subject, the recall system is—and has been for more than 30 years—a benefit to the safety of the motoring public. The total number of recalls is somewhat higher than I had expected, but other than that the report contains no surprises.

The recall system itself appears to be sound and worthwhile. The one question about it is whether more of the potentially hazardous defects that relate to safety could be spotted before the cars leave the factory. I am taking this up with the manufacturers.

The Department of Transport is reviewing the recall figures in detail as part of its continuing analysis of vehicle safety.

Approximately one out of four new cars was re-inspected in the course of 225 recall campaigns in the four-year period. Total new car sales during that time were just over 2.5 million and the recall figures include cars that were re-inspected more than once for different items.

Two key points emerge from a preliminary look at the figures: (1) Many of the defects could have affected the safety of the car, although in most cases the potential hazard appeared to be slight; (2) Manufacturers go to great lengths—more than in almost any other industry—to test their products and to correct deficiencies both before and after the cars leave the factory.

Of the total recalls, parts in the accelerator system were involved in more than 200,000, braking system parts in about 185,000, and steering system parts in 177,000. Other items involving a large number of cars included suspension systems, 25,000; hood locks, 14,000; fuel pumps, 10,000; carburetors, 12,000; wiring harness connectors, 20,000; and defects that could cause rattles, 16,000.

By model years, the total number of recalls was: 38,349 for 1963; 216,993 for 1964; 315,772 for 1965; 197,683 for 1966; and

11,812 up to December 1 for the 1967 model year. It is ironic that there has been so much public alarm about the recall system, which is long-established.

There has been an unfortunate tendency to take an extreme attitude toward the recall system—either to praise it lavishly, or to condemn the manufacturers for selling cars that are not perfect in every way.

It should be emphasized that defects in new cars are very rarely a cause of accidents. The cause, in the vast majority of cases, is the action of the driver. Ontario accident statistics indicate that defects of all kinds, in vehicles of all ages, are a contributing factor in a maximum of four per cent of accidents, with new vehicles being a small part of this percentage.

But motorists have a right to expect the best when they buy a new car and, since most Canadian cars are made in this province, The Ontario Department of Transport has a very active concern. The Department of Transport's first responsibility in this matter is to represent the motoring public and to assess the recall system with complete objectivity.

New cars are not perfect, and I am convinced they should be better and safer than they are. At the same time, I have found the manufacturers to be conscientious in their efforts and desirous of producing cars that are mechanically sound and safe.

The manufacturers have assured me that they will continue their recall system with vigour. It certainly is in the public interest that they do so. My department will give full support to all measures that can maintain and improve vehicle safety, including quality control in the factory, sound testing procedures, and a thorough recall system.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the hon. Minister a supplementary question?

I thank the Minister for his full, detailed report, but I wonder if he would elaborate on the statement he made. He was dealing with the manufacturers to see if a more adequate inspection service could be set up and maintained to guarantee that new cars do not have more defects than they need to have. Could he elaborate on that, whether some success has been met in that field?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, we have continuing communication with the motor vehicle manufacturers. The hon. member may be quite sure that we are discussing now with them the programme of safety equipment for the 1968 models. In this connection

I may say to the House that I think we are well ahead of what they have been doing in the United States, and we have been up until now.

As a specific answer to the supplementary question of the member for Yorkview, I point out that the manufacturers have told me since, on supplementary questions I have asked them with respect to the recall system, that they are pursuing this with diligence. In one case, in a very large recall, they followed up on every car that was involved in the recall until every last car had been checked.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for his statement, but in the United States they have put into effect that 20 new safety standard 1968 cars—

Mr. Speaker: The member is now starting to make a speech. The member must ask his supplementary question only. Does the member have a supplementary question? If so, will he ask the Minister if he will answer it?

Mr. Sargent: Is it not true then, that in the United States they have set 20 new safety standards for 1968 cars? How many and which of these new safety standards are you putting into effect in the 1968 cars in this province?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, as I intimated a moment ago, I think we are well ahead of the game.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Well that is plain nonsense.

Mr. Sargent: I did not ask the Minister that.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I will answer it specifically, if the member for Woodbine will just hold his lip.

There were 20 new items listed in the general services administration list that was approved by motor car manufacturers and the authorities in the United States for inclusion in the 1968 cars, with a four month deferral.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, sir, and what is the Minister doing about it?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I think that we already have 17 of those 20 items in the cars in Ontario today.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the hon. Minister of Mines, in a more placid atmosphere, perhaps?

In view of reports of inconsistencies in assays which appear to affect the prices of shares traded on the Toronto stock exchange, would the Minister inform the House whether any consideration is being given to the opening of a government assay office, in order that truly objective assays may be achieved?

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my friend, the hon. member for Sudbury, for this question.

I would like to say that there has been and is a government assay office in existence since June 7, 1898. It is at present located in the tower of the Whitney block at Queen's Park. A licence holder gets up to 18 free coupons for recording claims and filing work and the rates for assay are comparable to the assayers' association charges. We have a staff of 21 in our assay office in The Department of Mines. At one time, we tried unsuccessfully to operate an assay office in Port Arthur and closed it, much to my regret.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask in a supplementary way, whether any consideration has ever been given to require assays to be made at the government assay office? Really, I must say that the Minister may have inferred from the question that that was its intent, the requirement of assays at the government office, not the existence. I have been in that assay office, as the Minister's guest.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: That is right.

Mr. Sopha: But the point I wish to make and wish to ask the Minister, is whether any consideration is being given to make it mandatory that assays be had and achieved at the office?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: My answer to that, Mr. Speaker, would be that we do not like to take away the business from assayers in that business, in our economy. They have set-ups that cost them a lot of money in different parts of the province, and we do not like the government to step in and take all their business away. But I assure you that if there is any doubt in our minds as to the assay that has been given not being factual, we immediately check it and we will continue to do that.

I do not know what my answer would be to closing the private assay offices through the province and having the government take it all over. That is not the policy of this government. But I assure you that if we get any word at all about there being any question about assays we check them right away.

Mr. Sopha: There was a report in last night's Toronto *Daily Star* about two of them.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: But I imagine our men are checking on them right now.

An hon. member: The Minister imagines?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I have been told that.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister has a lively imagination.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Well, it is something to keep oneself in touch with what is being done.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: The Minister might read the *Toronto Daily Star* rather than make a smart answer.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I am factual in my answers, not smart.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, I have a four-point question for the hon. Provincial Secretary.

Will he advise the House, sir, whether or not Ohio officials are correct when they say that the estimates of smuggled liquor's value run as high as \$86 million a year, resulting in a \$17 million tax loss to that state?

Secondly, have the sales of government liquor stores in Essex county increased or decreased over the past two years?

Thirdly, have the liquor stores in that area noticed any increase in the amount of U.S. currency taken in during that same period?

Fourthly, what revenue has the provincial government lost, if any, in the last two years in the sale of duty-free liquor at stores along the United States border?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Speaker, it has not been possible to obtain all the information that would be necessary for an answer to this question, and with the member's permission, I would like to take it as notice.

Mr. Paterson: I might ask a supplementary question, which could be taken as notice.

Mr. Speaker: A supplementary question would not be in order until the first question is answered. I think the member had better wait until he gets the first answer, before he asks the supplementary.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister.

Since the closure of two gold mines in Geraldton will result in considerable unemployment directly affecting the lives of many people, what steps do the government plan to take, either to maintain mining opera-

tions or to assist displaced people if the mines do close?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the two mines involved in the question are Consolidated Mosher and McLeod Cockshutt Gold Mines Limited. One of these mines—there is only one mill, the ore from both mines is milled at McLeod Cockshutt—and I am told that there is little ore left in the McLeod Cockshutt mine. In other words, they have simply run out of ore.

As far as the other mine is concerned, Consolidated Mosher, there is ore there and representations have been made to Ottawa to see if additional assistance can be given to keep that mine open. I believe that officials of McLeod Cockshutt Mines are meeting today with Mr. Pepin, the federal Minister of Mines.

As you know, the support of the gold mining industry is the responsibility of the federal government.

The other information I have is that the closing down will be phased out over a period of nine months. In other words, these mines will not close immediately. We have some investigations in process about other mines, mines of a different type in the area that may get under way and take up the slack when these men are laid off. In addition to that, we will be working with what are now known as the Canada manpower centres—these are what we used to know as the national employment service—in order to see that the miners can be placed elsewhere. Also, we are working with the federal government to provide retraining for those who want it and, of course, these people will come under the federal government programme which provides grants for moving if they have to move.

The answer to this problem, of course, as far as Geraldton is concerned, is to see if we cannot get other mines working in that area so that the town itself will not suffer. I mean, you can always take the individuals concerned and retrain them and perhaps attempt to find employment for them some place else, but this does not help the merchants in the city and all the service industries and so on. Our efforts will be directed to solving this problem in terms of the community, the whole community of Geraldton, but these other programmes are available and will be used as far as the individual miners are concerned.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Would the Minister inform the House what consideration has been given by the Ontario water resources commission to the complaints by more than 200 cottage owners from the Thorah township cottage owners association regarding the location of the sewage lagoon by the commission on the east shore of Lake Simcoe for disposal of sewage from the village of Beaverton. Is any consideration being given to the relocation of this lagoon?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I am advised by the officials of the Ontario water resources commission that an information meeting was held by the commission on July 15, 1966, in the village of Beaverton, to explain the provincial sewage works project to the area residents. Although this is not a requirement of the legislation, the notice of the information meeting was advertised in the local press. Interested residents and township officials attending the meeting expressed no objection to the project. Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Eckler and the cottagers' association expressed opposition to the project. Following the consultant's investigation of an alternate site, it was concluded that the original location was more suitable. The commission is not considering relocation of the proposed lagoon.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben) asked the following question yesterday: Is the final report on provincial grants for roads in municipalities, which was discussed at the last session, ready? If so, when will it be tabled?

The answer is no, the final report has not been received.

The Minister, on March 3, 1966, explained to the House that in regard to disparity in road subsidy rates presently existing in Metropolitan Toronto, the matter was under study as announced by the hon. Prime Minister. It was further explained that the study would apply not only to Metropolitan Toronto, but to all urban municipalities in the province. While officials from five government departments are participating in the study, it has been quite evident that the final report and recommendations could not properly be completed until the report of the Ontario committee on taxation has been completed. The committee therefore recommended that, as an interim measure, the statement of the Prime Minister be implemented in respect of the metropolitan municipalities until such time as the entire subsidy system affecting the entire province can be examined in the

light of the report of the Ontario committee on taxation.

Mr. Sopha: How long, O Lord, do we have to wait?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Maybe a couple of years.

An hon. member: Not too long.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Economics and Development.

Would the Minister advise the House whether the Malvern property in the borough of Scarborough is to be used in the home ownership programme? If so, what consideration is being given to the supplying of municipal services to the land?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not going to thank the hon. member for asking that question today because I am suffering from the politicians' disease, laryngitis. However, these are short questions and I can give the member a short answer.

All the lands held by the federal-provincial partnership are being considered for use in the HOME plan. The Malvern project is now under study with reference to the services and we will be talking to the municipality about helping them put the services in there.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question: In view of the fact that it is pretty clearly indicated that services will not be available to Malvern for another five or seven years, when does the Minister expect there will be houses erected on the Malvern property?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Well, we do not quite agree with the member's statement of five or seven years. I would like to go back and point out that the Malvern planning committee was set up in the middle 50s; they were told then by Metro council that they could not get services for five or six years, or five years I should say. Then it was decided in 1965 that they could get services and that committee was reinstituted. We anticipate that the services can be in a lot sooner than we anticipated and we are working on that now.

Mr. Singer: When will there be houses there?

Hon. Mr. Randall: As soon as we get the services in. The member's guess is as good as mine. I have no magic wand.

Mr. Sopha: As soon as his laryngitis clears up.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Probably, yes.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Bracondale is absent today but he has asked me to put his question to the Attorney General.

In view of the strong statement of Metropolitan Toronto's chief coroner with regard to the conditions at Toronto's morgue, is this government prepared to assume its responsibilities in this matter and give Metro Toronto a 50 per cent grant toward the construction of a new building?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the question first of all implies and suggests there is a responsibility on this government to provide a morgue for the city of Toronto, or Metro Toronto, and that I must make clear is not the case. The responsibility for providing such facilities is the responsibility of the Metropolitan Toronto authorities themselves.

There is a responsibility, I think I would assert, on the provincial government to provide morgue facilities in the field of criminal investigations, police matters, autopsies and forensic science generally; and we have, as members of this House know, what is known as the Attorney General's laboratory, now known as the centre of forensic science.

Last September, by order-in-council, we appointed an advisory committee to study the expansion of those services. Included in the study was the possibility of relocation, enlargement, possible association with one or more of our universities. At the present moment, that advisory committee is studying the matter. We are seeking to secure the funds from the government to find a site, to make an enlarged area in the centre of forensic science.

My own view is that the government's responsibility would be to provide a centre of forensic science where all autopsy work, all police work for the whole province, including Metropolitan Toronto, would be done—that is, all the cases where there is necessity for doing that kind of work should be done in the centre of forensic science. This would leave for Metro the responsibility—which is its responsibility—to provide a facility for, perhaps, some coroners' inquests, some court space, some morgue facility; the usual morgue facilities where no criminal area is involved. That is the responsibility of Metropolitan Toronto. We are working on the larger problem and I think we will have an answer very

shortly on that. But to suggest that we should contribute 50 per cent, or any per cent, to Metropolitan Toronto for its responsibility, is an implication which I think should not be assumed or given.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: First order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, before turning to the broader issues of Confederation I would like to deal in some depth with a remaining question that was raised in the Speech from the Throne. It is of vital concern to the people of this province at the present time. I refer to the question of housing.

Mr. Speaker, Canada's housing programme, both public and private, has been a failure. There may be differences of opinion as to why or what to do about it, but there is agreement among all concerned that the housing programme has failed.

During World War II, Royal commission reports indicated that the backlog from inadequate construction during the depression and postponement of construction during the war was in the range of \$500,000 to \$750,000 in this country. It has become worse ever since. The 1961 census, for example, revealed 923,000 Canadian households lodged in broken-down, crowded, or unsanitary houses, or with their budgets strained to the limit, or running into debt in order to pay the rent. Since then the number of families that are physically or financially in distress over housing is estimated to run as high as 1.5 million. Moreover, at the present rate of construction in Canada, the situation is destined to become worse still.

In recent testimony before the joint Senate-Commons committee on prices in Ottawa, H. W. Hignett, president of the CMHC, estimated that our need now is for 170,000 housing units a year, and 200,000 by the year 1980. The average completions in the years 1961-1965 were 144,200; the peak in 1966 was 162,200, because of the big number of starts in 1965. The 1967 figure will be away down, by everybody's consent or acknowledgment. Ontario's share of these needs, on a straight 35 per cent of population ratio, is now approximately 60,000 a year. Because of

our exceptional shortage today, the need is even greater than that.

Mr. Speaker, the chief cause of today's housing slowdown is the federal Liberal government's tight-money policy. The Pearson administration is operating on an approach that is a generation or more out of date, in light of the experience of most western countries. Housing is being treated as an instrument of economic policy, rather than a social imperative. When the economy is overheated, housing construction is ruthlessly cut back, notwithstanding the current shortage or the mounting backlog. The nation's balance sheet and less essential construction takes precedence over the people's needs. It is a perfect illustration of what happens when a government is run like a business instead of a service to people.

The Liberals at Ottawa and the Tories at Queen's Park are still operating on the North American welfare approach to public housing. It singles out low-income tenants and hives them off in ghettos for the poor. In addition to this wrong approach there has been a grossly inadequate stock of public housing made available.

The European approach, in contrast, for a generation or more has been to treat housing as a public utility. Their housing programmes contain a big public sector providing shelter for persons in a broad income range, and not just the poor. Despite our electronic age, this idea has reached North American shores only recently, and is now struggling for acceptance in a continent where "free enterprise" holds sway.

Perhaps the most ironical feature of our housing policy is that as prices have risen in the postwar period, public moneys have increasingly been made available to those in the middle and higher income brackets, while a growing proportion of our population has been excluded from its benefits. In May, 1964 Hon. J. R. Nicholson stated that "Ninety per cent of the entire housing output associated with The National Housing Act has been provided for the middle and upper income classes".

As was pointed out by the Ontario association of housing authorities in their study entitled "Good Housing for Canadians", this inverted system of government activity has resulted in socialism for the rich and free enterprise for the poor.

That in brief, Mr. Speaker, is the Canadian housing story. It is a story of persistent failure, in which events have raced further and further ahead of the policymakers. It is

a story of callous indifference to a basic human need. As we narrow our focus from the national to the Ontario scene, the basic point to be remembered is that nowhere is that failure greater than here.

"Good Housing for Canadians" suggests that 4.5 per cent is a proper vacancy rate to allow for ease of adjustments. It is interesting to note that the U.S. vacancy rate in 1960 was 6 per cent; in Canada in 1951, 3.3 per cent; in Canada in 1961, 3.5 per cent. Today, Mr. Speaker, in Hamilton it is 1.4 per cent and in Toronto, 0.9 per cent. Nowhere in the nation is the housing crisis so critical. It is so critical that even this government is awakened to it and is in some form of action.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That takes a lot of awakening.

Mr. MacDonald: But is it a carefully planned and researched programme, or is it just another crisis programme whose first objective is to meet the needs of pre-election window dressing? The more one looks into the situation, the more one is driven to the latter conclusion.

A few weeks ago, for example, the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) captured the headlines with an announcement that the 1,600 acres of land in the Malvern block in Scarborough, which has been assembled since 1953, are going to be the site of a gigantic housing development. The thousands of people caught in the grip of our housing crisis were left to believe that relief would be available through vigorous government action. The fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker—and hon. members should take special note of this—this whole announcement was so hasty, and so politically inspired to meet the public outcry on the eve of an election, that it was made before the project had even been raised with the directors of the Ontario housing corporation.

Since then the OHC board has been handed the problem, and they have hired a firm of consultants to conduct a feasibility study of the basic requirements before the project can be proceeded with. Action is at least two or three years off. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I was interested in the brief exchange between the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) and the hon. Minister of Economics and Development. My colleague from Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) who is unavoidably absent this afternoon had a series of questions which the department asked him to withhold because it would take time to get the answers. They

are for details with regard to the Malvern project. The fact of the matter is that the government has not got the details.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): That is just your opinion.

Mr. MacDonald: No research work has been done. The Minister has handed it to the board of the Ontario housing corporation and the OHC within the last two or three weeks has established a feasibility study to find out how soon and in what way they can get those services in.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister has not got a project in Malvern and he knows it. Just an election gimmick—a headliner.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We certainly do.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister does not even have a feasibility study.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I invite the hon. Minister to ponder the point I have just made. He made the announcement before the project was referred to the OHC and only since he made the announcement are they now looking into it and making a feasibility study.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: If the Minister would like to deny that, I invite him in his good time to do so.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister is not helping his laryngitis a bit right now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, we are back to the old game that was dubbed years ago in the Legislature—and I believe it was by Mayor William Dennison, when he was a member of the Legislature—as housing by headline.

Mr. Bryden: That is what it is.

Mr. MacDonald: And as his very experience has shown it is a lot of headlines and very little housing.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Obviously I am touching a sore spot. There are a thousand and one questions that should be asked and need to be answered by this government, Mr. Speaker. I suspect the trouble is that, since it is a crash programme, and they have done virtually no

research, the answers will have to come off the top of their heads. In fact, the answers are not available. We have asked for some of them and were not able to get them.

But let us start with one of those questions: Where is the government going to get the land? And how long will it take to service it so that the housing programme can proceed?

For example, the government talks of 2,000 acres which OHC now holds. But 1,662 acres are in the unserviced Malvern holding, so that represents the lion's share of the present holdings.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: I will get out of your line of fire so that you can cope with that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I find that there are far too many interjections while the member is making his address. Perhaps the member making the address should not ask too many rhetorical questions, then we would not have so many interjections.

Mr. MacDonald: I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that my questions are not rhetorical. They are seeking answers. My problem is that I think they may treat them as rhetorical on the other side.

I was saying that the 1,662 acres in the Malvern unserviced holdings represent the lion's share of the present holdings. The amounts elsewhere are negligible, something less than 400 acres. The plans for Malvern include high-rise apartments and public housing, to say nothing of the need for schools, parks, roads, shopping centres. Hence only a fraction of that land will be available for single family lots. Moreover, the lack of basic services makes developments on this land some two or three years off.

But this is the point, Mr. Speaker. Even if all those 2,000 acres, including the 1,662 acres in Malvern were immediately available for single family dwellings, they represent only 40 per cent of the land needs for the 20,000 target of leased lots which the Minister has set for the first year, if we accept the Scarborough rule of thumb that one acre yields four building lots.

In other words, all your land is going to give you 40 per cent of the 20,000 objective. Now where is the other land that you are going to get?

Hon. Mr. Randall: How many houses did your party produce in Saskatchewan after 17 years of promising the abundant life?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I would like it, Mr. Speaker, when that laryngitis has worn off, if the Minister did not go off onto some cracks about Saskatchewan but answer the questions with regard to the situation in Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Much less than half of the land needed for the first year's target is already available.

And the next question, Mr. Speaker, is: Which is the first year—1967 or 1970? I am reminded of another little venture before the election in 1951—perhaps the Minister has forgotten about this—when the former Prime Minister, Leslie Frost—

Hon. Mr. Randall: In 1951, I was not here.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, let me bring the Minister up to date, because he is operating in the same pattern as of yesteryear.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): The hon. member is living in the same pattern, that is right.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: Leslie Frost got great headlines with an announcement of a government programme of 5,000 public housing units. Cute old fox that he was, Mr. Frost did not put any time limit on that programme—and 10 years later, they still have not met the objective of 5,000 units. Are we up to the same old game? And what is the first year that the Minister is talking about?

However, let us look a little deeper into this pre-election housing grab-bag which the government has offered. Consider, for example, the government's HOME programme. There is to be land leasing, land assembly, and other measures vaguely hinted at. Do they include streamlined building codes, development of new materials and methods, mass production, subsidized interest rates, all of which have proven to be effective answers to the housing problem in other jurisdictions?

In any case, through the HOME programme, the prices of individual or semi-detached homes are to be brought down so that the lower income levels can meet them. But by how much?

Under the present NHA approach, the income level needed is about \$7,800. The \$7,800 income level is premised on a person paying 27 per cent of income over 25 years for a \$15,000 loan. He can get up to \$18,000

under NHA on a 35-year term. The balance of the cost of the house must be met by down payment or second mortgages.

If the HOME programme cuts the cost of the house by one-third, through leasing rather than purchase of the land, this would bring the average Toronto home—which according to the Toronto *Daily Star* of December 8, is now at \$27,500—down to \$18,000 on the maximum allowed under NHA. All it does is cut out the down payment, or the need for a second mortgage. Admittedly, this will bring housing within the economic grasp of a larger group. So far, so good. But there is still a continuation of the old programme of socialism for the middle and upper income bracket, and free enterprise for the poor. It fails to meet the need of those whose housing situation may be the most desperate and who have the least capacity to meet them.

By cutting one-third off the income requirement to be able to make homes possible, let alone easy, that brings the qualifying income level down from \$7,800 to \$5,200. Income statistics indicate that this will exclude between 40 and 50 per cent of our people.

Mr. Bryden: The people whose need is greatest.

Mr. MacDonald: This brings us face to face with what has been learned in every country of the western world. A public, low rental housing programme is the only answer for that 40 to 50 per cent. It is all very well to continue to pay lip service to home ownership, the dream of North America, but as the CMHC has pointed out, and I emphasize this—they have pointed it out from their detailed study—this is simply not an economically feasible proposition for up to half of our people. And to set that as our major objective in the increasingly urbanized nature of Ontario society is simply to live in the past and miss the major needs of the present.

Let us face this basic fact. No other country has ever solved the housing problem without public housing on a large scale. In some other countries where this basic fact has been recognized, public housing runs as high as 30 per cent today. In Canada, it is one per cent. And may I just digress to draw attention, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that the Liberal Party at Ottawa, while making more money available through this rash of announcements from Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Sharp in the past week, is operating in the same old pattern—making money available for those who can qualify under NHA, for the middle and upper income groups. They are still operating on the proposition of socialism

for the middle and upper income groups and free enterprise for the poor.

Hon. Mr. Randall: What countries have 30 per cent of public housing?

Mr. MacDonald: Offhand, I cannot tell you, but I can certainly get it. In European countries, Sweden, for example—

Hon. Mr. Randall: Thousands are leaving as fast as they can get out of the socialist countries.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: This childish bit of chatter about people leaving socialist countries. They are leaving for other economic reasons and not because of socialism. Indeed, they have been leaving more quickly since the Liberals got in in Saskatchewan than they were when we were in power.

In brief, Mr. Speaker, with all its grandiose vague new promises, at best the government's new housing programme may — and I emphasize may — meet the housing needs of the middle and upper income groups. If it helps the middle income groups who have been priced out of NHA by skyrocketing interest rates and building costs, we do not object to that. What we do object to is the attempt to pass this policy off by Madison Avenue techniques as an answer to the housing crisis at the present time.

Mr. Bryden: Shameful deception.

Mr. MacDonald: Let me conclude with more of the 1,001 questions that need to be answered.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): What is the point the hon. member is trying to make?

Mr. Bryden: It would be hopeless to explain it to the member.

Mr. MacDonald: Where in this programme is the special need of elderly people being met? If I may refer to that embarrassing leak of the report of the committee on the aged, one of the things it emphasizes is the desperate need for meeting the housing needs of the elderly people. Where in this programme that the government is presenting is there any facing up to this problem? "Good housing for Canadians" reminds us that 35 per cent of elderly families, and 50 per cent of elderly single people, are experiencing difficulty in achieving good housing at reasonable costs. Of these, 75 to 80 per cent are having difficulty due to high costs and the remainder due to physically unsatisfactory dwellings.

With regard to the housing queue, how many applications are on file for low income rental housing in Ontario? In Metropolitan Toronto at December 31, 1966, there were 5,654 applications for public housing and 3,760 for senior citizen housing on hand. And many more citizens in need of housing probably did not even consider applying because they know there is no need, there is nothing available.

With regard to the housing stock, most of the OHC effort to date has been in buying up existing houses, so that it represents no solution to the overall housing problem. In fact, it adds to the problem by bidding up prices and rents. How many new units has the OHC got under construction or planned?

On the cost in the land lease proposal, are the land costs to be amortized over 25, 50 or 100 years? Will there be any element of subsidy in it? If so, who picks up the difference? Further, has Ontario got any firm commitment from CMHC or the federal government that they will share any such subsidy, or any subsidies for servicing?

On qualifications, will anyone, even the well-to-do, be able to qualify for land lease? If the number of lots available is limited, some sort of rationing system must be instituted.

Finally, on cost pressures, if OHC has to buy up serviced land or developer-assembled land, will its activities simply increase the price of land in areas of shortage? Is any consideration being given to cutting out land speculation gains by measures such as an unearned increment tax?

Mr. Speaker, with answers to these and many more questions it will be possible to assess more accurately what real promise there is in the government's hastily conceived and politically garnished housing programme that was given to us last week.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I take it the hon. leader is still against housing for the modest income people?

Mr. Bryden: We are against the government's totally inadequate programme; that is what we are against.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, we must ask how the Throne Speech meets the basic criterion of improving the quality of life for Ontario's people.

I have not time to discuss this matter in all its ramifications; my colleagues will do so in later speeches, but I would like to mention briefly the field of health. For not only must we provide the economic underpinning

by which conditions are equalized and individual opportunities are maximized; we must be equally concerned about the physical health of our people.

The Prime Minister implied, indeed he stated, at the federal-provincial conference last fall that his government is now committed to the proposition of public health insurance. Now, that is an achievement, it has taken four years to back into that. As a party which for long, and alone, pressed for genuine medicare, we welcome that commitment, and we shall seek its immediate translation into reality.

Much more remains to be done in the field of hospital construction; there is in some areas still a critical need for active treatment centres. In addition we must make more rational, less expensive, use of chronic hospitals and nursing homes. As I pointed out at some length in this House last year, proper utilization of these facilities can lead to a saving of one dollar for every dollar currently being spent by OHSC.

But perhaps the most important thing, Mr. Speaker, we must move boldly into the whole field of preventive public health. It is this area which can contribute most to improving the overall quality of life for the people of this province.

In this area we note the long overdue move of the government into treatment for emotionally disturbed children. This can bring relief and new hope to countless thousands of children and their families and it is in large measure the result of the courage and tenacious hard work of the hon. member for Scarborough West, as I asserted yesterday without any fear of contradiction.

The Throne Speech announces that "a new concept for local health services has been developed". We shall wait anxiously for details on this. Up to now, the fragmented, leaderless and under-financed nature of our public health programmes has been a major obstacle in the way of improving Ontario's quality of life.

I hope this new concept will include a comprehensive home care service programme. I hope it will include multi-phasic screening clinics for our whole population. I hope it will include a coordinated programme of rehabilitative services. I hope it will include more adequate provision of psycho-social programmes like alcohol and drug addiction treatment.

The need for daring use of modern techniques is as vital in public health as it is in industry, education or medicine itself. We

shall insist on nothing less from the government's so-called programme for the people.

Now, Mr. Speaker, having dealt with issues that were raised in the Throne Speech, I want to turn to the broader question of Confederation, in other words from issues that are more purely of Ontario interest to those of Ontario and national interest.

I have in the past acknowledged the Prime Minister's contribution in establishing a basically sympathetic and understanding atmosphere in our relations with French Canada. Because of the historic rôle of Ontario and Quebec in Confederation, and the proportion of the Canadian family which they represent, these cordial relationships are the prerequisite for any successful reshaping of our federal structure to cope with the problems of today and tomorrow.

My complaint has been that, having established this more understanding relationship, Ontario has not given the leadership to exploit the opportunities which it offered in resolving more of the tensions which plague Confederation at this time. For that reason, my original reaction was to welcome the government's proposal to convene a Confederation of tomorrow conference, but I did so with my fingers crossed because of its obvious breach of normal protocol.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I was never enthused at all.

Mr. MacDonald: Apparently my apprehensions were well founded. It now appears that the federal government is not going to accept the invitation, though their ultimate rejection is for the moment couched as a request for more information.

Mr. Sopha: Well, the member would not expect them to accept it, would he really?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, if I can sort out my complex reactions, I would like to attempt to explain them.

For some years, my chief complaint with regard to our efforts in strengthening Canadian Confederation, and to reshape it for coping with the problems of our second century, has been over the rather secretive way in which it was all being done.

Provincially, we have an advisory committee on Confederation which insists on operating behind closed doors. I am now persuaded that this is the way the members of that committee want to operate, but I regret it nonetheless. It simply means that they have not been able to give any impetus to the much-needed public discussion of the

vital issues involved; and in the absence of any public forum such as has been established by the Quebec Legislature, there has been a crippling lack of leadership and initiative in the public debate.

At the federal level, conferences are closed to the press and the public so all that comes from them are decisions, or the usual bland press releases. The net result is that the Canadian people have, for the most part, been excluded from the discussions which are shaping the future of our nation.

In French Canada there has been a lively public debate. In English Canada there has been tragically little, with too much of it being a purely negative reaction to Quebec development. As a result, the dialogue between our two founding peoples has not been very constructive.

I have suggested that, because of her historic position in Canadian Confederation, Ontario can play the role of leader and spokesman for English-speaking Canada. We have not done that. The result, in part because of our failure, is that there is a tendency for English Canada to be going off in nine different directions. Since we do not know what we want as a nation, it is all the more difficult to sit down with French Canada and discuss our common future when generally speaking, they have a much more definite idea of what they want.

My initial reaction, therefore, to the government's proposal for a Confederation of tomorrow conference was that it might fill this gap. As I understand it, it was conceived as an opportunity to examine the areas of agreement and disagreement, to do so in a more relaxed atmosphere where decisions did not have to be made, and conceivably to do so in a manner which would give the Canadian people, at long last, some feeling of participation in the process of reshaping our nation.

It now becomes clear that the government's proposal was fatally ill-conceived and ill-prepared. Since it first became public as a programmatic item in a political document, the Throne Speech, inevitably it was regarded as just another of the political gimmicks with which the government is attempting to impress the electorate. It had all the appearance of attempting to make political capital out of the continuing crisis in Confederation.

If the government's motivation was that of genuine concern to assist in bringing the Canadian family together for a family chat, and not just for political kudos on the eve of an election, it would have seemed elementary that the provinces, and particu-

larly the federal government, should have been sounded out in advance. Summit meetings are never held without careful preparation; that is the first law of diplomacy, and in Canadian federal-provincial relations diplomacy is a very important factor. By failing to do that preparatory work, particularly with the federal government, the government was asking for precisely the reaction it got from Ottawa. Now, Mr. Speaker, having scolded the provincial government for mishandling a project through which it was finally going to give more creative leadership in the Confederation issue, or so it thought, I feel that the federal government is also open to some criticism for its churlish reaction. A very useful purpose could be served by such a conference, with or without the federal government. A more imaginative reaction might have been to seize the opportunity which such a gathering offered to ease some of the tensions at this time, and thereby pave the way for later federally-sponsored, decision-making conferences.

I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the only possibility now open is for an interprovincial conference. If so, I would strongly suggest that Ontario avoid the appearance of seeking political advantage once again by joining with Quebec in issuing the invitations. The purpose of such a conference would be to clarify what could be done by the provinces to create a more favourable atmosphere for subsequent decision-making federal-provincial conferences. The Prime Minister of Canada could be informed, as a matter of courtesy, that such was its purpose, and that there was no attempt being made to invade the federal jurisdiction.

Mr. Sopha: He wants the provincial war lords to meet.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member's comment is a little off the mark—

Mr. Sopha: That is what the *Winnipeg Free Press* calls them—the provincial war lords.

Mr. MacDonald: —in that as far back as 1867 the provincial leaders used to get together. I acknowledge that the Prime Minister of the day thought that this was a ganging-up process. Furthermore, all the Premiers are today involved in an inter-provincial gathering periodically that was made at the suggestion of a leading Liberal by the name of Jean Lesage.

Mr. Sopha: The first conference was called by the federal government, 1887.

Mr. Bryden: It was not called by the federal government.

Mr. MacDonald: The whole episode, Mr. Speaker, is one to be viewed more in sorrow than in anger. But perhaps there is a lesson to be learned from it.

I remind the Prime Minister once again that when this nation was founded through a lengthy series of negotiations leading to 1867, it was possible for common national interests to override partisanship in good part because all political parties were involved. I hope that when conferences such as the government plan are held, no matter who convenes them, the delegations from each province and the federal government will include representatives of all parties.

This nation belongs to all of us, not just to those who happen to hold office at the present time. The danger of partisan reaction and debate are much less if all are given an opportunity to participate. In any family gathering to consider family problems, success is more likely to be achieved if all members of the political family are included, and none excluded.

But, Mr. Speaker, let me move on from this aspect of it. The warp and woof of Canadian Confederation lies in the fiscal relationships between the federal government and the provinces. It has always been so, and I suspect it always will. With the re-negotiations of the federal-provincial agreements for a two-year period beyond March 31, we have bought some time to absorb the contents of the long delayed Carter and Smith reports, to work out a more equitable tax structure and to achieve a more effective matching of sources of revenue to governmental responsibility at the federal, provincial and municipal levels.

During these two years there will be a vital need for Ontario's leadership in this critical area. This past year the official line of the government, in light of the tax structure committee projections of future deficits and surpluses, at the various levels of government, has been that the surpluses at the federal level should be channelled to the provincial and municipal levels in order to relieve their deficit spending. But more recent assessments suggest that federal surpluses are not substantial enough to take care of the expanding responsibilities of government to develop a better quality of life for all Canadians, as well as to accept their responsibility for helping underdeveloped nations.

Consequently the problem has become not so much one of redirecting federal surpluses to offset provincial and municipal deficits as of choosing between federal and provincial programme priorities and between federal and provincial tax increases.

Federal Minister Sharp's position at the recent federal-provincial conference has been described as "federal opting out". His advice, gratuitously given, was: "Go raise your own taxes".

This attitude will inevitably result in a bias in favour of federal priorities because the federal government has more elastic taxes at its command and because projections indicate that continuation of existing programmes will exert less pressure on future federal revenues than on provincial and municipal revenues. Yet, from the point of view of the people of Canada, Mr. Speaker, provincial and municipal priorities may be of paramount importance and new federal programmes of only marginal value.

The irresponsible attitude of the federal government has grave implications both for national unity and economic growth. It will be increasingly difficult for minimum national standards of services to be provided for all Canadians if the federal government does not channel more revenue to the provinces and the municipalities. Moreover, national fiscal policy, with all governments moving in concert, is essential for growth.

The Ontario government, representing the most populous and wealthiest province, must give leadership in this field. They must do so in the interests of developing a strong economy and reducing regional disparities, without which economic independence is impossible.

Ontario must work for the development of better federal-provincial machinery for developing an integrated fiscal policy. It must convince Ottawa that the onus for raising taxes, when it is deemed desirable to channel a greater proportion of the national product to badly needed social capital, must be shared by all levels of government, and done in concert with a view to the economic consequences. This is the statesmanlike approach, and it will contribute more to Canadian unity and development than any number of conferences on Confederation.

Now, until such time as the federal government accepts joint fiscal planning, I recognize that the Ontario government, faced with the expanding aspirations of its people, has a revenue problem which can be resolved in one of three ways.

First, we can cut back in existing or proposed programmes and therefore not create the problem in the first place. The Prime Minister made a statement following the federal-provincial conference last fall suggesting that he was leaning in that direction. If so, then it is the choice of an old-fashioned government without a full appreciation of the so-called seed-wheat nature of expenditures in the field of education, health, rehabilitation of people and research. Cutbacks in these fields will only reduce the productivity of the people of Ontario. They will be self-defeating and make the revenue problem worse. The New Democratic Party is opposed to any such cutbacks and will fight them strenuously, if and when they ever appear in this House.

The second alternative is to raise taxes. In our view, any such action should be postponed until the Carter and Smith reports on taxation have been received and studied. There is an urgent need to remove the gross inequities of our present tax structure before attempting to raise more revenues.

This leaves the other alternative of deficit financing for the short period until the Carter and Smith reports are received. In our view, it is the preferable course for maintaining our economic momentum.

There is one public image that the Tory party values above all others. Legions of public relations men toil to promote it; that the Tories are the only party careful about how they spend the taxpayers' money. No image is more contrived. This coming year, the government is contemplating a deficit that will run into tens, if not hundreds of millions of dollars. They are engaged in deficit financing—planned or unplanned, I am not sure which—for the last ten years.

Though they spend public money to persuade the public otherwise, the Tories have to face up to deficits like any other party. But Mr. Speaker, deficits have not hindered economic growth in Ontario. They have helped to sustain it in many instances. Deficit financing, far from bankrupting us as many Tory politicians fear, is especially appropriate to combating a period of slow economic activity, and we may be heading into that very kind of activity at the present time.

From that I want to move into a related and important field, which is perhaps the storm centre of public discussion in this country today, at the federal level, namely the question of continentalism versus nationalism and examine it with a view to Ontario's role in building Canada.

To build a strong, independent Canada we must be able to shape our economy in the interests of our national goals. We are frequently being reminded of this by events. Right now, for example, is the matter of Citibank's purchase of the Mercantile Bank of Canada. This transaction was originally undertaken against the advice of the Canadian government. Now that the government is taking concrete steps to prevent Canadian banks falling under foreign ownership, retaliatory legislation is mooted in the United States. It is critically important that Canada's banking system remain Canadian-owned and controlled. On that, I am convinced there is overwhelming majority view in Canada. But, Mr. Speaker, it is equally important that our great manufacturing, extractive and industrial complexes maintain at least a predominantly Canadian complexion.

It is here we find the perilous inconsistency of the federal government, which digs in its heels on the Citibank issue, but refuses to acknowledge a similar policy over the broad front.

Mr. Sopha: Well what about the Canada development corporation?

Mr. MacDonald: Some Ottawa Liberals, such as Walter Gordon, pose as the champions of nationalism. But Walter Gordon is not so much an apostle of Canadianism as the champion of half measures which will merely make the present system more rigid. His record, both in and out of the government, provides the illusion of doing something which merely lulls the public into believing that the problem has been solved, when in fact little or nothing has been done.

Mr. Sopha: He has written a book.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, he has written a book.

Mr. Sopha: He made lots of money out of it.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, he wrote a Royal commission report. He went into the Cabinet and he did nothing. He wrote a book and he is back into the Cabinet and—

Mr. Bryden: He wrote another book and it made no more sense than the first one.

Mr. MacDonald: The important thing, Mr. Speaker—I am sorry I have got my Liberal friends to the right so exercised by this, but I want to return to my friends to the right across the floor.

Mr. Sopha: When the member talks nonsense—

Mr. MacDonald: Meanwhile the government and the Liberal Party of Canada pursue continentalism with determination and zeal, notwithstanding their claims to be preserving Canadian integrity.

The same, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): Who wrote it?

Mr. MacDonald: I wrote it. And I am saying it too. I am not Charlie McCarthy for anybody.

Mr. Sopha: You are a long way from J. S. Woodsworth.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, I do not want this next point to be missed, because it is rather important. We have talked about the responsibility at Ottawa, but the same, Mr. Speaker, is true of the government of the province of Ontario—a point that is too often lost in the rhetoric of nationalism which the Tories keep repeating. The hon. Minister of Economics and Development openly champions the branch plant economic development. This is patently a policy stemming from a continentalist approach. The Minister here finds common cause with Mr. Sharp and Mr. Winters, as together they choose what seems to them the easy way to economic progress, barely stopping to count the cost in future economic or political terms. Indeed, the hon. Minister could quite comfortably change places with either of the federal gentlemen, and the policies of the two governments would go on quite unchanged.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Why does the member not give us some of his Saskatchewan suggestions for creating industrial plants?

Mr. MacDonald: Why do you not think about Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Why not about Saskatchewan?

Mr. MacDonald: You know, Mr. Speaker, I always know when the Minister has not got an answer because he flees to Saskatchewan immediately.

Mr. Bryden: That is right, every time.

Mr. MacDonald: Just get back to Ontario and deal with the problems he is sitting around and doing nothing about.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We are successful here.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I want to associate the policies of the Minister and his government quite directly with this problem,

for economic nationalism and continentalism are issues which have as great relevance to the provincial as to the federal level.

Today, the provinces are awakening to the full realization of their constitutional power. Today they are assuming their responsibility for giving leadership in economic decision making. Their role is as important as Ottawa's in building an independent Canada. And Ontario, which generates 40 per cent of the personal income and 50 per cent of the corporate profits of our country, has perhaps the heaviest responsibility of any province.

We cannot long remain independent in Canada without a strong economy. So, policies contributing to economic growth, increased productivity, and stable prices are a vital part of any programme for keeping decision-making powers in our hands. These policies can range from providing a modern, efficient physical framework of utilities and transportation, to a space age educational system, and to making full use of new developments in science and technology.

The choice of a proper mix of policies and priorities inevitably requires intelligent planning. Haphazard decision-making, whether in the Cabinet chambers of Queen's Park, or the boardrooms of Toronto and New York, is no longer good enough. The economy can be reshaped more easily by altering the pattern of future growth than by trying to reverse past decisions. Some people are trying to buy Canada back. What we need to do is to build Canada forward.

This is not accomplished by expanding our scarce reserves of capital on purchasing existing concerns, the kind of thing that Walter Gordon was pulling off in the Canadian development corporation. It is achieved by developing new industries, new manufacturing and new resources.

Now what role can Ontario play in this task, Mr. Speaker? I suggest a major one, and I want to underline it to the House.

First, we must build the infra-structure, the network of energy sources, transportation, modern power, water and pipeline grids. This is as important to the wellbeing of the industry and commerce as the modernization of plant and equipment; and, incidentally, I come back to a point of very current wide discussion in Canada, namely the proposition of whether or not this second pipeline across Canada is going to remain in the country or go into the United States.

I note once again, the silence of this government on the issue—the silence, if not the

double-talk—with the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) implying that he was going along with the U.S. routing last year, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) opposing it for political purposes in his home town of Timmins. That is not good enough. The government should be speaking on this issue, because it is vital, not only to the history of Canada and to the economy of Canada, but the history and the economy of the province of Ontario.

At the same time, though we cannot ignore the advantages of interconnections in these fields on a continental basis, a strong government must control and regulate them to ensure continued independence of action. We cannot allow, for example, such incidents as the automatically triggered power blackout of November, 1965, to recur.

Second, we must diversify. Ontario is still exporting a large proportion of its natural resources in a raw or semi-finished state. We must develop industries here which will undertake additional processing of our materials.

Third, we need to specialize, and rationalize. Today we are engaged in active promotion of branch plants. In most cases these are subsidiaries of American parent corporations. Our great reliance on a branch-plant economy can lead only to certain consequences. It leads to inefficiency. A number of relatively small scale units, producing for our limited domestic market, means high costs. In some cases the branch is prevented from moving into the foreign markets because of the policies of the parent. Thus a predominantly branch-plant economy does not provide us with the strong competitive capacity we need to survive and expand.

Moreover, basic research, design and product innovation tends to take place at the parent rather than the branch level. Native Canadian business initiative is not thereby fostered; rather we encourage the brain drain of talent away from this country. And it is no answer to suggest that American subsidiaries in Canada do as much research as Canadian counterparts. For the problem is we are not doing enough total research within our country and we will not get more by extending the branch plant sprawl.

It can lead to a serious loss of economic freedom of action. Major decisions affecting the branches will necessarily be made by the parent corporation in its own interests, not the interests of Ontario. That is the way business works. This inversion of priorities becomes aggravated when subsidiaries are sub-

ject to economic guidelines laid down in Washington. And it is not too extreme to suggest that as branch plant development eats away at economic independence, it poses a growing, if contingent, threat to our power of political decision-making.

It is for all these reasons that we must move away from the branch plant set-up. To obtain the advantages of long runs and a distinctive product for export, we must promote specialization. We must determine which products best lend themselves to this and then provide incentive and assistance. Active policies of rationalization could include the formation of holding companies to gather together many small companies producing the same product, consolidate and streamline them.

Fourth, Mr. Speaker, we cannot keep in the forefront of economic progress without harnessing modern science and technology for our industry. We must expand the Sheridan Park research project, assist industry elsewhere with research funds and know-how, and develop a research centre of the calibre and focus of the Massachusetts institute of technology.

Fifth, we must develop new corporate structures. Vast amounts of capital are required for new ventures, especially in the resource and transportation field. Combine this with the growing feeling that big corporate enterprises should be more responsive to overall social and economic goals and more accountable to the public and you end up with the suggestion that industry-government complexes may be the most important appropriate instrument for the mixed economy. European countries have pioneered in this field with a considerable degree of success. Ontario should be ready to adopt such new techniques if they promise speedier development of our resources infra-structure.

Sixth, the Ontario development corporation must do more than prop up failing industries, or operate on the periphery of our problem. It will fit properly into the pattern of new corporate instruments only when it becomes a mobilizer of capital and direct investment in those areas which the provincial economic priorities determine to be most important at any given time.

Seventh, tourism and recreation are two fields of great potential growth for Ontario. Their stimulation will not only add in a big way to economic activity, it will develop a pride in Ontario and help nurture a sense of Canadian identity.

Eighth, no economic plan for Ontario can ignore the need for balanced regional growth.

It is a need stemming from economic considerations and it is a need to overcome inequities of opportunity which lead some parts of our province to feel that they do not share fairly in our province's growth. For a while the government appeared to be recognizing this. They began to support the regional development councils. But now it seems that the government is satisfied that the preposterously inadequate sum of \$1,000,000 will stimulate regional development in Ontario.

Meanwhile, Mr. Speaker, as the government heads back to the drawingboard to come up with a new economic strategy, may I take this opportunity to suggest that a full-scale commitment to the concept of regional development planning, with the funds and technical expertise to back it up, is a prerequisite to the development of any overall economic plan for this province. Regional centres of growth must be developed. They should provide a favourable atmosphere for location of industry by such means as industrial parks, good municipal services and a well trained labour force. They must also become centres where as many as possible of the amenities of the large metropolitan areas are made available. It goes without saying that the regions themselves must be fully involved in the choice of such centres of growth.

Meanwhile, the government would do well to recognize that such regional development is not assisted by further penetration of American subsidiaries. Their interests are clearly not to develop our slow-growth areas. They choose to locate in and around Toronto and in southwestern Ontario. This means that the central, northern and eastern parts of the province fall further and further behind, and they will not be mollified by bland assurances from their local representatives that the government is looking after things.

Clearly, the government is not looking after things, Mr. Speaker. They admit as much when they scrap their old policies and go back to the drawing boards. This time, let them think through fully the implications of the economic pattern they are fostering in Ontario, and let them present to the Legislature a programme whose clear objective is to build a stronger and a richer Ontario, owned and operated by the people of Ontario.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to turn to consider the amendment that is before the House. I find it inconceivable that any amendment to this address in reply to the Throne Speech should make no mention at

all of housing. It is indicative of both old parties that, even under the pressure of the present crisis, the government should come up with no answer to the basic need for public housing to meet the needs of the lower half of the income scale, and that the Liberal Party should be completely silent on the issue in their amendment.

But housing is only one of many serious inadequacies in the government's programme which fails to grapple with the problem of improving the quality of life now possible in our affluent society. That very civilized and thoughtful American, John Kenneth Galbraith has written that the surest way to create a better, richer community is to increase the supply of public goods—public goods, not private goods.

Public goods are those things built and maintained by the community for the use of all its citizens. They include schools, highways, hospitals, airports, concert halls, libraries, conservation areas, subways and the like. Private enterprise will not provide them. They are not profit-making ventures. Therefore they become the responsibility of government at all levels.

But public goods are not only tangible things. They consist also of plans and designs to achieve basic national and community goals. They range from public housing, to medicare, to regional development. Buildings and programmes and services in the public domain lie at the core of our aim to improve the quality of life in Ontario. They are central to any meaningful programme for people.

The people of Ontario seek from this Legislature at least this much: that we work to shape the overall environment in which our total wealth is produced; that we accept a profound commitment to the proposition that all men have an equal opportunity to share fully in that wealth; and that we translate that commitment into reality by providing the framework of economic and social conditions by which equal opportunity becomes a fact, and not merely a slogan.

For most of this century, Mr. Speaker, led by social democratic parties and ultimately accepted by all, governments have worked toward the construction of a welfare system in which those in need would not be holding the deficit. Though this essentially piecemeal categorical approach to welfare assistance is by no means yet complete, already the changing times have led us to recognize its inadequacy. Increasingly we are led to the criterion or to the conviction that there must be a guaranteed annual income which will assure everyone of life's basic needs without

resorting to degrading means tests of various kinds.

Our challenge now, Mr. Speaker, is to look beyond the welfare state to a society whose economy is planned to produce the necessary wealth to meet everyone's needs — to a society so ordered that those needs will be met in the simplest, freest and most dignified way possible. These goals can be realized but only through the leadership of government on behalf of society as a whole. The development of the public side of our social and economic environment is the way we can achieve the loftiest goals of this Legislature. Though we may differ in approaches we surely can unite on this, Canada's Centennial and our own provincial 175th birthday, in our determination to build for, and on behalf of, the people of Ontario, a triplex structure of goods, services and programmes which will ensure that Ontario grows and prospers and that all her people will share fairly and fully in her future.

To that end I move, seconded by Mr. Bryden,

That the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, now before the House, be further amended by adding thereto the following:

And, above all, this House regrets the government has failed to state a firm commitment to make genuine equality of opportunity a reality for all the people of Ontario, and to that end has not

(1) developed a public housing programme which alone can effectively meet the housing needs of most of the people of Ontario;

(2) implement a comprehensive programme of regional economic development, with funds and technical assistance sufficient to render such programmes truly effective;

(3) taken measures to ensure that the province's economy is developed to the fullest extent possible under Canadian ownership and control;

(4) shown any understanding that essential to the elimination of poverty is a guaranteed annual income which will replace categorical welfare programmes and ensure that all citizens of this province enjoy the basic amenities of life.

Hon. J. P. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, may I, in entering this debate offer my congratulations to you in the time-honoured and perhaps time-hallowed tradition? I would like

to say that it is not merely a form as far as I am concerned. I think that the leaders of all three parties feel the same way that perhaps we don't always agree 100 per cent with your rulings. On the other hand we are all convinced that they are made in a fair and impartial manner. With some of the alterations, sir, that we have been able to make in procedures in the House under your guidance, with your concurrence and with the approach you have taken in running the affairs of this House, I for one find it probably a more efficient place than I have known it in other times and certainly a pleasant place in which to spend the many long hours that we do spend here.

I would like also to offer my congratulations to the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and the member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) who moved and seconded the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I will not go into any further details about the member for Kenora, other than to offer him once again my congratulations. We dealt with this matter I thought in a pretty full and efficient manner on opening day.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) upon his elevation to the leadership of his party, and might say he had an easier time getting there than I did. Though he went through conventions, this last one looked like sort of a canter to me; a pretty friendly gathering.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): It was handed to the hon. Prime Minister on a plate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well that's just indicative of the level of the information the member for Essex North has. That just illustrates how much he knows about these matters.

Mr. Reaume: It was pretty well rigged.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He is probably the only person in Ontario who would be so ill-informed as to make a statement such as that.

In any event, as I look at the front bench over there, it seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the leader of the Opposition has not much to offer to the people of Ontario.

If the rumours I hear are correct—I do not know whether you think all the rumours that float around here just come from this side of the House—but we hear some amazing stories. It seems that the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) is on his way to Ottawa, if he can

make it, and certainly he is the leading apologist for the federal party in this House.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): How about the Prime Minister?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I can tell the hon. member for Grey North that I have made my position very clear. It perhaps does not suit some people's purpose to accept what I have said. I have said that I am not interested in running for the leadership of my own party federally and I can assure you, and in this forum I can assure the people of Ontario, that I would consider it a very immoral and wrong thing if I were to present myself for election in this province if I had any such idea in mind.

So once again under the stimulus of the brilliant questions from the member for Grey North, I have been able to set the records clear.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): That's what George Drew said.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: However I will go on with my analysis from the front bench here because I have a feeling that the leader of the Opposition is going to end up with a pretty thin group and I wonder what he is going to offer to the people of the province. The two men on his left are going, and now as we start working on his right, I think the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) probably will be around and will offer himself for election. For a while I thought we were going to get the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher), but anyway my rumour mill tells me that he will not be around. I hear that the hon. member for Essex South is not going to run again—

An hon. member: Oh, he has changed his man now.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Excuse me, Essex North. I hear rumours that he is not going to run again.

An hon. member: Do you want to bet?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, no, I do not want to bet. However, these are the rumours I hear.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): He listens to too many.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is very interesting to speculate on what is going to be left over there.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member may have a point there too, but I have not heard any rumours about the hon. member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton) so we will not comment upon his position. But I rather doubt that the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson) will be back and in this regard I would just like to say how sorry we are that for reasons of health his participation in the political affairs of the province will be considerably lessened and we on this side of the House wish for him a complete, a full and very rapid recovery.

Applause.

I am not finished yet. We will go up into the back row. I read in the weekend paper that the hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Gordon) is not going to run again.

Mr. Nixon: After 20 years of great service.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: After 20 years of great service, indeed. And I would congratulate him on the years of service he has had here.

And then I have heard a rumour too—I do not know how accurate this one is—but I heard a rumour that the man who was charged with the responsibility of organizing or re-organizing this party in Ontario, the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Taylor) that there were some doubts that he was going to run again. Now I would like confirmation if you choose to give it to me, but in any event it begins to look like a kind of pockmarked group. I mean there are a lot of holes in it, a lot of people over there who do not seem to have much zest for the jobs they have. So, I just say to the leader of the Opposition, "I congratulate you on your elevation to this job." I hope he will be able to fill all these vacancies with people.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): We are going to fill all those seats over there.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I have been standing here listening to that for quite a few years. In that regard I do not want anybody on this side of the House to get unduly worried about these surveys which are being produced right, left and centre. I think the one published in the *Toronto Daily Star* was what—120 people? I think it was taken at the Liberal convention, but they could not even get unanimity there.

Mr. Nixon: Tell us which company he hired?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am about to. Then, of course, the leader of the New Democratic

Party (Mr. MacDonald)—well, I would say that he is statistics crazy. He goes on survey kicks—could we put it that way?—because he always has one to prove that things really are not the way they are as far as his party is concerned. That is all right, we all enjoy it. I do not think he believes it, he is too practical a man to fool himself. He attempts to fool us but I rather doubt that a man of his perspicacity would really try to fool himself in regard to these things, but it makes nice publicity.

We in our party use these devices and we get completely independent people to do them for us and we say we want the facts because we do not want to fool ourselves either; we try to be practical about these things. We want to know and we do not want to fool anybody else either, so we conducted a survey—this is rather a large one, much larger than that little effort which I noticed came at just the right moment to hearten all those people who were attending that Liberal convention—

Mr. Nixon: Would that be the Canadian institute of public opinion poll?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): They do not sell out.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They do not sell out.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, the leader of the Opposition has his opinion, I have mine. But in any event, we conducted a survey, Now we did not limit it to Toronto—

Mr. Nixon: The Prime Minister went to London.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: As a matter of fact, we went—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The leader of the Opposition should not get on that Hunt Club kick again. He knows what that did to the last man who led his party. Some day I will tell him all about the Hunt Club, but not this afternoon.

We conducted this survey in eight major urban centres throughout the—we did not conduct it, we had it conducted. Today I am just giving the results that came from those eight urban centres. Perhaps when I get some other results I will give them to members and perhaps I will not. In any

event, as of this afternoon—and this involves eight urban centres, Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa, Sault Ste. Marie, the Lakehead—which includes Fort William and Port Arthur—London, Sudbury and North Bay. I am just going to give the overall figures because it is not my intention to make a speech about this, but I do not want anyone on this side of the House to develop an inferiority complex because of some of the remarks made over there. This was designed to show voting trends and the percentages are Progressive Conservatives 41 per cent, the Liberals 32 per cent—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is the significance of the non-rural aspect of this. Progressive Conservatives 41 per cent, Liberals 32 per cent and the New Democrats 27 per cent. So, Mr. Speaker, perhaps we are not doing quite so badly, as the Opposition would like us to believe.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The most important trend is rather clear, the other parties are down and we are up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I know him; he is the man who challenged me to a by-election last September in full confidence that he could win it. He stood there and raised his finger at me and said, "I challenge you to call that by-election, we will kill you in Kenora". He has his opinion and judgment and I have mine.

Now, sir, in speaking in this debate, it is not going to be my intent to deal with the Speech from the Throne, it is a masterful document which speaks for itself. As we proceed through this debate, as the estimates of the various departments are introduced into the House, the Ministers responsible will develop the various points made in that document. I would like to address some of my remarks to the more general affairs of our province and to make some comments about some of the events of last year, since the House last met. I want to speak during this debate about some matters of government organization, some matters of regional development and economic development, but I would like first to deal with the broader context in which we in Ontario must live, work and develop ourselves. Of course, I am referring to the full area of federal-provincial relations.

I was very interested in the comments of the leader of the New Democratic Party this

afternoon because there were parts of that speech, when he was dealing with the fiscal aspects which I am certain I could have written myself. Frankly, it is very clearly set out in the sort of submissions we made to a meeting of the tax structure committee and to various federal-provincial conferences. Our government here in Canada involves, I think we all recognize, a very delicate balance among the federal, the provincial and the municipal levels. I believe it is recognized that while a federal system of government is a source of great strength, it is also a system that is very complex and very demanding.

The studies in comparative federalism, if one has them available to read, indicate this, I think. Federalism as it functions here and in the United States—West Germany, Australia, Switzerland, these are some of the areas that are vexed with many of the problems with which we are vexed here in Canada. The strength of federalism and the federal system can be renewed from time to time by willingness to take a firm and critical look at its deficiencies as they develop. It seems to me that no time is more appropriate than this, our Centennial year, to conduct an exhaustive review of the deficiencies in Confederation with a view to fortifying ourselves for the years ahead.

It is therefore to this government a disappointment that the great promise that preceded last autumn's meetings at the head of government level was not fulfilled in terms of firm and tangible results.

The decision in April of 1964, which was taken at a federal-provincial conference held in Quebec City, to form a tax structure committee, held out the promise to many of us that at long last we would have a new forum for federal-provincial financial arrangements in which logic and long-term planning, and some recognition of the events of these days, would be taken into account—rather than dealing with shorter term requirements.

Indeed, the results of the work of the committee were clear. The committee found that by the end of the next five year tax-sharing period, April 1, 1972, the federal government would move into an annual budgetary surplus of some \$750 million. Now the only problem with forecasts such as this is that governments by and large do not like surpluses, particularly of that size, because of the political pressure that we all know is there to immediately increase programmes—if you ever get into a position of having a budgetary surplus.

In any event, this showed a forecast made from the present statistics available; they

showed also that the provinces and the municipalities together would end up with a joint deficit of \$2.1 billion, which amounts to just about three times the federal surplus. So, if you accept the fact that the actual figures here may not work out to this, at least we are able to accept the principle and the trend that is indicated by the figures.

It has generally been recognized in public discussions, in learned journals, in newspaper commentary across the country, that we must have a new form of tax-sharing arrangements. These arrangements must permit the provinces to carry out their responsibilities without excessive burdens of taxation—or, perhaps of more importance, without excessive resort to the capital markets. And yet these recommendations were not carried out last September, much to the disappointment of this government.

The reasons for the very rapid acceleration of provincial requirements are not difficult to find. They are concerned principally with those programmes for people to which we gave attention only last week in the Speech from the Throne. Areas such as education, health, welfare, highways, economic development, regional development and transportation, are all areas upon which the requirements of people, and indeed the future health, wealth and welfare of this country, are dependent.

These are the areas in which an increasingly young population, with over 50 per cent of our people under 25 years of age, are now congregating, particularly in the field of education. As the numbers grow, so do the requirements for educational facilities and so do the requirements for broadening out and extending

Mr. Sargent: Why place the blame on Ottawa? Why do you not clean your own house first?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: A magnificent *non sequitur*, as usual.

Mr. Sargent: What about a tax structure?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If the hon. member wants to ask an intelligent question, I would be prepared to deal with it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister a question?

We are still using the same tax structure in Ontario we used 100 years ago, and we are doing nothing about it.

Mr. Speaker: The member is making a speech, and not asking a question.

Mr. Sargent: When is he going to change the tax structure?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I think really in the interests of the business of the House, I had better state that I will accept no more questions from the hon. member for Grey North until I have finished this speech. I would be glad to answer these questions of his before the orders of the day, or some other time.

Mr. Sargent: The Prime Minister should answer the question.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now, sir, as I was saying, as the tendency to prolong education grows, the demand for the resources necessary in this sector expands. Each year 7,200 new youngsters present themselves at the doors of Ontario schools to be educated. Mr. Speaker, they cannot, and of course, will not, be turned aside. Consider further that in the next five years the capital requirements alone for universities in this province will surpass the total of all that has taken place in the last 100 years. So we will create in the next five years the equivalent of everything that has been created in this province in the last 100 years.

This gives some idea of the magnitude of the tasks that face us. It scarcely is surprising that we have the demands upon us which we now face, yet the federal government (and I believe that this was the point made by the leader of the New Democratic party) at the conference last autumn took the view that they could not turn over resources to the provinces. In other words, they refused to be the tax collector for provincial requirements.

I do not necessarily quarrel with that point of view, but I do have some very firm opinions about how the tax fields available to us should be allocated between the various levels of government. I think, of course, that this will be a matter of great discussion when the Smith and Carter reports are available, because there is no doubt whatsoever in anyone's mind that we need to change our present system of allocating taxes among the three levels of government.

But there was a further complication. The only issues which we chose to debate, or at least which the federal government chose to

discuss, were the direct tax fields. It was their argument that they could not turn over more of those fields without inhibiting their capacity for maintaining fiscal policy. They proceeded then from a very direct and new philosophy, that they would draw a rigorous line down the centre between what is a provincial responsibility and what is a federal responsibility, and that each would operate entirely within its own realm, responsible for its own taxes.

We submit, as we submitted to these conferences, that this is dangerous to the taxpayer, carrying with it the risk of an uncontrolled burden—a completely uncontrolled—burden of taxes and an uneven tax system across the country. It also is entirely contrary to the federal government's purpose, which we would support, of maintaining its fiscal control and fiscal capacity over the economy of the country. Times have changed, and we have to change with them.

At the present time the attitude that the federal government has taken flies in the face of facts, when one considers that some 80 per cent of the public capital investment in this country is now undertaken by the provinces and the municipalities. And if we do not cooperate, how can the federal government maintain fiscal and monetary control, if there is not a high degree of cooperation in the establishment of tax rate and the burden of tax, where it is going to fall, and a whole host of matters. It is simply completely archaic thinking, in my view in any event, to say that each must go his own way.

Mr. MacDonald: The Prime Minister is right, they are just irresponsible.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In any event this is where we ended up. We are also approaching a point, to buttress my argument, where two-thirds of government expenditure in this country is in the hands of the municipalities and the provincial governments.

Now what this means, Mr. Speaker, is that the federal government can no longer be the sole fiscal authority in this country, unless it takes measures to control the tax system, the tax structure, the collection system, and does this in cooperation with those large sources of government activity, the provinces and the municipalities. So I do not want this to be interpreted as the position this government is taking, that we want to erode the power or the position of the federal government in the discharge of their duties and their control of monetary and fiscal policy, because we support this completely. We just say that the way they are going about

it, they are not going to get that control and we think some changes have to be made.

Now, sir, we argue that what is necessary is not the division of the country into 11 separate tax principalities, but rather the formation of joint determination of our tax structure and maintenance of the abatement system. This would allow the federal government to exercise a high degree of control over the tax structure. Under the abatement system they collect the taxes and remit them to us, but they control the rate, they control collection, and in so doing, of course, they are able to exercise fiscal monetary control. But by abating to the provinces, our needs can then be met.

We feel that by separating into principalities we would give up all hope of a joint determination of what can be determined to be an adequate tax burden on the people of Canada. I mean, eventually, as individuals, we must pay, and if we are going to be taxed by three uncoordinated taxing bodies, I fear for the survival of the individual taxpayer. I think if his interests are to be looked after, there must be a high degree of cooperation between these three taxing authorities.

We feel also that future attempts to establish priorities will not be possible and that the proper attention to our real and pressing needs may be lost in the bargain, simply because, as I said in the beginning, our priorities may be set for us by certain policies which are taken unilaterally and not in conjunction with the provinces. And I think that this is completely true, for instance, of medicare. The medicare bill establishes the priority for every province in Canada. It establishes a priority over education. Now in some provinces, this may not be what they wish to do first. So we feel, as I say, that the ability to establish priorities will be either not possible or relevant, and proper attention to the real and pressing needs may be lost in the whole process.

We have no doctrinaire opposition to medicare. I have made this clear on many occasions in this House. It never suited the wishes of the Opposition to report me factually. They have always taken the position that we were, as Tories, in the dirtiest way possible, opposed to medicare. Well of course, we are not. This has never been so. Today, the leader of the New Democratic Party recognized this. I think he was really trying to take credit for it, but that is impossible, because we can go back into the debate with the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond).

Mr. MacDonald: The government was opposed to it last year.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: We ended up with a good one too. We did exactly what we set out to do. We took the first step first. We devised a system that looked after the people in this province who needed it most. That is what we did. That programme is popular with the people.

Mr. Bryden: He might have something if he would take one more step.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Oh, the member is not going back on that kick again.

Mr. Sargent: Do not forget that one.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: No, I will not.

Now, just to keep the record completely clear, I will quote what I said at the federal-provincial conference in September.

The Ontario government supports the principle of universal public medicare and is in sympathy with the objectives of the federal government's medicare bill.

This was last September when I made these remarks. I am still quoting:

We welcome the decision of the federal government to postpone the introduction of its medicare proposal. An effective date of July 1, 1968 will have a number of beneficial effects on the quality of the medicare schemes which will be introduced in the provinces and will ease the difficulties involved in their introduction. In addition, we believe that, if increased assistance to higher education is offered by the federal government this year, the proper priority between assistance to higher education and the introduction of a universal public medicare scheme will have been recognized. We already have medicare universally available in Ontario through OMSIP and various private insurance schemes. But we do not have sufficient facilities and personnel to accommodate and teach the students who already are in the final years of high school. While Ontario believes firmly in the desirability of universal medicare schemes for Canadians, we are convinced that, in the immediate future, expenditures on higher education deserve the greatest priority.

And this is a two-fold attack. We are going to need more doctors, we are going to need more nurses. We have plans underway to do this, but it takes about ten years from the time you build a medical school until you have your first doctor, and you have to have some priorities and this is why we welcomed

the postponement of the date of the medicare plan until 1968. I am still quoting from what I said to the federal government at that time:

The Ontario government believes that the question of medicare should be treated in the broad context of the federal-provincial financial arrangements. Furthermore, since the federal government has announced a medicare offer, which is in the nature of a cost-sharing proposition, we maintain that it should be discussed in the light of the general principles which we would like to see followed for cost-sharing proposals. In particular, we feel strongly that the federal medicare proposal should be amended to remove the implicit equalization contained in it. The current proposal to pay each province only half the national average per capita cost of participating provinces undercompensates those provinces with high costs. We believe that the federal government's assistance should be based on half the actual cost incurred by each province.

We are confident that, if agreement can be reached on an acceptable package of federal-provincial financial arrangements and on a formula for sharing the cost of medicare, a way can be found for Ontario to participate in a universal scheme. We can arrive at this goal in much the same manner as we did when the hospital services insurance scheme was introduced a decade ago, and thereby achieve a more satisfactory long-run arrangement.

Mr. Speaker, what I said of the position of this government in that statement of September last, applies today, one cannot divorce these matters of social necessity from firm financial and economic possibility. Medicare is a perfect example of the federal government introducing unilaterally a programme which imposes heavy financial responsibilities on the provinces. It is a further example that these things must be done together and must be done jointly if the decision-making process is to have any meaning. Mr. Speaker, unilateral decision without consultation is no substitute for good federalism.

Now, sir, as members are aware, there were two series of federal-provincial conferences held in Ottawa during the autumn. The one to which I have just referred dealing with the tax structure committee, was held in September and was a prelude to the conferences in October. The October conferences dealt with the financing of higher education and with the fiscal arrangements between the provincial and federal governments.

I would first like to report on the position which the Ontario government took in the fiscal conference. Decisions were reached which will be in effect for the next two-year fiscal period. In particular, as I have mentioned, only the direct tax fields were placed on the table for consideration. We felt that in order to maintain a sound fiscal policy, the federal government should retain a sufficient portion of these tax fields for that purpose. We suggested that the federal government should not give up more than 40 per cent of the personal income tax and one third of the corporation tax.

Now for these figures you can consult economists and get opinions ranging from 40 to 45, 50, 55, but some place in that area there is a figure with which we would agree. We suggested 40 per cent. We suggested that the federal government should control at least two-thirds of corporation tax. We felt that if these percentages were introduced during a five-year period, this would make provision for a gradual shifting of this portion of these tax fields to the provinces, while permitting the federal government to retain the overall control provided by the abatement system, which I mentioned a few minutes ago.

This would mean that the total tax system would be distributed between the two levels of government. We also indicated that we would have no objections to considering the taking over of the federal government portion of shared-cost programmes in exchange for further points of the personal income tax if adequate arrangements for tax sharing were first introduced. In other words, this is an acceptance of the federal government's opting out proposals in shared cost programmes.

When it became clear that the federal government was unwilling to shift a part of these tax fields to the purposes undertaken by Ontario, then we, as well as the other provinces—I do not think Quebec—as well as some other provinces, said that we were unwilling to take over the federal portion of the shared-cost programmes in exchange for tax points.

We supported in principle the new formula for equalization payments by which we would continue to support the poorer provinces. However, as we have pointed out repeatedly, there is an illusion about equalization payments as far as Ontario is concerned. Because Ontario receives less than other provinces under the shared-cost programmes, which are based on national costs rather than actual costs, Ontario in effect contributes a greater amount than would be the case if one considers the equalization formula by itself.

In other words, there is a degree of equalization built into the shared-cost formulae and while we support the principle of equalization, always have and always will, we find within our own borders in this province that one should be able to see really what it is. It is a real factor built into many programmes where I would suggest that the average person in this province really does not understand that as an Ontario taxpayer he is equalizing in those fields with other parts of Canada.

This is a point which we believe must be considered when we discuss medicare. Now, the federal government accepted this principle in regard to the cost of higher education, and perhaps I will speak about this a little later on, but they did accept the principle that the percentage they would pay on the cost of higher education would be a percentage of the actual cost incurred in the province to which they were contributing. They have not accepted this principle in their medicare bill.

In other words, we take the average national cost, which means that somebody from Newfoundland said that they would make money on the medicare scheme because their costs are so much lower than the national average, and ours of course, are higher than the national average, so there is an inequality there. As I say, we were successful in getting this principle recognized in the field of the cost of higher education. We have not been successful in having it recognized in the field of medicare and I would hope that this would be a point for some discussion—

Mr. Bryden: Would the Prime Minister saw off for the hospital formula?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I just say to the hon. member it is hardly a question of sawing off, we are merely arguing on a principle here. As I say, we accept the principle of equalization but we do not think equalization should be built into these programmes. If we are going to equalize, let us devise a formula that will produce and give these provinces a direct equalization payment which we presently do. But I do not quite understand about sawing off with the hospital.

Mr. Bryden: The hospital insurance formula. As I understand it, it takes into account both the actual cost in the province and the national average.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They are both in the formula?

Mr. Bryden: Yes, 25 per cent of each, I think is the way it works out.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: This is indicative of the condition some of these matters are in and why we need some real study on it because here we have three programmes; one is one way, one is another and one has both elements in it. These are matters which I think, if we are to have an orderly fiscal policy across our country, should be straightened out.

The conference in October was complicated further by the decision to discuss the financing of higher education at the same time. It is well known that the provinces went with high expectations that there would be adequate recognition made of the almost emergency conditions that prevailed in the field of higher education. I have already mentioned some of the financial requirements of this province. We had high hopes of adequate recognition of our requirements.

I think it is important that we all recognize at all times that the extent to which the government of Ontario invests in education is an investment in the future of the whole country. The productive capacity of the entire country has leaned heavily on this province. This is just one of the facts of life; nothing we can boast about or be proud about; it is one of the facts of our federal system that we are a very large financial bulwark of the whole country. All I can say is that it became clear at once that so far as Ontario was concerned, the expectation of massive assistance by the federal government would not be fulfilled.

Unhappily, Mr. Speaker, the federal-provincial conference resulted in no major financial provision for the province of Ontario. Apart from a \$48 million phase-out grant in technical and vocational capital systems, a large part of which was already committed by this province, the net position indicated that for all post-secondary purposes in Ontario, we would be only slightly better off than would have been the case if the existing arrangements had been extended for a further two years.

Without going into all of the detail, we calculate that our net gain in each of the next two years will be between \$11 million and \$20 million, and this of course, is in the period I pointed out to you, when in the five-year phase we must accomplish as much as we have accomplished in the past 100 years. The actual sum will depend upon the final decision on the definition of post-

secondary education and the range of services to be included in that definition. These definitions are still not settled and are being negotiated between the two governments.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if I might ask a question; is the hon. Prime Minister referring to the possibility of nursing schools and this type of post-secondary education coming into the general federal support plan?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, the federal government said at the conference, "We will pay a percentage of post-secondary education." At the same time, they withdrew from another plan entirely.

Mr. Nixon: The technical school plan?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes. Now, the immediate point, of course is, what is post-secondary education? For instance, we have grade 13 and the other provinces have not. Should grade 13 be treated as a post-secondary year—be treated, say, as the first year of university? There is the question the leader of the Opposition mentions of nursing schools, there are a whole range of things that might be in the university area but would be included in post-secondary education.

Of course, the definition of these terms will have a great bearing—I mean, if the federal government does not want to share, for instance, in the cost of institutes of technology, because they are not universities or something of that nature, then of course their participation would be less. As I say, these matters are still under consideration.

Mr. Nixon: If you will excuse me, Mr. Speaker, this might be one point where the Prime Minister might clarify it for the House. I understand that the federal government is offering a \$15 per capita payment or one half of the approved cost. Would it not be simpler to take the per capita payment or would this mean we would be at a serious disadvantage insofar as the bargaining position the Prime Minister is now talking about is concerned?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, Mr. Speaker, we would have to find their definitions first and see which plan produces the greatest amount of revenue for this province. Because that is the reason there is the \$15 in; you can take your choice, and obviously you are going to take the one that is of the most benefit. That relates also to the needs and the amount that is being spent by the indi-

vidual provinces in the area of post-secondary education.

Mr. Nixon: Actually it is an offer of triple the amount per capita that was forthcoming before the conference?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is correct. In those terms, if you say three times as much—but three times is very little; it is still not very much. I do not think anybody really thought that the \$5 per capita was any realistic recognition of the needs of the provinces in this area. That is why the whole formula was changed.

Mr. Nixon: Three times five is \$15 per capita.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is right.

To continue, as I say these definitions are still up in the air but when you compare this with the fact that we will need \$200 million for university construction next year alone, you can, I think, agree with us that the assistance to Ontario is modest.

The financial compensation was made up of four points of personal income tax and one point of corporation tax as a minimum, with the federal government contributing an allowance on the basis of \$15 per capita, or 50 per cent of the operating cost of post-secondary institutions. As far as we can see at this time—this is the member's question, I think—it will be to our advantage to accept the formula providing 50 per cent of operating costs, but as I say, discussions are still underway between officials and the government and we have a task force coordinated under our federal-provincial affairs secretariat, and they are presently working with their opposite numbers in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention too that one of the major sources of concern at the October conference was the development of the federal manpower programme in which we expressed concern that a false distinction might be drawn between what is education and what is manpower training, and that in a province such as Ontario, with a highly mature, highly developed and highly integrated system of training such a false distinction could upset the effectiveness of our whole process.

We are assured by the federal government that their purpose is merely to make use of or to rent provincial facilities and we trust that in our continuing assessment of this plan which is also in the process of development, this will in fact prove to be the case.

Now, while these matters, as I have pointed out, have not been settled to our satisfaction, we must perforce accept the decisions imposed by the federal government. This does not mean that we accept them as logical or in the best interests of Ontario or that we like these arrangements. I can assure this Legislature we will pursue our endeavours even more tenaciously when the opportunity presents itself because, in our view, the federal government must alter its approach if it is to be an effective government within the framework of our constitution and I say this for the very reasons I have set out.

Mr. Speaker, I want to refer for a few moments to our relationship with the province of Quebec and I will get into the question of Confederation.

As a background, I would like to make a few comments about Quebec itself. During the course of the last year, members of the Ontario Cabinet and officials of the Ontario government have been building a much closer relationship with their counterparts in the province of Quebec and this is in keeping with our view that Ontario has a special responsibility in the current Canadian situation by acting as a link between Quebec and the rest of Canada. Occasionally we act as an interpreter of English Canada to Quebec and vice versa.

There are a number of reasons why Ontario should recognize a special responsibility in this area and at this time.

First, we are Quebec's neighbour. Our two provinces touch along a 500-mile boundary from the point where Quebec lies south of Ontario across the St. Lawrence River at Cornwall, to the shores of James Bay. Ontario and Quebec share part of the same geographic and economic region. The problems of our north are similar throughout the Canadian shield area. In the south, the St. Lawrence lowland from Windsor to beyond Montreal is the heart of Canada's manufacturing, industrial and financial activities.

Second, Ontario and Quebec are the largest provinces in population, and as such, share many similar administrative problems both internally and in the area of federal-provincial relations. Ontario and Quebec are the only provinces large enough to support an administrative organization in several important fields of public administration, which other provinces might prefer to be considered federal responsibilities. In fact, if we disregard for the moment those problems related directly to culture and language, Ontario and Quebec may have similar attitudes together which

might differ from those of several of the other provinces.

Third, Ontario has the largest number of French Canadians outside the Province of Quebec. In 1961, over ten per cent of Ontario's population was of French ethnic origin, some 650,000 people. This is a much larger group than from any other ethnic origin except the British Isles, and has been added to substantially since 1961. Ten counties and districts of eastern and northern Ontario are more than one-fifth French-Canadian, and in four Ontario counties and districts French-Canadians form a majority of the population.

Fourth, I believe strongly, Mr. Speaker, that initiatives in the current discussions about the future of our country originating from another province have more chance of producing constructive reactions by Quebec than do those emanating from the federal government. This perhaps is unfortunate. It is a situation which I hope will not continue, but it is a fact of life today; and, of all the provinces, Ontario is the one to take such initiatives.

Fifth, I think I am safe in saying that the people of Ontario, private organizations in this province, the newspapers, and other forms of communication in Ontario, have shown a greater understanding and sympathy with the attitudes and actions associated with the so-called quiet revolution in Quebec.

We have two choices as to the kind of country we will have in the next few years. The first choice is a negative one but it is one which we may choose by default. If English Canada, through lack of initiatives and positive steps, admits in practice that Quebec is the nation state of the French-Canadians, we can look forward, I think, to a continuation of a drift which recently has been taking place in federal-provincial affairs.

This inevitably will lead to a loose form of associate status for Quebec, or even separation, although I don't think any of us will accept the fact of separation. As long as an increasing number of French-Canadian residents of Quebec look to Quebec city as their national capital rather than consider themselves to be full citizens of Canada this distressing trend will continue.

The other choice is a positive one. It requires, by actual practice and not only by words, that English-Canadians recognize that Canada is essentially a country of two societies and two founding peoples, in addition to the Indians and Eskimos. Therefore, there is a fundamental difference between the position of a French-Canadian outside of Quebec

and a person whose ethnic origin is Ukrainian, Italian or of any language group other than English or French. I have said before that I cannot accept the proposition often made in Quebec that Quebec is the nation state of French Canada. In other words, Quebec does not look after Franco-Ontario as we do right in this Legislature.

I believe that if we are to take the positive choice for the future of our country, we must accept the proposition that Canada is the only nation state of French-Canadians. We are attempting to put this concept into practice in our educational system and we are investigating the possibilities of changes in other areas.

Mr. Speaker, changing attitudes in English-speaking Canada depend on much greater knowledge of the other language group and culture, particularly among students. In the Speech from the Throne a year ago, the government announced its intention to establish an educational and cultural exchange programme, particularly with Quebec. As far as this programme is concerned, it has been delayed through various events that took place in the province of Quebec. The director of this programme has been appointed and has assumed his duties within The Department of Education. During the next few months, his office will be developing specific proposals for exchanges of teachers and students and, in cooperation with the Ontario arts council, exchanges of cultural activities.

The core to the success of exchange programmes is really, I think, in the education field. In addition to the government, the Canadian union of students, the Canadian Centennial commission, individual universities in Ontario, and private organizations either are initiating or expanding summer exchange programmes between French and English Canadians.

The Department of Lands and Forests, under the leadership of the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts), initiated and will again extend its junior forest ranger programme to include a large number of French-speaking students from Quebec.

The positive choice for the future of our country does not necessarily imply that all provinces must have the same relationship to the federal government in a country where two societies are recognized from coast to coast. It does mean that the rationale behind the demands of Quebec for a greatly different status will be weakened. I believe that once Canadians have made a choice as to the general direction they wish this country to proceed, any discussion on the relative

responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments can follow pragmatically.

I think it is important that initiatives and discussions begin in 1967.

During this Centennial year we Canadians are reassessing our first century, looking at our successes, looking at our failures, and looking at the job which must be done to insure that we work together better in the future. We have failed to catch the tide if serious discussions among Canadian leaders do not begin this year.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, a Confederation of tomorrow conference is the key to Canada's next 100 years. It was for these reasons and for others that I proposed a Confederation for tomorrow conference. It appeared, of course, long before the Speech from the Throne was even being considered, because I raised the matter at a federal-provincial conference in Ottawa in September. I was speaking to a group in Montreal in November, and I raised it there; and by and large I have had good reaction to it. I believe that in this Centennial year we must have an opportunity to chart a new course for Canadian federalism, and I have been very careful not to refer to a constitutional conference. Perhaps I should not have used the term "conference" at all because it has certain connotations which seem to have crept into this situation, which I hope I can clear up.

It has been suggested that it is rather unorthodox for a province to initiate a conference involving provincial and federal governments. Mr. Speaker, I vehemently and completely reject the proposition that there is no room for initiative on the part of the provinces in these matters, because I think we must have space to initiate. Indeed, if we go back to the beginning, it was a meeting of the provinces in 1864 that led to Confederation. What could be more appropriate than that such discussions be sponsored by the provinces today.

I want to make it clear that I am not proposing a federal-provincial conference in the accepted sense of the term as it has developed in the conferences of the last few years. There are many very good reasons for this but as you may or may not know, we could not possibly do what I am proposing under the ground rules we have. I see no reason why these conferences cannot be open to the public and I think the major importance of this operation would be aborted if it were held behind closed doors. It is not a subject for that type of forum in my view.

Nor have I any idea or any intention of impinging upon the prerogatives, whatever they may be, of the federal government in this regard, or in regard to federal-provincial conferences. But I do want to make it very clear what I am proposing.

Many people have talked about constitutional change and other forms of radical impact on our system of government. I believe that we have an opportunity now, free of the pressing obligation to make immediate decisions, to sit down and examine the functioning of Canadian federalism. And without suggesting for one moment that our country is ill, rather to say that if it needs a tonic, we had better investigate the areas in which it is ailing and then follow with the appropriate tonic. In other words the whole process of diagnosis should properly precede prescription.

What has been lacking so far is a relaxed consideration of these matters at the government level. I know that there are those of a pessimistic bent who say that this may involve risks of disagreement. I must make it very clear that disagreement exists. It exists now and I did not think that I would meet with immediate popular appeal when I made this suggestion. I knew that there were those who would cry down the idea but we have brought ourselves together to study our problems and our disagreements in a systematic manner. We recognize that disagreements exist and they exist across our country.

Let me give you any number of examples in which we must work out improved machinery at a time when it is clear that the federal-provincial process is a growing and dynamic part of the Canadian system of government. In the past it has been customary for the provinces to go to federal-provincial meetings to hear and to respond to a federal proposition. It is action and reaction which may make for good synthesis in physics, but does not make for effective politics.

What is necessary is for the levels of government to work out in advance what is in their interest as well as what is in the interests of the country as a whole. This is the theory of the tax structure committee, which unfortunately floundered on the shoals of the old process in which the federal government said what it was willing to do. The provinces were obliged to take it or leave it. We must consider also whether the tax structure committee is to continue and, if so, what forms of procedural change are

required; perhaps a permanent secretary is necessary. More likely a neutral chairman might be advantageous. I do not know, but these are matters that must be considered.

Then we must take the view that Canadian federalism is a flexible and workable organization and that agreement on division of labour or on joint cooperation is more important than fundamental constitutional change. In all kinds of areas such as manpower, regional development, the effects of tariff policy on industrial development, matters affecting mobility of labour, the controversial area of near banks and financial companies, national education and transportation, to name but a few, are areas which require a will to work out effective means of dealing with them.

Many of these things, we believe, can be done within our present constitutional framework. The whole process of the social and cultural development of the country is a matter that presses upon us, and we think that this can be undertaken in such a spirit.

Mr. Speaker, Ontario played an important part in the last hundred years of Canadian federalism by its contribution at the time of the founding of our country in 1867. We are anxious to play that same part again, free of the bias or procedure of the existing system of federal-provincial conferences or of the interprovincial conferences which have developed in recent years. It is astonishing when you think how far we have come. People always say it cannot be done.

Even in my own time as Minister of Education I convened a meeting here. It was the first time in the history of this country that the Ministers of Education of all the provinces had sat down with their feet under one table. This is how far we have come in the last ten years and while there may be certain reactions to these propositions we think they are sound and we think they are a continuation of a development that has been going on in our province for some considerable time.

It might be interesting if we were to document some time for this House the degree of cooperation that exists at the administration level between the province of Quebec and the province of Ontario; the number of visits made back and forth by people working in this government service with their counterparts in Quebec in all levels of government administration. So this is a growing and ever expanding area and we think much can be done here. If it is good for individuals to be discussing what is wrong with Canadian federalism, we believe it is

even more important for governments to sit down together in this process.

The Confederation of tomorrow conference would provide an opportunity to devise a new approach to relations between the federal and provincial governments. It would provide an opportunity for joint determination in the objectives we seek for our country. It would be an occasion for fuller public discussion of the possibilities for Canadian development and I am at one with the leader of the New Democratic Party in his comments today. We want to involve the people in this.

We in Ontario have always recognized that each provincial Premier has an obvious duty and obligation to advance the interests of the citizens of his own province. At the same time in the developing of his policies and in guiding the decisions of his government, he must consider what is best for Canadian federalism and for all the citizens of Canada. This has been, and will continue to be, the policy and the objective of this government.

Our meetings at the federal-provincial and interprovincial levels in recent years have resulted in many shifts of the sands of federalism. We have been, and we are, engaged in a process that may be as significant to Canada's next century as were the events leading up to 1867.

I believe there are two fundamental principles involved. The first is that Canadians should decide what ends they wish to achieve and what objectives or goals they wish to strive for. This is the purpose of a Confederation of tomorrow conference.

The second principle is the belief that it is vitally important that every Canadian citizen know exactly what is happening, and why. A Confederation of tomorrow conference, convened by a province in a neutral atmosphere, and without the pressures that have grown up around federal-provincial conferences, would allow many matters to be discussed thoroughly and in proper context and would give all our people an opportunity to fully understand and guide the growth of Canada. There is a wealth of subject matter to be discussed at such a conference, and I shall propose that our Ontario advisory committee on Confederation review the considerable work which it has done with a view to assisting us to provide an agenda which would be both vital and timely.

Mr. Speaker, there is a resolution on the order paper dealing with this matter. I put that resolution there so that we could have

a public debate right here in this House—and I hope not about the technicalities, but an expression of opinion by the members of the House; their ideas on this whole question of the future of our federal system here.

Mr. Sopha: Will adequate time be given to debate it?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Yes, as a means of permitting everyone in this House to express an opinion on this, apart from the Throne Debate or the Budget Debate, which would be the only other place it could properly be discussed.

Now Mr. Speaker, I want to speak for a few moments about government policy and government organization. As in all areas of activity, life becomes more complex; government is no exception. Perhaps the greatest requirement in government organization today is the provision of overall direction and the provision of so-called horizontal decision-making.

I want to deal with some of the arrangements that we have made, the organizations we have set up in the last few years to adjust our governmental process to the new situations in which we find ourselves.

The process by which work in departments proceeds to Cabinet Ministers and to the Cabinet is well established and very effective. But increasingly interconnected problems among departments arise, which have an effect across the whole government. We are all aware of these. Just to give an example; to deal with the problem of Indians would involve, I think, at least ten departments of government. It just simply cannot be done in any single department of government. This is what I mean by horizontal decision-making.

We are also living at a time when government, whether one likes it or not, is having an increasing impact on the economic life of the country. Certainly in Ontario a budget in the neighbourhood of \$2 billion and a gross provincial product of over \$20 billion is no small amount in terms of the net impact on economic life.

I have already alluded to the very complex questions which we face in preparing for the federal-provincial conferences and working within Confederation and our federal system. I have spoken of that in this House before, about what we have to do to prepare for the federal-provincial conferences, where many very far reaching decisions are made.

Accordingly, I would like to make some remarks, Mr. Speaker, about the new

machinery which we have developed within the Ontario government for dealing with this process. I would like to refer to three key Cabinet committees, each concerned with various affairs of general policy.

The first of these is a committee on Confederation, which is reviewing the studies submitted by the Ontario advisory committee on Confederation and meeting with that committee in a continuing discussion of the position of this province within Confederation. In the Confederation of tomorrow conference, which I have proposed, I would think the work and the reflective content of this process will become abundantly clear.

We have established a new Cabinet committee on economics and finance. It has very broad terms of reference and designed to take a long-run economic planning view of where we are going, of the problems that lie in our path, of the obstacles to reaching the economic goals which seem suitable to us, and of the financial requirements necessary to sustain us as we move along this route.

Now this Cabinet committee is presently in the process of reviewing intensively all matters of economic and financial policy. Policy planning decisions arising from this committee can be presented to the Cabinet and in turn passed on to the Treasury board for implementation and for the assurance of administrative efficiency throughout the government.

I would like to refer to the Treasury board for a few moments. It is a development which has taken place during my time in this House. When I came in here first, there was no Treasury board. It is the only one of the Cabinet committees that is established by statute. Since its permanent secretariat was appointed in 1961, because we started to expand its function in that year, which you will recall had other events of significance, but it was in that year we started to strengthen this administrative arm of the government. It now has a staff of 65 and operates five branches. The chairman of the Treasury board is the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). The seven other members are the former Treasurer, now Minister Without Portfolio (Mr. Allan), and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree), Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett), Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) and the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Wishart). The seventh member is the Minister Without Portfolio, from Kent West (Mr. McKeough).

The function—

Mr. Sopha: The Prime Minister got the wrong one, it is the member for Kent West.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He is a member of the Treasury board.

Mr. Sopha: "McKeough", I thought he said "Wells".

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I said the member for Kent West.

Mr. Sopha: I was looking after his interests.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: As a matter of fact, the hon. member for Scarborough North (Mr. Wells) sits on the committee that I mentioned dealing with economic policies.

The function of the Treasury board is to review and weigh the estimated expenditures of all departments of the government. Once approval is given to the estimates, by this House, the board conducts a monthly examination of the actual expenditures to determine whether the departments are exceeding their approved spending.

Of special interest to the members is the assurance the Treasury board gives that departments do not exceed the amount for which the Legislature has voted approval. In the performance of these functions, the Treasury board now holds approximately 90 meetings a year.

In addition to the analysis of all programmes carrying financial implications, the Treasury board provides management consultant services to the various departments requesting it. It conducts studies which cut across departmental boundaries. In other words if we have something which is going to affect a whole series of departments, the Treasury board will handle it and have access to all the departments of government.

It guides the requirements of the government for automatic data processing.

It carries out day-to-day negotiations with the civil service association of Ontario on behalf of management and it operates, more recently, an actuarial service.

Now the fourth committee about which I would like to speak about is a Cabinet committee on regional development, and I will speak about this at greater length a little later on. However, as the members know, this Cabinet committee arose out of the design for development which has been criticized in this House during the last two days. It is now functioning to review and to recommend policy on all our regional planning endeavours.

vours. I will go into this a good deal more fully in another part of this address.

Mr. Nixon: Does the Prime Minister chair that committee?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Yes.

The four main Cabinet committees are supported in turn by new arrangements for deeper research and consideration of policy guidance within and without the civil service. Each is supported by a strong committee of professional people. As I have mentioned, the Cabinet committee on Confederation is supported by the Ontario advisory committee on Confederation, composed of some of the finest academic brains, I think, our province has to offer.

The economics and finance committee is supported by a three-man committee of economic and financial advisers consisting of the Deputy Provincial Treasurer, the secretary of the Treasury board and the chief economist. The Cabinet committee on regional development draws strength from an inter-departmental advisory committee of senior civil servants familiar with the work of regional development.

In this process, Mr. Speaker, we not only are in a position to take a more comprehensive view of the interrelationship and interdependence of various government programmes but are able to plan ahead and to see the implications of programmes introduced in one area or the requirements existing in another. In other words, what we are really driving at is to relate all government programmes to one another.

The economics and finance committee has the key role. In the months that lie ahead it will be particularly busy, for example, with the assessment and implementation of such recommendations as may be contained in the Carter Royal commission on taxation, and our own Smith committee on taxation. As has been mentioned here during this debate to date, there are going to be, of course, some very large decisions which will have to be made when these reports are made available to us. They are going to have to be examined very carefully. I think we all agree there are many changes that are required and will inevitably come about in our system of taxation. This particular committee will deal—

Mr. Sopha: May I ask, is it anticipated that they will be ready shortly?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Well, I hate to mention it because I have checked time after time, but I feel quite certain our own committee

report is very imminent. I get conflicting reports from Ottawa about the Carter commission.

Mr. Nixon: Our report is ready?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: It is imminent. I have not got it, it has not been delivered to the government, but I am told—

Mr. Bryden: It has been imminent for some time.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: This is just as distressing to me, probably more so than it is to the members. We have decisions to make and I look forward to that report as giving us some assistance in making those decisions. Our whole fiscal arrangements in Ottawa were affected by the non-appearance of the Carter commission report. That is why our agreement is only for two years.

Mr. MacDonald: Allegedly the Carter report is ready and now being translated.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Well, I heard that five months ago. I just simply do not know—as far as the Carter commission report is concerned, I am told that our own report will be ready very, very soon.

The economics and finance committee will also oversee the work that will be undertaken in The Department of Economics and Development, of all government policy bearing on provincial development as indicated in the Speech from the Throne—our programme for provincial development. And this is not going to supplant our design for development; this is a different programme entirely.

Mr. Nixon: Only the Prime Minister can keep them separate.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Well, as I chair both these committees, I will keep them separate. They are really quite different and will require different back-up people and different advisers.

Our programme for provincial development will concern itself with the whole process of policies bearing on the positive and creative growth of the economic and social life of this province. You can see that is vastly different from the somewhat more narrow concept of regional development; this will embrace the totality of development in the whole province.

That is a brief but I think complete report on that particular aspect of government organization.

I have quite a few comments to make on the field of regional development and I think if I might beg the indulgence of the House—

my voice is just gradually slipping away—perhaps the House would agree if I were to adjourn the debate and I will resume speaking tomorrow.

Mr. Bryden: Better get into better training than that for the election.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I will do my best.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will resume this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 2, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We welcome as guests to the Legislature today: in the east gallery, students from St. Ambrose separate school, Long Branch; and, in the west gallery, students from Danforth technical school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petition has been received:

Of the corporation of the town of Blind River praying that an Act may pass abolishing the ward system in the town.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Mr. M. Hamilton (Renfrew North), from the standing committee on standing orders and printing, presented the committee's first report, which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee has carefully examined the following petitions and finds the notices as published in each case, sufficient:

Of the corporation of the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario praying that an Act may pass changing its name to society of industrial accounts of Ontario.

Of the corporation of the township of Toronto praying that an Act may pass to provide that certain buildings erected on or after August 1, 1966, shall be assessed and taxed for public school purposes.

Of the board of education for the city of Sarnia and the Sarnia suburban district high school board praying that an Act may pass to simplify the provisions for providing additional accommodation.

Of the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane praying that an Act may pass authorizing the construction of housing for teachers and the issue of debentures thereafter.

Of the corporation of the city of Woodstock praying that an Act may pass enabling the corporation to enter in agreements with the corporation of the townships of Blandford

and East Oxford for the acquisition of certain lands by the applicant.

Of the Empire Life Insurance Company praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to apply to the Parliament of Canada for a special Act continuing it as a company with federal incorporation.

Of the corporation of the municipality of Neebing praying that an Act may pass authorizing uniform estimates and rates for each ward in the municipality and for other purposes.

Of the Dominion of Friar Preachers of Ottawa praying that an Act may pass permitting the petitioner to grant university degrees and honorary degrees.

Of the united cooperatives of Ontario praying that an Act may pass to reclassify unissued common shares.

Of Canadian power squadrons praying that an Act may pass to exempt its property at 26 Golden Gate Court, township of Scarborough, from municipal assessment and taxation.

Of the corporation of the town of Caledonia praying that an Act may pass establishing a community services board for the town.

That an Act may pass establishing the Kitchener and district public school board.

Of the corporation of the city of London praying that an Act may pass amending The City of London Act, 1966.

Of the corporation of the city of Toronto praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to enter into agreements with owners of land abutting on highways, with respect to walks thereon; and for other purposes.

Of Leonard W. Long, Arthur Long and Jessie Long praying that an Act may pass reviving Provincial Butchers and Machinery Company Limited.

Of the corporation of the borough of East York praying that an Act may pass respecting permits for night time parking on streets in the borough; and for other purposes.

Of Gerald Harold Frederick Lowery, Bertram Albert Bowden and Elwood Allan McDonald, praying that an Act may pass to incorporate the Peterborough Racing Association Limited.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present the following reports:

Report of the Minister of Agriculture and Food for the year ending March 31, 1966;

Report of the Ontario stock yards board for the year ending June 30, 1966;

Report of the Ontario food terminal board for the year ending March 31, 1966;

Report of the cooperative loans board of Ontario for the year ending December 31, 1966;

Report of the Ontario telephone service commission for the year ending December 31, 1965;

Report of the agricultural statistics of Ontario for the calendar year 1965.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

BOROUGH OF EAST YORK

Mr. H. E. Beckett (York East) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the borough of East York.

Motion agreed to; first reading of bill.

FRIAR PREACHERS OF OTTAWA

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Dominion or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

KITCHENER PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

Mrs. A. Pritchard (Hamilton Centre) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

SARNIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the

society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF CALEDONIA

Mr. Ewen moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CANADIAN POWER SQUADRONS

Mr. L. M. Hodgson (Scarborough East) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Canadian power squadrons.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Schools Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF ETOBICOKE

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO

Mr. F. Guindon (Stormont), in the absence of **Mr. A. A. Mackenzie** (York North), moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

UNITED COOPERATIVES OF ONTARIO

Mr. Guindon, in the absence of **Mr. J. Root** (Wellington-Dufferin), moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the united cooperatives of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

PETERBOROUGH RACING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Mr. K. Brown (Peterborough) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to incorpor-

ate the Peterborough Racing Association Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

EMPIRE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Empire Life Insurance Company.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF MOOSE

Mr. J. C. G. Demers (Nickel Belt) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the public school board of section 1, the township of Moose, in the district of Cochrane.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF WOODSTOCK

Mr. G. W. Pittock (Oxford) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF LONDON

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of London.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

PROVINCIAL BUTCHERS AND MACHINERY COMPANY LIMITED

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers and Machinery Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Health, notice of which was sent to him.

Did the Minister, in October 1966, authorize the establishment of an informal and independent study into the cause and treatment of emotionally disturbed children at Warrendale treatment centre and Brown Camps Limited? If such a committee was set up, when can the House expect to receive the report?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I did authorize the establishment of such a committee. It was well publicized in the newspapers, and correctly publicized in the newspapers at the time.

The reason for setting up this study was to give us some intimate knowledge of what was going on, actually to assist the department in planning policy and programmes for the government.

The committee was asked to undertake this with a view to its findings and recommendations being useful to the department in formulating such policy, and this has already been done. Certain of these conclusions and recommendations were embodied by the department in the white paper which was presented to the House some time ago. This was purely a departmental study, sir, and it is not intended that it be presented to the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to that, I wonder if the Minister would explain why there was some confusion recently in the press as to whether in fact the Minister had set that committee up? Was this a misunderstanding?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: There was no confusion in my mind. What confusion exists in the minds of others, of course, I cannot be responsible for.

Mr. Nixon: There has been some considerable discussion as to the adequacy of these treatments and I think that the people of Ontario might be interested in seeing the report. Does the Minister refuse to make it public, and will it never be made public?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: I have stated that this was a study for departmental use and it is not our intention to make it public. If a type of treatment, in our view, is inadequate, it will not be continued. So long as that type of treatment is being continued and recognized, I think it can be taken that so far as our knowledge goes at the present time, it is considered as adequate as it can be — again repeating “insofar as our knowledge at the present time goes.”

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health. What studies has The Department of Health made regarding the standardization of designs and materials used in construction of hospitals in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: The Department of Health has not made any study, but the hospital services commission apparently has been studying these matters. In the matter of design, they tell me that their studies do reveal that very little actual standardization is possible because of the variety of specific requirements for each facility, having in mind the varying community needs and professional resources likely to be available.

There is a so-called pilot project at present going on at Mattawa, where prefabricated units will be studied. The hospital was burned last year as the members will recall, and the replacement is being done by the establishment of a prefab hospital. This is being watched and studied very carefully, but this approach, we have to point out, will have very limited application and be restricted to small and remote communities only.

In the matter of the choice of materials, there is a high degree of similarity, again having in mind basic requirements for durability and scientific needs.

The major responsibility for selection is upon the individual planning team. These materials are all very carefully reviewed for suitability and economy by the consultants of OHSC. One overall recommendation which is made is that all things being equal, Canadian materials be utilized.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a twofold question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree). Perhaps I can put it on the record and he can answer it at his convenience, tomorrow, I trust.

First, in view of the repeated delays and difficulties of the Ontario securities commission in getting an audited financial statement from Prudential Finance Corporation Limited in the eight-month period from December, 1965, to July, 1966, why did the government not proceed with its own examination of the financial affairs of Prudential, as authorized by section 36 of The Securities Act?

Second, of what nature were the differences between the audited financial statement received by the Ontario securities commission from Prudential in July, 1966, and the financial statement received by the trustees after Prudential's first default in November?

I have two questions for the hon. Prime Minister. First, now that the Prime Minister of Canada has indicated that he would prefer his letter to be made public so that its tone and content will be known, will the Prime Minister table his correspondence with Mr. Pearson on the proposal for a Confederation of tomorrow conference.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have had no indication from the Prime Minister of Canada that this is his will or his intent. However I would say that the correspondence is not yet complete and when it has been completed I will deal with the question of whether we both agree to make it public. But it is not complete as yet.

Mr. MacDonald: Just by way of explanation, there was a news story yesterday reporting the Prime Minister as saying that he had no objection, and indeed favoured public release, so that the tone and content could be known.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Newspapers are not always accurate.

Mr. MacDonald: Normally the newspapers are fairly accurate.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Is the Prime Minister denying that he said what the press reported?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am not denying anything.

Mr. MacDonald: I kept myself fairly protected, I said normally the newspapers are fairly accurate.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: My second question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker.

Is it the government's intention to amend The Election Act in order to ensure the franchise to students who are away from their normal place of residence?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, as you know, there is a select committee which has been sitting for some months dealing with electoral matters and I do not really know whether it will submit an interim report. I rather doubt that it will submit a final report at this session.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That would be hard without any meetings.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It has held a few meetings.

Mr. Bryden: It is proceeding at a leisurely pace under the chairmanship—

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East):—And the Liberal members do not sit on it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker, if we can dispense with this free debate, I might answer the member's question. That committee is studying and conducting a very broad study of electoral reform. This does not in any way preclude the possibility of an amendment to The Election Act. I will want to know if that committee is going to make any recommendations in an interim report and at that time we will consider what changes might be made in The Election Act.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question?

It is generally believed that that committee is not going to make a report. Would the Prime Minister ascertain whether this is true and then proceed?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: I really have not been told what the intent of the committee is. As I say, the fact that it might not make a report does not preclude amendments to The Election Act at this session. On the other hand, it was set up with the idea that there are some very broad changes that might be necessary and that they might be studied. Actually, anything that might be done in this session would, I think, have to be in the nature of housekeeping changes.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Attorney General. How many meetings did the Attorney General or his predecessor in office attend at which the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited were discussed during the period from January 1, 1962 to the collapse of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited in November, 1966, and what were the dates of such meetings?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I have had a number of discussions with officials of the Ontario securities commission, but I have no exact record of dates and times. The member is aware that we had many meetings with respect to the securities legislation during the last session and on all of those occasions—and they were numerous—I think without exception Mr. Kimber particularly, the chairman of the Ontario securities commission, was present, and we had, on several of those occasions at least, discussions of various matters affecting sub-

jects which were of concern to the securities commission. And that would include Prudential. But I have no record of how often Prudential Finance was discussed.

As for the period covered by the tenure of my predecessors, I have no record as to when and how often they may have discussed this matter, and my officials are not able to furnish me with any record of the discussions which my predecessors held. To get such information perhaps would entail going through files to see what correspondence might exist. That would be a rather tedious, long-drawn-out task, and it would not give an exact account of discussions in any case.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if the Attorney General will permit a supplementary question, I would ask him whether or not he recalls any meeting or meetings at which he specifically directed his attention to the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited to the exclusion of all other general considerations about securities law?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The answer, Mr. Speaker, is yes.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Would the Minister inform the House what the prospects may be for implementation at an early time of the Plunkett report on municipal government in Peel and Halton counties? May the House expect to have legislation in respect of Peel and Halton counties introduced during this session?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question, I would have to state that when I presented the Plunkett report to the municipalities of Peel and Halton counties last fall, I requested their complete cooperation, of course, and asked them to forward to me submissions of their examination of the report by the end of November. That date was found to be too early to suit the municipalities and it was later extended to the end of December. We are now at February 2 and I am still receiving submissions which would indicate that the report itself requires a complete examination in depth by the municipalities in those two counties.

I do not know exactly what period of time the member may be thinking of when he refers to an early time—I think he said, or early date, in the question—but I would doubt very much that it would be possible to introduce legislation at the present session of this Legislature dealing with this particular matter.

Mr. Bukator: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker: Would the same apply to the Mayo report in the Niagara peninsula?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Not necessarily.

Mr. E. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, there was a question by the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent) of the hon. Minister of Transport. The Minister may be ready to answer the question, if I may ask it vicariously.

What steps, if any, does The Department of Transport take to inform holders of drivers' licences of the expiration date of their licences?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, an application for renewal is mailed to each driver licence holder approximately six weeks prior to the expiry date of an existing licence, which expiry date is clearly indicated on the renewal application. The application is mailed to the most recent address of which the department has been notified by the driver. In a very small percentage of cases it is found that the address is inadequate to enable the postal authorities to make proper delivery. This results, in some instances, from failure on the part of the driver to notify the department of address changes which The Highway Traffic Act requires. More often it is a lack of such information as an apartment number that causes the non-delivery. For these reasons, the applications may not always reach their proper destinations.

I would like to emphasize that, as has always been the case, the responsibility is on the driver to renew his licence by the expiry date if he wishes to continue to drive, and the date of expiry is clearly marked on every driver's licence as a perpetual and a personal reminder.

Mr. Speaker: I have granted the member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben) permission to make an important statement before the orders of the day.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am pleased to inform this House, Mr. Speaker, that about three hours ago through the good offices of the Ontario hospital services commission and Ontario medical insurance plan, Mrs. Ben and I completed our Centennial project, as yet unnamed. Unlike the government's, ours is completed ahead of schedule.

I also regret to inform the Prime Minister that Mrs. Ben, who is a supreme authority in matters of this nature, has declined the name "John". She says it reminds her of somebody in another place.

The practice that is customary on occasions such as this will be followed after the session and the cigars are here. The gallery can smoke pot.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson) directed a four-part question and I would like to give him his answer now if I may.

The first part had to do with some statements from Ohio officials with respect to the value of smuggled liquor. The answer to that particular part is that I really am not in any position to comment on any statement made by an official of the Ohio board.

The second part: Have the sales of government liquor stores in Essex county increased or decreased in the past two years? I am advised that there has been no appreciable difference in those sales.

Third: Have the liquor stores in that area noticed any increase in the amount of United States currency taken in over the same period? The answer is no.

Fourth: What revenue has the provincial government lost, if any, in the last two years through the sale of duty-free liquor at stores along the United States border? I am sorry, we are really not in any position to ascertain the value of any sales in those particular stores. The policing of the regulations under which they operate, of course, would come within the jurisdiction of the customs division of The Department of National Revenue.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Might I ask a supplementary question of the Minister? Is the hon. Provincial Secretary or the government going to answer these charges or allegations that have been made by the state of Ohio against the good name of the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think it is the responsibility of Ohio to check into this matter.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: First order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, when this debate adjourned yesterday I was making some comments about organization in government.

Before I proceed to deal with that matter a little further I would like to offer my congratulations to Mrs. Ben, and to the hon. member for, as he has put it, completing their Centennial project ahead of time. I think that is probably the only Centennial project in Canada that will be completed ahead of time because it might interest the members to know as they look at the various projects across the country that they all seem to be taking a little longer than was originally planned. I presume from the member's comments, although he did not specifically say so, that it is a young gentleman who is the addition to the family.

Naturally I think it is a shame they do not adopt that great old name, John. He did not tell us what the name was to be; perhaps he is only at the rejection stage. Some people name their children by a process of elimination rather than positive choice. In any event we wish for him a long and happy life in this great province of ours.

Yesterday I was dealing with a position that we put to the federal government during a federal-provincial conference last fall concerning fiscal matters. It has been drawn to my attention that I may have said that the federal government should not give up more than 40 per cent of personal income tax. In actual fact in our official submission we said "not more than 60 per cent." As I pointed out yesterday, these figures are really questions of a somewhat arbitrary judgment; I do not think whether hon. members say 40, or 50 or 60 is necessarily significant. Some place in that area, as I said yesterday, is the magic figure that does carry with it the control we think the federal government should have over this field of taxation.

I wanted to talk today about regional development, with which is inevitably associated the whole problem of regional government. I am attempting in these remarks to put before the House what, in fact, the government has done in these areas, and in the implementation of certain programmes which were laid before the House in the last session. We introduced what was called design for development and I am very happy to report that the four key organizational elements set out in that report have now been organized and are functioning. There is a Cabinet committee on regional development,

there is a senior advisory committee, there are regional economic councils in the ten regions of the province, and there are the regional economic advisory boards of civil servants. This may sound cumbersome but, as I explained, I think the House will see how the organization brings together the various elements in our society which have to be brought together if we are to achieve our objectives in this field of regional development.

At the same time, research studies in the regional development branch in The Department of Economics and Development are well under way, under the guidance of one Dr. Richard Thoman, who formerly was a professor of geography at Queen's University, and who now heads this branch.

The research studies under way, and the discussions that are being held with the councils in the various regions, have demonstrated pretty clearly the importance of establishing some overall guidelines for regional growth and we are well advanced in these matters. I would like to be quite honest about this. The words regional development themselves contain no panacea, nor do they wave any magic wand. What is required is a long-term assessment, and hard work, to provide guidelines and courses of action which will lead to growth in these areas. But we are not prepared to stand still until these guidelines are established. I can refer to a number of particular events in the last few years and, more particularly, in the last few months, that will demonstrate the pace of regional activity.

The Cabinet committee which is the principal one of this organization is comprised of the Ministers of Economics and Development, Highways, Agriculture and Food, Municipal Affairs, and Lands and Forests. I act as chairman. As a result of its work, instructions were issued concerning the formation and duties of the advisory committee on regional development and the regional advisory boards.

The advisory committee on regional development includes one senior officer of each of the departments of Agriculture, Lands and Forests, Municipal Affairs, Tourism and Information, Highways, Energy and Resources Management, and Economics and Development, and is chaired by the chief economist. It can be seen that here again we have this form of horizontal organization, of which I was speaking yesterday, in order to put into one consultative and advisory unit of civil servants the thinking, ideas and programmes of the departments mentioned.

The first task of this committee, which has been completed, was that of carrying out the instructions of the Cabinet committee by establishing a regional advisory board for each of the ten economic regions of this province. Thus we break it down another step and establish the regional boards in the specific areas of the province. The regional advisory boards are made up of a representative of each of those departments of the government which has a regional organization as an integral part of the normal administrative structure.

In other words we are simply taking on these regional boards representatives from the civil servants who are working in whatever department may be established in that region. These regional advisory boards are responsible to the advisory committee on regional development who, in turn, report to the Cabinet committee. To complete this story I am also able to report that all ten regional development councils, that are composed of citizen and municipal components, are in full operation. The increased grants which were made available to the councils last year have proved to be of great assistance to them by providing a firm base for both continuing and expanding all council activities. That is the organization which takes it right down to the individual citizen, and to municipal governments of the regions into which we have divided the province.

The coordinating and liaison functions among the councils, and between the councils and the government, have been assigned to the strengthened regional development branch of The Department of Economics and Development. Proposals and recommendations emanating from the councils will be directed from the regional development branch to the advisory committee on regional development and from there to the Cabinet committee and from there, of course, to the full Cabinet.

So, Mr. Speaker, I suggest this places the Cabinet committee in the strongest possible position since it will be able to base its decisions on the carefully considered proposals of the citizen, municipal and civil service groups who are vitally concerned with the development programmes.

We are confident that the interdepartmental character of the government committees will be a major factor in ensuring that full co-ordination of all programmes is achieved. We anticipate, too, a full measure of cooperation between the regional advisory boards and the regional development councils, recognizing at the same time their essentially independent character.

So far I have dealt only with the organizational structure of design for development. I would like to refer briefly to some of the events of the past few months which are of particular interest in connection with our regional development programme.

First: The tenth and final regional development council in the province, the central Ontario regional development council, was finally established.

Second: A large number of counties in southwestern Ontario have taken out blanket regional development council memberships for their municipalities, thus ensuring inclusion in this work of all the municipalities in the county.

The Ontario federation of agriculture, the Ontario municipal association, the association of Ontario counties, regional tourist councils, and county ARDA committees, have established close communication and liaison with the regional development councils and have expressed their desire to solidify this relationship so that they may be included in the planning being done.

Preliminary regional research programmes have been undertaken in three of the regional development council regions in the province and proposals from other councils for similar research programmes are pending.

More specifically, the Lake St. Clair regional development council has let a contract for an appraisal of the feasibility of conducting a regional economic base study and planning programme for that area. Three universities in the eastern Ontario economic region are collaborating with the regional development council there in formulating a proposal for a comprehensive regional economic base study and planning. The Lake Erie regional development council has, in cooperation with the University of Western Ontario, established a two-pronged regional economic research programme.

The first prong is an open-ended data bank, and the second is the conceptual organization of the local data and information to an economic base study and plan. That sounds like economic gobbledygook, perhaps, but it is the basis from which one must start in assembling the data available, and then seek to translate it into basic concepts of what you want to do.

The regional development branch has convened a number of important meetings outlining the regional development programme to regional development councils, to interested citizens, municipal associations, planning organizations as well as industries.

In a similar vein, exploratory meetings have been held with university officials to discuss regionally related research projects which might be undertaken in the universities under the regional development programme. And here you see the commencement of the basic theory behind this whole plan. It is that if we are to have this type of regional development, a great deal of the stimulus must come from the citizens and the organizations and the industries that actually inhabit the areas concerned. Once the organization is established it is necessary, of course, to go out and provide the stimulus to have people on the ground and in the local areas to take advantage of what we have set up.

The regional development branch has also held a number of formal and informal meetings with senior officials of Ontario government departments and agencies to deal with the regional development programme. These include the departments of Agriculture, Municipal Affairs, Highways, Tourism and Information, Lands and Forests, and Education. The branch has assisted The Department of Education in deriving a tentative set of regions and centres which might be used by the various boards of regents for the location of Ontario's colleges of applied arts and technology and, at the same time, has assisted The Department of Education in arranging public forums in order to present to the people of the various areas, the concept of the colleges themselves.

A number of professional economists and geographers have been added to the regional development branch to carry out regional economic research. At the present time, basic research is being undertaken in a number of important areas, including the delineation of regional economic planning and growth centre regions; a survey of the field offices and administrative regions used by Ontario government departments and agencies; a review of the financial sources available for regionally related research in Ontario under ARDA, ADA and other federal and provincial programmes; the preparation of basic guideline proposals to assist in the development of common regional development research programmes for all the economic regions in the province, and the preparation of the first volume of a new series of interpretative regional economic reviews, the first one being done in the Niagara region.

The Department of Economics and Development, in addition, has collaborated with a number of Ontario universities in the following areas of interest to the regional development programme:

The land use institute and regional research in the Niagara economic region, being done with Brock University;

The regional structure of the Ontario government, with the institute of local government, at Queen's University;

With the geography department of the University of Toronto in the preparation of a comprehensive economic geography atlas of the province of Ontario;

And with the University of Waterloo in the development of certain academic courses.

The regional development branch also has become a focal point in establishing an international organization of state and national governments for the exchange of ideas and information on regional development activities and planning, because as all those who have studied the subject know, it is a problem that is being dealt with and looked at in most of the countries of the western world. We learned this at the conference that was held here, I believe it was two years ago this month, and there is a great deal of information available from outside our own borders.

Mr. Speaker, I have suggested that we are in the process of working toward long-term plans. But this does not mean that there is an absence of regional activity of a short-term or immediate nature. Indeed, one could go through the whole \$2 billion annual expenditure of this government and demonstrate ways in which profound impact takes place in each region by our activities. What this means is that we are developing a philosophy of government expenditure purposely calculated to have maximum effect on the economic growth of each region and in assisting that region to maximize its own economic potential. In fact, Mr. Speaker, one can go through almost every department of government and see the results of improved planning and coordination of such expenditures.

This has the effect of stimulating the economic life and social development of the region, of encouraging the concentration of economic growth and industrial development, and of creating a climate within which the region can mobilize its own natural resources and natural advantages for the benefit of the whole region, and in turn, to the benefit of the entire provincial economy.

The role of the government, in this sense, is to provide highways, power lines, the establishment of colleges of applied arts and technology, sewers and water resources, indeed all forms of educational institutions, along with the application of ARDA and rural development. The whole range of government

activity creates a stimulus to the economy as well as providing the necessary facilities upon which economic development can be based.

The real problem, of course—and when you look at this organization you will see that it is directed towards this problem—is to ensure that these activities are properly coordinated so that the right mixture of investment takes place and so that there is adequate planning for the region in its future development.

This is one of the main purposes of the design for development and of our regional development programme. One of our main objectives is to ensure that government programmes, in addition to moving forward individually, will move forward together in a manner designed to have the maximum good in the economic life of the region. I believe that as our regional development programme accelerates, we will see the wisdom of this policy.

In the Speech from the Throne, we announced the programme of provincial development, and it was immediately equated with design for development, which of course is not so. I want to emphasize that the programme of provincial development and the design for development are complementary one to the other. Our new programme is much broader than what I have been discussing during the last few minutes. Its objective is the building of economic guidelines for the development of the entire province, in a much broader sense than the design for development programmes.

We are undertaking a review of all existing programmes in the government, in such areas as the availability of labour, industrial development, natural resources, transportation, energy, conservation and water. These and all other existing programmes relating to human and natural resources and the investments and expenditures of the government will be assessed within the framework of an overall, provincewide economic policy. It must be stressed also that this broad development programme and the regional programmes are, of course, interrelated.

In discussing the design for development, let us be quite clear that we are speaking of two separate compartments of regional planning and regional activity. On the one hand, we have the government expenditure and government investment activity under the general heading of economic development. On the other hand, we have the equally important function of environmental planning so that our land use and our physical development proceeds with order and care.

The second area is much more difficult to execute and much more difficult to change. This is an area which comes essentially under the administration of The Department of Municipal Affairs and the municipalities which make up the face of this province. Here, the problem is to develop land use plans and physical environmental plans through the medium of the municipalities and under the broad guidance of The Department of Municipal Affairs in a manner which also will take account of the economic development aspects of our programme.

The task of the Cabinet committee on regional development is to bring together the twin aspects which add up to a total development strategy; the economic development planning and the environmental or physical development planning.

At some point it becomes clear that the instrument of government by which all of these measures are brought to bear on development is critical. And this, of course, accounts for the recent interest in the whole question of regional government. Regional government and regional economic development are separate compartments, as we have indicated, in the design for development. But they also are closely interrelated and we must consider our policy in one area in the light of developments in the other.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that criticism has been made that this government has not seen fit to develop an overall regional government philosophy. To this, I think we must be very careful in pointing out that in a province of such differing geography, we must be very careful not to apply solutions to one area which are more appropriate to another. For this reason, we have had a number of studies commissioned to look into the characteristics of different regions and produce proposals for regional government peculiar to the particular problems of that region. Nonetheless, Mr. Speaker, we believe it is essential to evolve from these studies a general philosophy of regional government and, of course, the choices are not very difficult to contemplate.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): When is the Prime Minister going to make up his mind?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Well, if the hon. member would just sit quietly and listen I will tell—

Mr. Singer: We have been waiting a long time for this.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: I will just tell the member the steps we have taken and those that are presently completed.

First of all, are we talking about a fourth level of government interposed between the provincial and municipal governments? Are we talking about scrapping the old municipalities and forming new municipalities as a new form of third-level government? Are we talking about leaving the present structure as it is but having the provincial government extend its powers into those areas that overlap municipal boundaries? Or are we talking of new institutions, such as commissions or other government agencies, that would be empowered to plan in areas of mutual interest and mutual overlap?

Mr. Speaker, I think these choices are fairly clear. It also is very clear that the methods chosen are of profound importance to the daily life of all of the citizens of this province. It is for this reason that we are studying with the greatest care a position that could well stamp an imprint on our municipal life for the next 100 years, and at a time when we are developing our regional activities as rapidly as possible. We want to be quite certain that any changes made in regional government are changes suited to our people and that they have the prospect of some durability.

Mr. Speaker, let us not forget that we must reconcile what is desirable in terms of government structure with what is practical in terms of the important realities of finance. To this end, we look forward to the receipt of the report of the Ontario committee on taxation. I might say we were discussing this yesterday and the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) asked me if I knew anything about the Carter report—this is a headline from the *Financial Post* of February 4 which says: "Would you believe February 11 for the Carter taxation report?"

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): What are we to believe about Smith?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just what I said yesterday.

Mr. Singer: Are we to believe the Prime Minister is going to make a decision about the municipal reorganization?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Indeed, we are.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): What year?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: When we are ready. I will tell the members what we are not going to do. We are not going to—just to have action for action's sake—disturb lives and make wrong decisions at this stage that will

affect everybody in this province. That is what we are not going to do.

Mr. Singer: Maybe within the next 120 years? The Baldwin Act is only 120 years old now.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are looking forward to the receipt of the report of the Ontario committee on taxation, which will deal with the whole question of municipal finance as well as the broad question of taxation policy. What is economical, what is financially attainable, in the long run, will be as important as what is theoretically desirable. We want to be certain that we have been giving this point of view adequate consideration.

For some time now there has been widespread agreement at the municipal government level that periodic annexations and year-to-year special service agreements between adjacent municipalities are no longer adequate. They do not keep pace with urban development or provide for an effective administration to meet the increasing demands for public services.

The municipal associations of Ontario, in one way or another, have all indicated the need for a different approach to inter-municipal problems.

Mr. Speaker, we believe that the programme of local government reviews, established by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), will be a means of overcoming many of the problems which confront the municipalities which are subject to the pressure of residential, commercial and industrial growth. It should also be noted that the select committee on The Municipal Act and related Acts, in supporting the setting up of regional governments, recognized the need for area studies to determine possible changes in the functions and responsibilities at the local and regional levels.

To date, the Minister of Municipal Affairs has received three final reports and their accompanying recommendations from commissioners appointed to study and report on the Ottawa, Eastview and Carleton county area, the counties of Lincoln and Welland, including the cities of Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, St. Catharines and Welland, and that of the counties of Peel and Halton, to which some reference was made today. The commissioner's report for the Lakehead area is anticipated next month.

In the meantime, local government reviews have been announced for the Waterloo area, consisting of the county of Waterloo and the cities of Galt, Kitchener and Waterloo, and

more recently for the Muskoka district. A research director is now living in the Waterloo area, working with a committee of municipal representatives in preparation of local data there. Similarly, in Muskoka, a committee will work with a research director to be appointed this spring. In addition, preliminary work has been undertaken by the research staff of The Department of Municipal Affairs for the city of Brantford and the county of Brant prior to the setting up of a more extensive study of that area.

Inquiries continue to come from city and county officials whose councils recognize that the answers to many of their local problems must come from a better understanding of their relationships and joint responsibilities with neighbouring municipalities. One of the largest experiments in regional government in North America assumed a new form on January 1 when the 13 municipalities of Metropolitan Toronto were consolidated into a system of one city and five boroughs.

There are a number of basic principles upon which we believe any changes in local government in Ontario may be justified:

First, as long as a given municipal service can be most effectively provided at the local level it should be maintained there. Those functions, performed at a regional level, which bring greater stability over a larger area and serve to accommodate future growth would be the responsibility of a second or regional level of local government.

Second, municipalities of a given area would share responsibility for the provision of more equitable services based on uniform assessment.

Third, the transfer of regional services would begin with those which reflect the most urgent needs of the area.

Fourth, many features of the existing county council system can be adapted to regional government units. The composition of the council, and the basis of representation by population, are important recommendations contained in the select committee report.

Fifth, to assure that development will take place in an orderly manner, with a minimum of waste of the taxpayers' money, a planning organization and programme for the region is essential—within which the plans of individual municipalities will be incorporated.

As should be expected, and as I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, each of the study areas will be distinguished by one or more features of a geographical, economic or cultural nature that would make it most difficult to apply a single formula of reform measures throughout

the province. Of primary consideration in reaching a decision for change will be the research findings produced by the study, the recommendations of the commissioners, and an analysis of the various briefs submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, on his invitation, when the final report is distributed to municipal councils, other local authorities and interested organizations and individuals.

With the exception of the Ottawa area study, it is not yet possible to indicate any course of action for the other areas reported upon. The analysis of the Niagara study is just being completed and the last submissions from the local authorities in the Peel-Halton area have only recently come in.

Last night, the Minister of Municipal Affairs met in Ottawa with the councils of the municipalities included in the Ottawa study area. That meeting was called because it is the government's intention to proceed with these studies for the purpose of implementing any proposals which will serve to strengthen municipal government in Ontario.

While the responsibility for the organization and functions of municipal government rests ultimately with the province, Mr. Speaker, any drastic changes in a system which, with all its faults, has served the people for many generations, will certainly take some time.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Prime Minister would permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: If I have the answer.

Mr. Singer: Do I understand from his remarks that he is passing new legislation about the city of Ottawa in this session?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: No, the member understood from my remarks that the Minister of Municipal Affairs was in Ottawa last night, conferring with officials of the municipalities regarding the recommendations contained in the study report of that area. As the member knows, the recommendations that are brought forth do not always suit everybody.

Mr. Singer: That is the purpose of my inquiry.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Is the member suggesting that we should bring in a bill now and just—

Mr. Singer: I am not suggesting, I was asking. I wondered why the Prime Minister said, "with the possible exception of Ottawa."

Hon. Mr. Roberts: In any event, we are not going to bring in legislation at this session which will drastically alter the municipal

setup in the Ottawa area. On the other hand, the meeting last night to which I referred is another step in the gradual attack on the entire problem.

I just wanted to mention a little bit about transportation, and transportation policies in the province. This is another area in which we are interesting ourselves, not that we have not done so for a good many years, but there were some developments in the last year in which the members of the House might be interested.

I think everyone would admit that transportation has been the key factor in the economic development of Canada. In fact, as we found in our discussion of Confederation in the formation of this country, I do not suppose there is any other single item that is as important as our transcontinental transportation facilities.

It is equally true that in an area as geographically varied and in a population that is growing as rapidly as that of this province, transportation requires high priority. For this reason, we launched some time ago the Metropolitan Toronto and region transportation study, as it is called—or if I may refer to it by its short title, MTARTS, which I believe are the first letters of these various words.

This was set up in 1963 and this spring we will introduce our new GO transit, which is a direct result of the study that commenced in 1963, and is designed to relieve particularly hard-pressed areas in southern Ontario.

In the Speech from the Throne we announced our intention to develop a policy to provide northern airstrips as a means of opening up and accelerating the economic life of that important sector of our province. I do not know whether the people from southern Ontario actually realize the extent to which small private aircraft are used in northern Ontario. Sometimes it seems to me that people from the north use them in much the same manner as residents of this city use taxi cabs.

In the coming year, we will extend all this to a total transportation study of the province in a manner that will complement the policies now being introduced at the national level by the federal government. We have recruited the necessary staff to provide leadership in this comprehensive review through The Department of Economics and Development. The economists there will work with the technical experts in the departments of Highways, and Transport, as well as the group from MTARTS.

With transportation a key to both provincial development and regional development, it is appropriate that The Department of Economics and Development should perform this function in conjunction with its regional development and provincial development requirements. In other words, this policy just follows along the two programmes I have laid before members this afternoon.

I would like to bring the hon. members up to date on the work of the Metropolitan Toronto and region transportation study. MTARTS is a cooperative effort of the departments of Transport, Highways, Municipal Affairs, and Economics and Development, the Ontario water resources commission, the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, the Toronto transportation commission, and the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways. After four years of work, this major research project is reaching a stage of conclusions and findings.

MTARTS was launched in 1963 to provide much-needed answers to the problems of moving large numbers of people daily through the increasing density of the Metro Toronto area. I would just like to say that when that programme was instituted four years ago, several of the gentlemen opposite referred to it as just another election gimmick, but in a few months we will open the railway that has proceeded directly from the study. I just use that as an illustration that this government produces all kinds of ideas and carries them through. They are not just produced for election purposes, because who knows when elections will come?

Mr. Sopha: The Prime Minister does!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The point I make is, that regardless of the political situation in the province, such programmes must constantly be developed. They will take varying periods to develop and bring to fruition. This one in particular I use as an example, because it was in 1963—I believe it was in the Throne Speech of 1963—this programme was mentioned and was greeted with the usual remarks of skepticism and faintly veiled derision, as some of our plans in the present Throne Speech were greeted. But I can assure you these programmes will be carried out, just as this one has been.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are well along the way. It takes a long, long time to do these things. Just speak to the member's colleague in Ottawa and ask him whether we can just rush this thing in an area—or in the Niagara

peninsula. It just simply cannot be done overnight.

I repeat, MTARTS was launched in 1963 to provide much-needed answers to the problems of moving large numbers of people daily through the increasing density of the Metro Toronto area.

It was recognized early in the study that the subject of urban transportation involves much more than the technical problems associated with the facilities themselves. It was readily apparent that transportation is a prime influence on the form and the structure of the community. Accordingly, a major focus of the study has been the nature of the regional city of the future and the importance of transportation in the development of this city.

This examination by the province of the critical subject of urban transportation has been carried out by an organization operating at four levels. One is under the direction of committees consisting of Cabinet Ministers and senior officials. The research programme has been carried out by MTARTS with the participation and representation of a wide range of related organizations. The work has been undertaken and coordinated by a small study staff. The individual assignments in many cases have been performed by a number of eminent consulting organizations.

In its works, MTARTS has directed its attention to several major questions. First, the ultimate implications of current land developments practices with respect to transportation. Second, whether a rational regional growth plan can be defined. If so, can it be implemented, and will it allow greater transportation efficiency? Can a transportation policy be effective in implementing a regional growth plan? Can commuter railway networks become useful parts of transportation systems of Ontario metropolitan areas? What policies of administration and financing are required for this purpose?

In examining these basic aspects of future urban transportation the study has pursued several areas of research. First, the recommendation for a full-scale commuter railway service, which has resulted in the widely studied "government of Ontario transit", which is under the responsibility of The Department of Highways. The MTARTS group at the same time has prepared a programme of surveys and analysis to enable a thorough evaluation to be made of the results and effects of the GO transit service.

Now I would like to make this point very clear, that this is in the nature of an experi-

ment. Our research leads us to believe with full confidence that it will be eminently successful. On the other hand, it will be used in an experimental way and from its functioning will be developed much of the information that we will need in order to plan beyond this point. So this particular unit should be classed as an experimental unit.

Second, in cooperation with The Department of Highways and the Metropolitan Toronto planning board, MTARTS has developed a comprehensive transportation planning and research technique. This is very important because when the study started we really had no experience nor did we find anyone who had experience in conducting the necessary planning and research. Techniques had not been developed. Over this four-year period we have developed a group of men who are highly skilled in this work simply as a result of the work they have done. And their services, of course, will be available in other areas in the future.

Third, in cooperation with the departments of Municipal Affairs, and Economics and Development, and the Metropolitan Toronto planning board, MTARTS has studied the historical and current characteristics of the region, and has forecast the economic and land-use components for the year 2000. In turn, MTARTS will study the ultimate consequences with respect to transportation of current trends in regional growth in comparison with possible alternative patterns of land use. An initial evaluation of these matters is under way. It is expected that the findings and conclusions will be available in the near future.

There is no doubt that the results of this far-reaching and searching investigation of this critical public issue will lead to important changes for the rapidly evolving metropolitan areas of our province. Once again we have here another programme which will have a much greater effect than the programme itself because it will be used to provide answers for problems that will arise in all parts of our province.

I would like to make reference for a few moments to that portion of our programmes entitled programmes for people. We pointed out in the Speech from the Throne that our programmes are designed for people. Government programmes are not susceptible to the yardstick of modern industry in terms of productivity on the assembly line or input-output ratios. The yardstick many of us choose is the broad impact of our programmes on economic and social development of our people and of our province.

Mr. Sopha: Will the Prime Minister inform the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) that he said that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would be delighted to.

Mr. Sopha: He is not here.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: As a matter of fact, he is out of town today working on a large scheme to benefit a great many people.

Mr. Sopha: Is that right? Not everybody applauded, is that significant?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I do not think so. The member may draw from that what conclusions he likes.

The yardstick that many of us choose is the broad impact of our programmes on economic and social development of our people and our province. However, we feel that we have a responsibility to chart a course for the economy of this province. In this way we assure the greatest increase in the standard of living for all our people. We also are sure in this day of rapidly growing government activity, that we will have the adequate revenues to meet the requirements of our people without imposing undue strain on their pocketbooks. That is why we have set for ourselves a series of goals.

It is quite clear, for example, that at this time one of the most serious obstacles to the meeting of our economic goals is the shortage of skilled labour. In such circumstances, one can resort to significant retraining programmes or one can go abroad to seek a higher rate of immigration. We have done both these things and we have done them both with success.

The training and retraining is a matter of continuing application and concern although clearly this does not produce great numbers of skilled people overnight and must be a longer term consideration. Immigration has not been an easy matter but through our overseas offices we have stepped up the active recruitment of immigrants. Last year Ontario enjoyed one of its best years on record. We hope that this will continue to be the case and that our economy will be nourished, not only by people from varying backgrounds but by those with skills essential to our economic growth here.

It is also obvious that if our population is to grow rapidly from domestic sources and by immigration, we will only exaggerate what is now our most difficult problem, housing. For this reason, it became very clear to the Ontario government that housing required

a major breakthrough and a massive form of government support.

I am aware it has been argued about the danger of government taking over the job of private enterprise. I believe we always must guard against any encroachment by government on those sectors of the economy which can be more adequately conducted by private business. But it must be recognized that business and government are complementary rather than competitive. Business and government must proceed as partners in progress if we are to achieve the solution of the complex economic and social problems which stand before us. However, where it is clear that private business is not or cannot be organized in the manner necessary to undertake a crash programme, then this responsibility must fall to the government; this is the role we have chosen in the matter of housing.

As this session of the Legislature proceeds, the Minister of Economics and Development will have a great deal more to say about this important programme. But let me reaffirm once more its high priority to this government.

If we are going to achieve our economic growth, we must have increasing investment in education, in research, and in development. For this reason, our economists are working in very close cooperation with the departments of Education, University Affairs, and Labour to assure that our long-term manpower policies and our long-term educational processes will only provide for the fulfilment of the capacities of our people and for the type of economic investments so necessary to our growth. These are the two objectives that we have.

I would just like to mention this in regard to this form of development: It was indicated yesterday that we are doing nothing in eastern Ontario; in fact it was indicated that we are doing nothing in any place. As time goes on and the affairs of this House unfold, the Minister of Economics and Development will have placed before the House many of the things that his department has been able to do in this area of helping people, and helping people in regions in which we think there is a specific interest.

Just as an example, I want to refer to an event of this present week which took place in Carleton Place, because I think it gives members some idea of what the government can do to help people who would like to help themselves. There is a company in Carleton Place by the name of Leigh Instruments Limited which is a relatively young company;

It took a scientific concept which had been developed by the national research council, and which remained undeveloped for a number of years, and translated it into a practical, efficient device.

At first they were supported in the research side of their operations by research grants; but when it came to putting the prototypes into commercial production, nobody would support them, so the Ontario development corporation provided the company's first working capital by way of a guaranteed loan of \$200,000 in May of 1963, and thus enabled this company to go into commercial production. Without this help the company would have been compelled to move to the United States, and develop in that country what really was a uniquely Canadian invention—because it was developed, as I have said, by the national research council in Ottawa.

Well then, like all new companies, it encountered some financial difficulties. The Ontario development corporation gave it sympathetic consideration in its repayment schedule and we provided them with consultant advice, because basically the men who were developing this were scientists. We provided them, as I say, with substantial advisory service.

Early in 1966 it became apparent that their expansion would require additional accommodation. They had almost been attracted away from Carleton Place by a very attractive offer to locate elsewhere in the province, and of course if they had moved from that relatively small community of Carleton Place it would have caused a severe dislocation. Once again the Ontario development corporation entered the picture, after it had been approached by civic leaders as well as by the company, and this week a new building was opened in Carleton Place.

Members might be interested in some of the statistics of this plant and what it has been able to do. In 1963, when they first approached ODC, they had 35 employees. In 1967 they have 250 employees with an annual payroll of \$1.75 million. In 1962, their sales were \$81,000, and in 1966 they were \$2.6 million. In 1968 they think the sales will be \$6.5 million. They exported, in 1964, \$11,000; and in 1966 exported \$2 million worth of products.

Mr. Singer: What do they make?

Mr. Robarts: It is an electronic gadget of one kind or another used in aircraft. My technical knowledge does not extend much beyond that. They spend about 10 per cent of their annual sales volume each year on

research. This is only one company that I mention—from the story of what we have been able to do in the area of regional development, in putting these companies where they will have the greatest effect on the life of the area. And also to prevent, if we can, the ever-increasing congestion in some of our larger industrial and commercial areas in the province.

We are seeking, through agencies such as the ODC, and our activities in the trade and industry branch of The Department of Economics and Development, or by developing policy in the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, to establish a refreshing climate in which business and capital investment will be encouraged in all parts of our province. We believe that it is appropriate to offer positive encouragement to investment in Canadian industry, and in the processing of our resources; and I might say that in the story of that company there is no subsidy. It was all done with loans. They repaid the first loan and then came back for another one; so really, in the final analysis, all we have done is to help them to help themselves.

At a time when increasing pressures are upon us to undertake many kinds of activity, and at an accelerating rate, I think it is clear that we must have a philosophy to deal with our future. I have spoken yesterday and today of priorities; and these priorities do not mean, as someone interpreted, that we will turn our backs on pressing responsibilities, because we will not. Rather it means that we will attempt to introduce our programmes and policies, or expand our present programmes, on a long-term planning basis. On the one hand we will live within our means; on the other hand we will be assured that we will make the maximum contribution to our economic development.

As we proceed along this road it will be quite clear that some of the activities we have begun will bring other requirements in their wake. We must plan for these and incorporate them in our planning. I know that when the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) presents his Budget he will elaborate upon this particular theme and give you further ideas and information as to where this government is going. It is sufficient for me to express the belief of the government that long-term planning is the only way to contain the steady increase in taxes and to assure the continued growth and prosperity of Ontario.

As I have said many times before in this House, the easiest way to raise additional revenue is, of course, to broaden the tax base, rather than always trusting to an increase in the rate. To do that, the programmes must be devoted to long-range growth and expansion. Since the beginning of this session, the Opposition spokesmen have levelled the heaviest guns, it seem to me, at this government for our use of dynamic, snappy, programme titles and slogans. They objected to GO transit; they objected to home ownership made easy; they objected to design for development; they objected to wild rivers; but all I can say is they cannot have it both ways. They cannot have us a grey, old and tired government before the speech, and a snappy, new, bright-faced, too snappy, too new, too bright-faced government the day after. They simply cannot have it both ways. I think the supreme effectiveness of these things is indicated by the number of references they have made to them. It must have worried them quite a bit, otherwise we would not have had nearly as many references.

Personally, I think nothing could be more fitting than these titles. They are new programmes, and they are modern titles for them. They draw the public's attention to them; they let the public know what is being done, and in my view they are completely fitting. I think they are completely fitting to a government that is young, dynamic, and getting things done.

I do hope the members will all visit Expo 67. I do not know how many members have had a chance to see what has gone on there to date, but I can assure them they will see the face of Ontario presented there in a truly go-go image. I think they will be proud of it, and will feel as I feel when I walk in that place and look at it. It engenders in me a feeling of excitement; it makes me feel that I belong to a province that is really moving.

What I am suggesting is that the Opposition members come along with us, and not sit over there looking at everything through a grey haze. It all looks so awful—everybody is in trouble, there is no prosperity, nobody is getting any education. Why not be enthusiastic and come along with us? Join us in this crusade we have. Why not come with us and make this province into really something with these plans we have, in addition to what we have already done? Just give us a little exhilaration and give the people that exhilaration. The Opposition members are the old and tired ones—everything is wrong.

I think everything is pretty much all right in this province. We have difficulties, of course, but I like to look on the optimistic side. I think that our economy in this province is good proof of the image conveyed by the slogans we have used. Remember the attack on the trade crusade; remember all the talk about—was it the hippopotamus—how terrible all that was?

Just let me tell the members that since I became leader of this government in 1961, the province has been going through an expansion unequalled in its history and already almost twice as long as the previous record-breaking postwar boom of 1955-56.

When we started the trade crusade, Opposition members all laughed. "Another gimmick," we were told. "All you are doing is advertising your government, you do not care about people." Well, one of the objectives was 75,000 new jobs a year. This was to me an objective laid down by the economic council of Canada. In 1966 we created 102,000 new jobs.

When the economic council of Canada made its five-year forecast, I might say this government took it very seriously and we studied that forecast very, very carefully. I stood here and I told this House then that we accepted that as a goal, and we did. The council's target was for a real growth of 5.5 per cent per year. That is what it put out in its forecast. In fact, our average real growth rate over the last three years has been in excess of 6 per cent. We have exceeded our goal in that regard.

Mr. Sopha: Where is the evidence of this?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now then, the economic council said that the key—

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: He should open his eyes and look around him.

Mr. Sopha: Where is the evidence?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member lives among it but he cannot see it. It is all around—in the schools, in the universities. It is in the prosperous people, it is in new factories, it is in all these new things that we see and the life that we lead, but the member chooses to look it at all through a grey fog. Get enthusiastic. Get some enthusiasm for our province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: May I say this, Mr. Speaker? There are times when the truth really hurts.

The Canada economic council said at this same time that the key to the international position of Canada was a healthy rise in export of manufactured goods. Well, we have been criticized by the Opposition for promoting exports, for replacing imports, for conducting a large programme in this area, but it is successful. In that period the export of fully manufactured goods from this country has increased by about 15 per cent and a very large percentage of that increase of fully manufactured goods comes, of course, directly from this province.

I would not be silly enough to stand here and say that we are entirely responsible, but I would say this, we have had a really good hand in doing it. We have done it in cooperation with industry, and, of course with the private sector of our economy.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): How about housing?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We have given them the proper atmosphere, we have given them good transportation, we have given them good education, we have given them good power supply, and above all, we have given them stable government.

Mr. Sopha: And the highest taxes in history.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: And the greatest benefits.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Five years ago when I took my present position, this country was facing serious problems of unemployment.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): The Prime Minister had better go to Ottawa.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In the year following that there was a crisis in the balance of payments.

I would say that in 1966 the rate of unemployment in this province was 2.5 per cent, and by anybody's standards, that constitutes full employment in the society in which we live. Our balance of payments situation has been improving—and let me put it this way, we have been very pleased to have been associated with this growth and development. The economy is no different from the government or individuals. We have problems. We, the government, will do what we can to solve them.

I have spoken of some of our plans. As this session unfolds the members will hear a lot more, because this is only a part of the

story. We think we can help solve these problems by encouraging mobility, by bringing in some new ideas which the Opposition fights so furiously.

No, they could not have GO transit. That is too new. They would not have anything like that. Oh no. They would not have a trade crusade. They would not have a programme of wild rivers. They would not save these magnificent rivers for the use of generations yet unborn. They would not have a programme to do that. Well, what would they call it? Wild rivers. What a wonderful programme. That is the most imaginative description of a programme I have heard in this House for many, many years. We have a new, young, fresh Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) and here he is, right off the bat, offering a wonderful new programme designed for their children and my children.

Mr. Whicher: A lot of people like the old one better.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Their children and my children.

Mr. Whicher: The Prime Minister should look behind him there.

Mr. Singer: The old one is over here.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We think we can help by introducing some new comparative techniques and we think we must be alive to, and adjust to, our changing society and our changing economy. We like the modern sound of the titles of some of these programmes. We like them.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The government is not stodgy.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We are not stodgy, but there has been a great effort made to paint us that way.

Mr. Singer: A rose by any other name!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. Prime Minister permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. MacDonald: Would the Prime Minister agree that the reasons why the government is not stodgy are those spelled out in the leaflet put out by the Progressive Conservative association: "Are Conservatives stodgy?" the leaflet asks. "No, ask Gerda," it replies. Is that the proof you are getting away from stodginess?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I can only say I really do not think the member expected an answer to that question.

Just let me say before I complete my remarks that we will place before this House and before the people of Ontario more programmes before this session is over. But I would just repeat my plea to be a little more enthusiastic about our own province, please. Just see a little bit of the true vibrancy of this province, how fast it is growing. Read Bruce West's column this morning in the *Globe and Mail*. Did the members not like that?

Mr. MacDonald: I am sorry I did not read it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member should read it. He displays a degree of good old Ontario enthusiasm I like to hear. He is enthusiastic about the place in which he lives. He does not say it is all wrong. He does not say that nothing has been done and that we are all going to pot.

So just change the Opposition attitude a little bit, and while I am on this subject, please do not be apologists for the federal government at Ottawa.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, may I, in the usual custom, compliment you in your high office again this year. The government has done one thing right anyhow. It has seen fit to keep you doing a good job. Point number one for the government.

I was very much impressed by the speech of the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), one of the few men who have come into this House and in their maiden speeches have said nothing about the Opposition, nothing detrimental to anyone. He spoke only for his riding, handing out a pamphlet that speaks well for his ability to put across the proper kind of publicity.

And when Sir Oliver Mowat set that boundary—I may not go along with my leader—maybe he made a mistake. He should have brought it over to the east a little more so that part of the province could have been in Manitoba, simply because those people in the north who were represented here by the late Mr. Wren and then by our friend the late Bob Gibson, have come to you, to your government, Mr. Speaker, and have told you on so many occasions what that part of the country needed, and they felt they were completely divorced from the rest of the province.

One can walk across the street here, or down to the foot of the street, and get on a

train at about 10.30 in the evening, sit on that train for 25 hours and come to Fort William and you are still within 450 miles of the boundary 25 hours later. This is a big province; that gentleman has a big job. He was, in my opinion, elected by the people of Kenora because that area was not getting what they ought to from this province.

I am so pleased to see that the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has made it his business to stay to listen to what I have to say to him. I am so happy to see that so many Ministers of the government abandoned the chamber immediately after the Prime Minister was through with his speech. This shows how interested they are in what we might have to say on this side of the House.

I have decided that this year I would not prepare anything by way of a written text. I felt that there was sufficient to talk about without going into the books to find out what you have or have not done.

I liked the Prime Minister's excitement. That is the first time that I have seen the hon. gentleman excited in this House since I was elected in 1959. I think possibly the Expo people ought to set up an office for him in that new pavilion where he can get this energy and exuberance that he talks about, so that when he comes into the House he can expound the many things he has done for you. Because this is good. This is the first time, in my experience, that the Prime Minister has been excited about something. With an expenditure of some \$5 million for that pavilion—that has turned into \$11 million but I venture to say, before this province gets through with that particular project, it will be pretty close to \$20 million. Why should not someone get excited about it?

I have decided today that I would speak about some of the issues with which I am well acquainted. One of them was to discuss this wilderness trail—or whatever this new project, wild rivers, this imaginative programme they have for five provincial parks, is called. Yet I recall the previous Prime Minister (Mr. Frost) standing here talking about wilderness trails from Hamilton through Wentworth through Lincoln down into—it would finish up in Lincoln county, not in my riding. In 1956 they received a brief. Three county councils got their heads together because they believed it ought to be.

An hon. member: What year was that?

Mr. Bukator: In 1956!

A brief was prepared, and in my book that adds up to about 12 years ago. The then Prime Minister, Hon. Mr. Frost, stood in his

place and said that he had talked to people from Niagara Falls. I could have said to him that he was talking to the wrong people—that is why they lost that riding. It was not in the Niagara Falls riding—this project, he was talking about—it was in Lincoln, Wentworth, Hamilton, that Escarpment Drive, and the beautiful park, the beautiful highway for people to travel along, and enjoy the nature trail of which the Minister speaks. Now then, if this government does no more about the five parks they have talked about in this particular session than they did for that one, we can well figure for ourselves that nothing will happen in the next 10 or 12 years.

We took it on ourselves. I will tell them this: The county councillors met with the hon. Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell), a fine gentleman in my book, one who is interested in this project. He made an appointment with the then hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Roberts), who is also not here, the former hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. MacNaughton)—he is here—and they were good enough to see me, to talk with me, and to the people in that area who were interested in this project. And this is a concession that they do not often give to a member of the Opposition.

Let me tell you of the excellent hearing. Let me tell you of the enthusiastic people from those areas who said, "This is good and ought to be done before they build too many buildings along that escarpment." I am sure, as I am standing before this House, that this project will be held up again for a year or two, or three, because we now have two Ministers—the new hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), who also is not in his seat, the new hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme)—

Hon. T. R. Connell (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I would not want the hon. member for Niagara Falls to go on being ill-informed on this. The group was in this morning and the government has promised—

Several hon. members: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Connell: Now if the Opposition does not want to know about this, why, that is fine.

Mr. Bukator: I want to know, but—

Hon. Mr. Connell: I know the member wants to know but the rest of them do not want to know.

But the government is paying 50 per cent of that study that is being made—the engineering study. The group from that area were,

I think, completely happy this morning. This is rather recent and I just thought the hon. member might like to know that.

Mr. Bukator: I must say that is excellent news.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Bukator: Now, Mr. Speaker, this gentleman who interjected that last remark, I take exception to it. In all fairness to myself, as member for Niagara Falls, I ought not to be treated in the manner as the Minister who just spoke treated me. He told me that they met; and as far as the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope) is concerned he can go back to Moosonee and look for diamonds again. We will not miss him here. I hope the next time he will have a little more success than he had the last time.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): He has not a microphone this year; he is at a disadvantage.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to leave this subject.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask for fewer interruptions, please, while the member is making his speech.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask why the Minister of Mines has not got a microphone?

Mr. Speaker: No, you may not. The member will proceed.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I would ask the members to stop their interjections while the member for Niagara Falls is making his address. Would the member for Niagara Falls proceed and I will try to give him a better hearing.

Mr. Bukator: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would not like the Minister of Mines to leave. I surely did not mean to offend him. I thought he would extend the courtesy to me to at least stay and listen to what I have to say.

An hon. member: He has to have his afternoon sleep.

Mr. Bukator: We had some figures handed to us not too many days ago by the Whip of the government. He went on to tell us that, as far as he was concerned, we the Liberal Party did not attend committee meetings because he had certain percentage figures of

when we did attend and when we did not attend. And it appears now that if you were to take the figures, and I were to keep my mouth shut just a little longer and not touch on that subject, we would find that about 25 government members of 74 that were supposed to be there were here yesterday afternoon when the Prime Minister was speaking—about 30 per cent.

This is not a good average. I am wondering whether he did not use those figures when it came to the committee meetings. That got to the press—when they came in, reported, got their attendance noted, then walked out. I remember those and I would not want to say the Whip is not telling the truth.

I remember an old doctor saying, on an occasion when I spoke of something like this: "It proves only one thing to me; figures don't lie but lies figure."

It is my opinion that those figures were used unfairly to try to expose the Opposition. Many times, if the Opposition member who sat in those committees had walked out of that room they would not have had a quorum. So what has he got to brag about when I find that he is not in his place also.

I do not know how an individual can get his point across. Before the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) leaves maybe I should have a little chat with him. Maybe I should discuss one of the departments that comes under his jurisdiction—that is workmen's compensation.

Let me talk about the new chairman. Mr. Legge, who I believe is trying to do a good job with an obsolete set of statutes, with an obsolete method of operation in that particular office. The method they use in those offices, the way they treat the people, Mr. Speaker, the way they treat the individuals who have to get compensation—which is usually two-thirds of their pay.

As the men are recovering, they decide that they ought to cut a portion of their pay from them and cut them down to the point where they ought to go back to work. In many instances this particular group of people suffer and their families have not enough to eat in the house because their cheques are not coming through.

Now this has happened since the new chairman has taken over. It is my opinion that particular department of government is not doing its job. I do believe they ought to have offices in these highly industrialized areas where the people who are injured can

go to the offices—in areas such as Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Windsor—and take their case to the people in an area where they are acquainted instead of having to come to Toronto with a referee to discuss their problems before another board hearing, possibly to rehear their case.

These men are not capable of handling the job for themselves; they are not capable of presenting their case properly.

I do believe that this particular department is not—this commission is not—treating the people who are injured in any way that would be fair in my opinion. When they decide to set up offices in the highly industrialized areas where people can go to the office in their region to discuss their problems, to tell them their case and to get their money on time rather than late, as it has been in many cases. Many members of the House have had to call the proper authorities and tell them about it; and they respond very quickly once called. So the government can take another look at the workmen's compensation statutes and amend them and bring them up to date. This is one of the obsolete laws of this province, as I see them.

We were talking about housing. I happen to be in the real estate business. The average working man cannot buy a home because in many cases he cannot raise the down payment. You have a problem here in Toronto that differs in many ways from the problems in smaller cities and villages of the province. You can buy a home in the Niagara peninsula, anywhere from \$3,000 to \$6,000 down, and the average working man cannot get that kind of money to pay the down payment, to provide a home for himself and his family.

If this housing method that they are now going to use through that hon. gentleman—who again is not here because he is out doing big things for the province, I had hoped that he would have been here, because I think that if they were to provide sufficient capital for people to be able to buy the houses that the government apparently has purchased and now is letting the people buy as though they were paying rent with no down payment—or a very small one—if these homes can be purchased by the people who live in them, then the man who sells that house can provide the necessary down payment to buy himself a new one.

I speak of one subdivision with which I am acquainted. Hundreds of people have gone through these homes, and because they cannot get the \$4,000 down they do not buy the home. They are paying, to rent an old building, in excess of the payments they would

have to pay to buy a new home. Now then, the Welland canal is going to cut a swath from Port Colborne to Port Dalhousie, and they are taking many, many houses out, along with what you call strip development. They have boarded them up. People have had their homes bought from them. An appraiser comes along and tells them what their houses are worth, and I can assure the House that in many cases they pay more for the house than that individual had paid for it or put into that particular building. So he takes his cash because he knows not what the market will provide for him, and he finds in many cases that he has not sufficient money to buy a new home because the prices have gone up considerably over the last three or four years. So they have some cash, but no home.

Down in Iroquois along the St. Lawrence seaway, members will recall that they moved a village completely; took it from the St. Lawrence and put it up on a hillside on higher ground; put in the streets and services and water; provided parks and schools, and took the old homes. They had a big machine there that would walk over the top of the home, pick it up and carry it over to the new foundation. In that area, in which the new hon. Minister from Lincoln county (Mr. Welch) ought to be interested—and he is not here either; boy, there is a lot of fun in talking to an empty House—many homes that could be picked up and put into a compact village, or town are sitting there now going to waste or are boarded up.

In my opinion, if the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) and his department believe that there is a housing shortage, there are many hundreds of homes that could be taken to a location—properly laid out, properly planned, instead of strip development—for people who can maintain them and buy them at a price that they can afford. I will make it my business to get to the Minister with it, regardless of what he does with it, but I do believe that he owes it to the people of that community. If he is going to develop housing, there are many lots in that area that are serviced; water and sewage disposal plants are built. It is my opinion that this type of housing can be made available to many senior citizens who cannot afford a \$19,000 or \$20,000 home. That happens to be one area at which the government ought to take a good look.

I was talking about parks in the province. I talked about that Escarpment Drive and I understand that the wheels are in motion and it makes me feel good to think that will happen. I recall saying to Mr. Frost in his time,

that if they got down to the Queenston area by the Escarpment Drive, they ought to continue up the river and come into the old chestnut that I speak of every year when I am here—the Erie Beach park, some 3,300 feet of riverfront property along Lake Erie across from Buffalo, which can be bought for approximately \$200,000. I suggested to the parks commission that it buy that.

I remember Mr. Frost—I had some support here, Mr. Speaker—saying that I had a point and he would like to talk to me about this in his office. The hon. member for Welland (Mr. Morningstar) and I—it is nice to see someone here—and the chairman of the parks commission—Mr. Daley at that time—had a chat with Mr. Frost and when he heard the proposal he said to Mr. Daley, "Buy it." I see the vice-chairman of Hydro here. He can confirm whether I am right or wrong because he has a habit of bringing statistics from main offices here on University Avenue that are very detailed and very accurate.

I ought to tell about how some of the revenue comes into the parks commission and I am sorry that the new chairman (Mr. Allan), is not here. Last year, \$670,000 was paid to the Niagara parks commission by the Hydro for water rentals. A similar amount, \$625,000, went into the coffers of the provincial government for water rentals from the Hydro. I would think that these fine-feathered gentlemen behind me would find a better place to have their confab and tell their stories to each other—I would think that we ought to have some respect. We were more than fair with their speakers so far and I think I ought to get the same consideration and respect. The parks commission is running a big parks system and we are proud of it. The Hydro was to pay to the parks commission \$1.25 per horsepower generated. When the second Sir Adam Beck plant was built, there was much too much money going into the coffers of the parks commission, because it was also making approximately \$700,000 net on the concessions and because of that it decided that the province ought to have some of these funds.

I would think from that amount of money that the parks commission receives, which is a surplus, that it could have purchased this piece of land beyond old Fort Erie, where it empties into the Niagara. I do not think this is unreasonable. I think this is a good request. And if the parks system that the government is talking about in the province ought to extend into the populated areas—and I think it should—this land should be purchased.

There is a piece of land, 133 acres, formerly a nine-hole golf course on the Niagara River, adjoining the parks system, that can be purchased for—I said it could last year and I believe it can this year—\$1 million. That sounds like a lot of money, but when land can be bought that cheap, I think it should be purchased for parks purposes of the future. It is adjoining the parks commission's lands. Again I speak to—well, I hope not an empty House—but I think the hon. Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Allan) ought to look into the possibility of buying it.

They looked at it once before and said it was too much money. Let me give an illustration of what land values are. The Hydro—and I can be corrected on this figure—had some land by the Seagram tower and sold it to private enterprise for \$1 a square foot. I think that would bring an acre to \$43,560. This is the kind of money that is received for land in that area.

Where the Skylon tower was built, land was purchased originally 950 feet along the escarpment adjoining the parks system, where they have the benches near the refectory, where the parks commissioners meet. That was purchased for \$114,000 originally by an individual. Because he could not get the wheels in motion to set up the commercial unit he had in mind, he offered it to the parks commission for \$250,000. That is quite an increase, Mr. Speaker, over what he paid for it. The parks commission had many meetings to discuss this problem and decided that it was too much money. The man leased his property to private enterprise for \$50,000 a year for 99 years. He paid \$114,000. The parks could have bought it for \$250,000. His estate is now getting \$50,000 for 99 years. And that is the land on which the Skylon tower is erected.

By comparison, the 133-acre park on the Niagara River is worth a lot more than the \$1 million they are asking. And if they are thinking of parks for the people, where the population is, and where the tourists come into that part of the country, I would think we ought to buy it there. I do not say that we should not develop parks throughout the province. But this should be purchased, and purchased immediately.

Again, the parks commission has not, in my opinion, too much foresight. I do not know just exactly what happens in the parks commission meetings, because I am not with them any more, but I was hoping someday maybe the member for Welland would come into this House and tell us. Because of a

new chairman, it is thinking a little more progressively and thinking about purchase of property for the children that will one day use those lands.

They have developed an area they call Duffin Island where many hundreds of people come to swim in the summer. They have built bathing houses there. They have put in concrete floors and shored up the walls beautifully, or the banks. They can now accommodate comfortably, possibly 500 youngsters who can swim. And yet, it does not require too much imagination to see that if they continued this programme throughout the islands they could have many thousands of children enjoy those lands and swimming area.

I can tell the House something of those parks and swimming areas. I can tell the members that it is not only the children of that area who would enjoy it, because they come there from all over the province. They come there, and they use those facilities that are free to them, and I think this is good.

Another Minister came into the St. Catharines area and they had a programme—the new county jails they are going to build throughout the province. Lincoln county and Welland county decided that they would go on with the new programme. The hon. Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Crossman), who is also not here, decided that this was a good programme and he came there, and they invited me to the reception and I was very happy to see that the wheels were in motion. But it is my opinion, and the opinion of every elected individual in municipal councils, and in county councils, that this type of expenditure should not be borne by the county councils or the municipalities. Jails and jail farms should be a provincial expenditure and they should maintain the whole cost of operation and of construction.

We have maintained the jail in Welland—the 100-year-old jail, older than that—right in the city, where property is very valuable and it is my opinion that this should not be an expenditure. The government talks about regional government, and the Prime Minister made a statement today that I can read between the lines. No legislation will come in this session for the Niagara area, the Niagara peninsula, Ottawa, Carleton and Eastview, Halton and Peel, because there is an election coming and the government does not want to offend the elected representatives of the province. It does not want to offend the small-town reeves and councillors, because its members would not get elected.

They say they are going to have some more research. I have heard nothing but research.

On regional government, I thought possibly this year, because it is getting a lot of cooperation in the Niagara peninsula—with some minor objection—that maybe this government would take the bull by the horns and bring about legislation that would be better than it has today. Men recognize this in those areas, but the government will, in my opinion do nothing before the next general election, and I stand to be corrected. I will be the first to admit I was wrong, if it does.

The government of this province has never taken the lead. Its members are followers. Once they decide that possibly the people will stand for their kind of treatment, then and only then will they bring in legislation that might be good for them and keep them elected in their offices. But it is my opinion that nothing progressive will happen until after the next election. Promises we will get, but action, no. We will not get any action. I see one Minister is in the House with a big smirk on his face, but we can excuse him for that. Nice to see him go.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Present!

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Easy to identify the smirker!

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Speaker, we will discuss pollution, if you will. I would like to mention that some of the people in that particular department have done a bit of a job for us. Recently the Norton Company in the village where I live, possibly one of the worst offenders of air pollution, has spent \$167,000 to tie in several stacks to catch the dust and the smoke. Just within the last few days, I think Monday of this week, in the Niagara Falls Review, one can see the thing in operation. The dirt and the dust that was coming out of these stacks is caught into this particular object, where they can catch the fallout and then put the smoke through a process and let it out. Two beautiful pictures of something that can be done by money.

But I think this government ought to take it a step further than that. There are two resolutions on the order paper pertaining to this matter. I do believe while I am on my feet I will have to mention this. I believe that we ought to get together with the people in the state of New York. The governor of that state recently had a convention in Buffalo—some of the government people might have been there—to discuss the pos-

sibility of cleaning up pollution in New York state, and is giving a tax incentive. I believe that if these industries are going to put in a unit—

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): The member is speaking to my resolution.

Mr. Bukator: Yes. I am glad I am. Sarnia has got a serious problem too. But if the member does not mind, I would like to touch lightly on the subject.

I believe that rather than a capital expenditure, such as it is, that should be considered an expense against the business and the owners should have a quick write-off on it. It is as simple as that. Here was an industry that started to do something in an area where there is a lot of air pollution. I see of late—I suppose they are to be complimented—there have been two or three industries that had to pay a penalty for not getting to the job as quickly as they ought to.

If the government is doing something in that area, I would be the first to compliment it. But I want it to know that there are individual industries in the riding that I represent which are doing a job, or at least starting to.

The hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) is also not in the House. I understand for the benefit of the record there are only five Ministers in the House out of 23. That is a pretty good average, I suppose, five out of 23. That is about 20 per cent.

Mr. Sopha: The Whip just came to his seat. The statistician just came to his seat.

Mr. Bukator: Recently I read in the paper where the Attorney General said that they are going to take over 44 police departments consisting of one man—just one man in those particular departments. I did not know there was anything like that in the province. So The Attorney General's Department is going to take over and police them by provincial police. After they get the men appointed to their jobs they will work out of the nearest detachment. I would think that this is good business.

I understand the Attorney General is going to bring about—and I hope in the not too distant future—legislation or through the Act that he has now, to take on all municipalities up to five and police them with the provincial police, and I think this is also good.

About two years ago I made reference to the fact that in a summer resort area such as the village of Crystal Beach, they have to hire five or six additional police. I think it is the same in Grand Bend and other areas,

where the municipality has to hire extra police to police the people who come into that area. In the case of Crystal Beach, some 25,000 people live there over and above the usual residents of that village, which is about 3,000 people in the off-season.

When they come into that village, the village taxpayer has to pay the full shot of the added police. This strikes me as a peculiar way for the government to operate. The police are doing a job for the province and being paid by the province. They are policing the people on the highway, the same people who finally funnel into these towns, and because they come off the highways into that town or that village to police the very people who do not live there, then the village has to pay the shot.

One might say we are talking about establishing a precedent. No such thing. The city of Niagara Falls collects some \$27,000 a year through an agreement with this province to police the Rainbow bridge area during the summer months. They have extra police when they need them if the travelling public comes there, so they pay them an additional \$27,000 for the extra police that have to do that job. If they can do it in that area, why can they not do it in the summer resort areas?

It is my opinion that when added police are needed in these small municipalities the province should continue to pay them as it did the previous week when they were doing the job on the highways. This is a simple request and I think an intelligent approach.

I do believe that these odds and ends, these small police departments, ought to be brought under one roof. This is good, but it is too little, in my opinion, and too late.

I made reference to the fact the Rainbow bridge has a little extra policing in the summer months and next year it will need that much more because they are completely reconstructing the area. They pay grants there in lieu of real taxes up to about \$12,000 a year. I understand there is going to be a complex of stores built whereby many private citizens can have the same store as they had before they were taken out to be replaced with new ones. I understand there is going to be a big restaurant built there, and as the Prime Minister said, the grapevine tells him our members in the front benches here will be done away with when another election rolls around. Some are going to quit and some may not, but they will not be here after the election anyway, this is his impression.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): We will be on the other side.

Mr. Bukator: That is right. And the member would be surprised at how much truth there is in what he said.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What did he say?

Mr. Bukator: He said we would be on the other side. Mind you, we do not have to be good to be better than the government. All we have to do is read the popular vote.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Which one?

Mr. Bukator: Oh, I will tell the Minister what—maybe the one the government paid for cost a little bit more to slant its way. But look at the facts. If the government does not like it one way, look at it the other, with the two Opposition parties. With the two Opposition parties, we still have the bulk of the vote, even with the government record.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Where did the member get those facts?

Mr. Bukator: It is nice to see the hon. Minister back. I hope he has settled this very big project this afternoon and now we will have housing galore and the people will not have to live in huts and these torn-down shambles of homes. They will now have what they should have had many years ago. I hope he can report that to us, and if he can, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, I will sit down and wait until he does that for us.

But I would like to proceed with this one important item. It makes me so happy to see the Minister of Mines not wanting to leave. Apparently he is interested in something I said. He should come back and sit and join us, we would like to have him.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to touch on the new canal again. With the Minister here, I will not have a better opportunity. As you know, from Port Colborne to Port Dalhousie they are building a new canal and they are taking many homes out. When this pair of Ministers gets through conversing I will go back to that point. I should go back to my bridge, I suppose, until they get through with their conversation. I would think, Mr. Speaker, there should be some courtesy and I do not think this is.

Mr. Speaker: The member is making too many references to what the other members are doing.

Mr. Bukator: I am sorry.

The problem I was speaking of is the housing problem. I believe many homes can be—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bukator: I could talk to these gentlemen for hours about the shortcomings of their departments.

I was saying that there are many homes that are boarded up now that have been expropriated from the owners. Down in Iroquois they did pick up these houses and put them on a new site with parks and schools, and the old homes very quickly became a nice village. There are little ones and big ones but they made a nice setting for them. There are many hundreds of homes in Lincoln county and Welland county that are going to be done away with and I would think if the government is interested in housing for older citizens, then that would be a good place to concentrate for a little while and see whether it could not set up an area—and I realize that it has sewage disposal problems—

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): Maybe the federal government could do something; that is their responsibility.

Mr. Bukator: Yes, that is right. That was a good contribution and I appreciate the assistance, from wherever it comes.

I would like very much to go back to one point that has bothered me for quite some time, and that is the government enterprises versus private enterprise. It is the parks commission I speak of, where they do not pay taxes on their concessions even though they do business in direct opposition to private enterprise.

They have many restaurants, they have many concessions. They do business in direct opposition to people just down the street from them and they pay no taxes whatsoever. Since Niagara Falls has compiled a report they would like to present to the Prime Minister, I feel that I ought to stay off that subject. I will have an opportunity later in the session to speak on these issues. I do not think it is good that I should reveal these facts to the House until they have had a chance to present their brief to the government.

I was very much impressed with the Prime Minister getting on his feet yesterday afternoon and saying that many of the Liberal members will not be here after the next election. I once upon a time mentioned to him that he changes his Ministers and his government just like a football team changes players. Now he has come to the place where he is not putting them out completely, but gentlemen who have rendered a service to this province for many, many years — good men — because they are getting a little older are slowly shuffled out, or pushed out of the Cabinet to the point where they now become

back benchers. No doubt in the next election they will be apt not to come back again.

Others will be nominated in their places. I can hazard a guess, just like the Prime Minister did. If he takes these old gentlemen out of the government and replaces them with new and goes on the hustings to decide whether it should be Liberal or Conservative, I can see where he has no edge on us at all, none whatsoever.

We have capable men who are being nominated. Capable men who are well thought of; men who will come into this House, Mr. Speaker, and render a service in the same fashion; if not, it could not be as bad — anything would be better than what you have now.

We are capable. We have a new leader. We have many men who are waiting to be nominated. We will win this province in the next election.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bukator: We will win this province. It is not hard to see, it does not require a mathematician to figure that one out.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Bukator: I have not had a chance to look over the new statement. The government's deficit alone ought to indicate that with all the good times this government has had they are still running a deficit.

I cannot understand it; will they ever be able to balance their budget at least one year? I cannot understand it. Time will tell.

I expect, Mr. Speaker, that we will have many opportunities to discuss the individual departments; and that is what I am looking forward to, naturally.

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to participate in this Throne Debate I must say that I do so with a deep feeling of very humble pride; not only that I am a member of this House, but more especially that fate has willed that I be a member of the Legislature of Ontario and have the privilege of representing the fine citizens of Oshawa riding during our Centennial session.

I note there have been recent suggestions in one of the large Metro dailies that along with some 17 members my position will change in the next few months. Be that as it may, Mr. Speaker, I am quite satisfied that it will be the voters in Oshawa riding who will decide this matter and not the computers or the mathematicians or the public relations men of a certain political party.

It is usual in one's opening statement to offer a few congratulatory remarks, and this session there appears to be a wide variety of such remarks which should be made.

I would first of all say a word of congratulations to the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), on his by-election victory and I am sure that his victory is an indication of things to come.

There have been a number of Cabinet changes since the last session, and I would extend sincere congratulations to our new Ministers and also to those Ministers who have changed portfolios. I am sure these Cabinet changes will insure a continuation of the splendid leadership and good government which this province has enjoyed for the past 20 years.

Hearty congratulations are also in order to the new leader of the Liberal Party, the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon)—a dedicated young man, whom I have found to be both congenial and friendly. This is the second time I have congratulated a new Liberal leader during my brief four years in this Legislature and I would say to the leader of the Opposition, as I said to his predecessor, long may you remain in your present position.

The member for Kenora and the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) have brought us fine, thought-provoking speeches in moving and seconding the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne and I extend to them my congratulations.

You, Mr. Speaker, continue to conduct the affairs of this House in an excellent and impartial manner as we all knew you would when first you were appointed.

In my Throne Debate speech of last February, I brought to the attention of this House the problem of an injunction in a labour dispute which was causing concern in my home city of Oshawa. This afternoon I would bring to the floor of this House another problem which is possibly of even greater concern to the constituents which I represent, and I refer to the Canada-U.S. auto free trade pact.

Originally it was predicted by the federal government officials that this auto pact would produce an even greater measure of employment and be a real boon to our economy, but in recent months there have been grave doubts in my riding as to the present and future effect of this pact. In the face of criticism that has been levelled against this

pact, I note that Mr. Drury of the federal government was quoted in the press last week as saying the auto pact benefits have not been fully realized. I would hasten to express the hope that we in Oshawa riding are not called upon to accept the same benefits that we have been subject to during the past year as a result of this auto free trade agreement.

In 1965, the city of Oshawa was the largest single producer of automotive vehicles in all Canada. General Motors spent several hundred millions of dollars in Canada, the major portion of which was spent right here in Ontario. By these figures it is apparent the automotive industry has a very definite impact on the economy of this province.

In February, 1965, I spoke in this House regarding the new Canada-U.S. auto free trade agreement and I expressed surprise at that time when informed by the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) that our government was not called in for discussion during the formulation of this new automotive free trade agreement. When one considers that our province is by far the leader in automotive production in Canada, and the impact of this industry on our provincial economy, I suggest my surprise was understandable.

During my speech of two years ago, I pointed out that federal officials claimed to have the necessary assurances that our automotive industry would be protected and that the new agreement would increase Canadian automotive production and employment. I concluded my remarks on this subject at that time by saying:

I would hope and pray that this new free trade agreement will justify the high hopes held for it by the government of Canada.

To be blunt, Mr. Speaker, neither my hopes nor my prayers have been substantiated as far as my riding was concerned.

The stated objective of this agreement was the provision of greater employment in the automotive industry. The exact opposite is actually what has happened in the motor city of Canada. Last August General Motors announced that 2,600 employees at least would not be recalled.

I would at this point like to express my appreciation to the former Minister of Labour (Mr. Rowntree), and the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), for their cooperation in meeting with Oshawa labour officials and offering every possible

assistance by way of retraining for laid-off workers.

Both the united automobile workers and the Oshawa city council sent delegations to Ottawa last fall to protest the situation. The Canada-U.S. automotive trade agreement must be considered as a direct responsibility of the federal government at Ottawa, because this government, rather than the automotive manufacturers, entered into the agreement with the United States. To the average layman, indeed to some of the experts, it is difficult to figure out exactly what is involved in this new agreement.

On January 10 the *Oshawa Times* carried the story of the Algoma Manufacturing Tool and Die Company, a 25-year company which has been handling work for General Motors in the city of Oshawa. Since the introduction of the auto pact it has lost 80 per cent of its business and its employment has dropped from 55 persons to five.

The big problem, of course, is that some of these small companies are geared to automotive industry and are finding it very difficult and also very expensive, to adjust in another direction. They naturally ask the question: "Why should we find ourselves in this position of having to adjust after all these years?"

I realize full well that our provincial government is not to blame for implementing the auto free trade agreement, but along with a great many other citizens in Oshawa I am seriously concerned as to just where we are heading. I recently read in a government publication a statement to the effect that, "freer trade with the United States is a concept that could be applied to many Canadian industries"; and also, "in light of recent trends it seems likely that the question of international free trade and its effects on our economy will become more, rather than less, important in the near future."

I am no economist, Mr. Speaker, and it may well be that these last two statements are quite correct, but I feel it is my duty to present the facts as they affect the people I represent.

Trade agreements such as the auto free trade pact may be important to the overall economy of Ontario. The figures produced for 1965 would indicate this to be so, but recently there seems to be a trend in the other direction. Certainly hundreds of young men in the Oshawa area who are among the laid-off workers are unable to appreciate just what this new pact has accomplished.

There would appear to be little overall advantage in a programme that lays off large

numbers of men in one area of the province and creates employment for a similar number of men in another area. If this does happen to be so, and I am not at all sure that employment is being created in other areas to the same degree that unemployment has taken place in the Oshawa area.

I would urge The Department of Economics and Development and The Department of Labour to make an immediate, up-to-date investigation of this auto free trade pact, both from the standpoint of the effect on our provincial economy and also the effect on the livelihood of a large number of our citizens in various parts of the province.

Pressure should be brought to bear—and I think this is one of the most important points—pressure should be brought to bear on the federal authorities to ensure that every word of this auto free trade pact is lived up to and that Ontario's displaced workers do not suffer financial hardship as a result of this agreement; and here I refer to the benefits which are supposedly to be made available to these displaced workers under this agreement.

Mr. Drury claims the problem is a decline in public demand for autos and this normally leads to layoffs. This may have some bearing on the situation at this moment, but let us not be lulled to sleep by this type of statement. Mr. Drury's statement does not answer the question of the very large mass layoff of last August before the production even started; or the small auto plants which are virtually forced to close their doors.

Let there be no doubt about it, I submit there is cause for concern; and here in Ontario we have a responsibility to thousands of worried auto workers to be sure as to just where we are heading as far as this auto pact is concerned.

I fully realize, Mr. Speaker, that export figures appear to prove that the auto pact is working fairly well; but these figures are not being substantiated by events in Oshawa and elsewhere where it is apparent the pact is hurting our employment picture.

I feel it is my duty to speak out on behalf of the people of the riding I represent as far as this agreement is concerned, because it does have a great impact on their livelihood. Mr. Speaker, I would hasten to point out that if subsequent events prove my concern to be unfounded, along with many other people in Oshawa riding I will be the happiest person in the world.

The Throne Speech which was presented last week, demonstrated again the ability of this government to face up to the challenges

of the day. It demonstrated the policy of the government will be a continued programme of meeting the responsibilities that confront us, and that we will continue to face in varying degrees, as we meet the challenge of keeping Ontario in the limelight as Canada's province of opportunity.

The assault on the housing bottleneck, as briefly outlined in the HOME programme, will provide a major step in bringing home ownership within the reach of thousands of families.

There have been some jocular remarks about the idea of HOME. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that it really doesn't matter whether the programme is called HOME; what is important, and the main point of achievement, is the fact that we can provide a place for people to live which they can actually call "home".

It was brought to the attention of your select committee on aging on numerous occasions that senior citizens' housing and low rental homes are also a major need in many parts of this province.

The Ontario housing corporation during the past couple of years has been making real progress in the housing field, but the backlog of needed housing has built up to such a degree that an all-out crash programme is an absolute necessity. The housing programme as outlined in the Throne Speech must be pushed forward as the number one target in this province.

During the tours of our select committee around the province it became apparent there was a lack of communication or understanding, especially in the smaller centres, by elected municipal officials regarding the necessary approach to secure needed housing. Another favourite sport of some municipal officials seems to be to simply place the blame for lack of needed housing in their community on the shoulders of the Ontario housing corporation, when it may be the holdup is lack of action on the part of the municipality in providing the necessary land and services.

I am not attempting, Mr. Speaker, to provide a defence for the Ontario housing corporation. I am simply making the point that our housing problem is not entirely a one way street. In any event, there must be an all-out emphasis at both the municipal and provincial levels in an effort to solve our present housing crisis—and the emphasis must be now.

Other items contained in the Throne Speech—such as the improvements in the field of education and health; the public enquiry into divorce laws; compensation for injury

while aiding police; air pollution; agriculture; and a new labour standards code—are all matters of concern to the people of this province and are designed to assist our people and to improve their standards of living. As one of the Metro editorial writers put it: "The bones are promising, we will await the flesh legislation with interest."

One area which was not dealt with in the Throne Speech, and an area with which I am particularly concerned, is that of the financial problems facing our municipalities. Having come to this House through the ranks of the municipal council, I know something of these many problems.

The rapid growth and expansion which Ontario has enjoyed over the past 20 years, has brought with it the inevitable financial problems which seemingly go hand-in-hand with expansion.

A study by the national industrial conference board shows that since 1952 municipal governments have been increasing their share of total government spending. By a fair margin the municipal governments spend more of the taxes collected than either of those referred to as the senior levels of government. The breakdown of spending as reported in 1966 was: municipal government 42.7 per cent; federal government 34 per cent; and provincial government 23.2 per cent.

The problem of provincial aid to municipalities is one of increasing concern to government, and is also of real concern to the homeowner who is called upon to pay the ever-increasing costs. The situation which faces us today is that while we are a province of comparative wealth, we are constantly confronted with the problem of financial need. We find ourselves faced with the necessity of spending more and more to satisfy the needs of our municipalities.

Undoubtedly the most serious problem at the municipal level today is the ever-increasing costs of education. During the past 20 years educational costs have skyrocketed. The unfortunate part of the entire situation is that within our municipalities there are a number of people who are on fixed income, and with service costs, including education, soaring the way they are, these same people are finding it increasingly difficult to meet their municipal tax payments. This was a problem with which our select committee on aging was confronted on many occasions during its hearings, and is a matter of real concern.

Many of these homeowners patriotically continue to bear, through municipal and

school taxes, a share of the cost of education, although their families have long since ceased to use the province's facilities. These citizens are now faced with a decline in the purchasing power of pensions or other fixed incomes in this era of inflation.

Our pensioners on fixed incomes are not alone, of course, when municipal taxes are being considered. To the average homeowner, municipal taxes are an ever-increasing financial strain. Today municipalities are steadily getting to the point where it is taking 40 to 50 per cent of real estate taxes to meet the rising cost of education, and I am convinced that under our present municipal education system we cannot go much further.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): The member was not listening to what his leader said. Everything was rosy—everything was rosy this afternoon.

Mr. Walker: Am I making the speech—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Walker: The increasing need for expanded and various services in our education system has placed, and will continue to place, a burden on the material resources of the province to the extent that policies of finance and organization play almost as important a part in our educational process as our policies in education.

There are municipalities that advocate the government should take over the entire cost of education, while others suggest varying percentages. I would agree there is a real need at the municipal taxpayers' level that the province accept a larger share of the education costs. But I would hope that the municipality would always retain a strong voice in its own local school administration, and to assure this situation the municipality would have to accept a portion of the financial responsibility.

If the province assumed a much larger share of the education costs, it would, of course, be faced with an additional heavy financial burden. I realize, just as well as anyone in this House, that regardless of which level of government assumes the heavy share of payment for our education costs, in the final analysis it will be—to coin a phrase—the man on the street who will be required to pay the bill. I suggest, however, that a revision in our taxation system could achieve a much fairer distribution of our education costs.

Previously in this House I have suggested the possibility of a provincial education tax, and I still feel this idea has merit. In other words, tax people, commerce and industry directly to finance education. If such a tax revision were introduced, municipal taxes would be reduced, but total taxes in the majority of cases would not be. The major achievement and advantage would be a broader and fairer taxation base for education. I suggest there is strong support for the thinking that education costs should not be tied to land assessment and land taxes.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Hear, hear! Right!

Mr. Walker: One thing is certain, there is need for a revamping of our taxation structure, particularly in the field of educational costs. Education is so essential to the progress, wealth and social well-being of our people, that all levels of government must be prepared to offer every assistance necessary towards furthering our educational opportunities.

In referring to assistance from all levels of government, I submit to this House that our federal government should be doing more, much more, in support of the financing of higher education. In view of the strong indications of the federal government that there would be a considerable additional financial support for education, the results of the Dominion-provincial conference of last fall were, to say the least, disappointing. Down at Ottawa they may have forgotten that education is the very backbone of our nation.

The proposal in the Throne Speech to convene a Confederation of tomorrow conference is both timely and of great significance. It clearly demonstrates the continuing interest and dedication which this government has towards a united Canada.

The approach of our Centennial year has produced many varying views on Confederation, and during recent months there has been much discussion throughout our country on our future as a country. What form, or forms, will our society take as the natural process of growth and evolution takes place? How are we to organize ourselves socially, politically and economically in these changing situations? Never has there been as much discussion of ourselves, never have we been as preoccupied with our future as at the present time.

The problems facing us today seem to present very difficult obstacles, but, as we look at the situation now and think back 100 years, it can be said that the political leaders of the

country in those days were confronted with many more difficulties than we face today.

I suggest to this House, Mr. Speaker, that 100 years ago the fathers of Confederation were faced with problems which in comparison dwarf those of today.

In my opinion we have a whole new set of problems now, but as I say I do not think they are any greater or will be any more difficult to overcome, than those problems which were faced in those years.

One of the major achievements toward which we must always work is that of a united Canada. We must work to strengthen and make richer the historic partnership between English and French Canada. We must ever bear in mind that Canada is a country of two basic cultures and these two cultures will remain the cornerstone of the future development of our nation. We must look forward with the same foresight that our fathers of Confederation displayed towards a strong Canada.

Here in Ontario we are in a unique position to influence for good or evil the problem of national unity. Within the federation our actions take on a much greater significance than that of a single province dealing with the senior government. Ontario must ever be conscious of the impact of our stand on Quebec and the interpretation placed upon our actions by that province. We are, in fact, looked upon by Quebecers as the spokesmen for and the example of English speaking Canadians.

The Prime Minister of this province has on several occasions made very clear the desire of Ontario to work for national unity through such statements as: "We believe that there must be a single Canadian national identity." Again: "It is essential that we grow together as a country for the benefit of all Canadians"; and again: "Ontario is wholeheartedly dedicated to the preservation of Canada as a nation from sea to sea."

In conclusion I submit, Mr. Speaker, that we are blessed in being permitted to live in the most stimulating and exciting period in the history of this country. The potential for the future development of this great country is unlimited and we must never become so concerned over specific problems that we fail to grasp the concept of a stronger and more vital Canadian nation.

In my humble opinion, the best way we can serve our province in this Centennial year is to keep our economy strong and vibrant, to keep Ontario progressive and prosperous and to work with our sister provinces and the

federal government to keep Canada on the path of national development and of national unity.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of pride and real privilege that I do rise today to take part in this Throne Debate. It certainly is a special honour in view of the fact this is our country's Centennial year in which I have the privilege of speaking on behalf of the residents of the most southerly area in Canada, and an area that has the longest continuous settlements in Ontario and played such an important role in our country's life back in 1812.

I would congratulate the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), on his excellent speech the other day. I hope his tenure in this chamber will be forthright. We trust that it will not be too long, but while he is here and being a big man, I hope he can wield a big stick on the Treasury benches opposite and get a few things for that very fine part of our province.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate too the hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Ben), who has initiated a very fine Centennial project. Many of us possibly would like to undertake such projects, and speaking on behalf of the food industry in our country and especially the baby food industry, we welcome this as a very fine Centennial project.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): It would never happen over there with that old government.

Mr. E. A. Dunlop (Forest Hill): The member should speak for himself!

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, it is with some regret that my suspicions lead me to believe that this may be Mr. Speaker's last term in this House. It is my opinion that Mr. Speaker's approach to his important position in the conduct of this House has been most fair and generous and that we in the Opposition parties who represent the majority of the people in the province, who have opposed the policies of the Conservative administration, have had a chance of a fair hearing.

The members of the Liberal Party and I look forward to the weeks and months ahead when we will have the opportunity to receive the full mandate of the majority of the people of our province and the reins of government under the leadership of the capable and responsible hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon).

It is also with a sense of regret that this will be the last term for many in this House whom I count as personal friends—those who, after a number of years in failing health, feel that they cannot fully represent the people of their constituency and thus have decided to relinquish their elected office. However, there are other persons in this House who by the very nature of the political game will not return to this chamber. And my Liberal colleagues and I are looking forward to occupying those seats on the other side of the House, and not only will we see to it that many of the Conservative benches are cleared but also a good percentage of the socialist seats vacated as well.

Most people around this chamber know me as a fairly mild man, a person who is open to reason, who accepts the principles of government as all Liberals do. But there comes a time when even I rise somewhat in anger, somewhat in disgust and disappointment at the actions of some of the members on the Treasury benches. Specifically I would like to relate an incident that occurred last night.

According to the press, a group from this chamber flew to Windsor, and I will read the clipping, to attend a Macdonald-Cartier meeting. This is not a highways meeting, as I understand it; I believe it is a political meeting. If it had been a highways meeting, fine and dandy. But to read the clipping, and I have no doubt that the veracity of this clipping is correct, it states that the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) will make a flying visit to Windsor and he will fly in a twin Otter aircraft of The Department of Lands and Forests. The Prime Minister's party was to include the hon. member for Windsor-Sandwich (Mr. Thrasher), a Conservative member; the hon. Minister without Portfolio the member for Kent West (Mr. McKeough) and the Whip of the Conservative Party.

Some hon. members: Shame, shame!

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, I want to set the record straight. The expenses of that trip were paid for by the Progressive Conservative Party in the same way as similar trips have been when asked by Opposition parties—

Some hon. members: When? When?

Mr. White: I will be very glad to detail that information.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. White: It is a privilege of members of this House regardless of political affiliation.

Mr. Paterson: It is a political abuse, just as the car pools driving the Ministers down to hotels at nights and a lot of nonsense, and driving them home at the weekends.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The Prime Minister has come to his seat now.

Mr. Paterson: Yes, we are pleased to see the Prime Minister back.

But this makes me rise in anger, and as I said, I am usually a mild man.

Hon. Mr. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I would be delighted to give the member an explanation if he would like one.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, we certainly are entitled to it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Of course, I am well aware that I cannot use a government plane for political purposes and I have made arrangements with The Department of Lands and Forests, which operates the plane, to log its operation. If there is any doubt in my mind about the propriety of the use of that plane, of course it is charged to me personally and I pay for it. The alternative would be to go and rent a plane from a commercial renting organization, which on occasion I do. But I can assure the member that the use of that plane last night will be paid for.

There are other occasions on which I have used that same aircraft and have paid an hourly rate which has been worked out by a member of my staff with The Department of Lands and Forests. Certainly I would not accept the fact that I would have the privilege of using a government plane for what could be and certainly is a private matter such as I was engaged in last night. But it is the straight actual operating cost that is charged and I will get the bill for that.

Mr. Paterson: I accept the statement of the Prime Minister on the actual operating cost and trust that this takes into account that the public has purchased the aircraft in the first instance, and that the depreciation factor is taken into consideration.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is taken into consideration in the costing.

Mr. Paterson: But I would consider it more prudent—

Mr. Sopha: He did not get to Windsor, we understand.

Mr. Paterson: I do not think it would have done much good down there in any case.

But I think it would be more prudent on the part of the Treasury benches to lease an aircraft from private enterprise rather than the government service.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I would only say to the member that the procedure that I have outlined is used in other governments. There is nothing unique about this. I think if one were to check, one would find that the same thing is true of the federal government. The Department of Transport runs X number of planes for the government, and really, we pay the cost of it.

I do not see that there is anything more prudent about going to a commercial airline. The planes are there, the pilots are there and it has the convenience of permitting us to do these things. I know of occasions when government planes have been used for other members of this House but I am not going to mention them here today.

I do not think that under certain circumstances there is anything wrong with it. For instance, on various northern tours we have taken through the years, we have had two or three Lands and Forests planes standing by during the whole course of the tour through northern Ontario—

Mr. Paterson: These are not political junkets.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just a minute until I finish—to airlift people who were on that northern tour and had other duties in other parts of the province, and they left the tour by plane and rejoined it. Their objectives when they left the tour were not always connected with government functions.

This has been done. I know that it has been done on tours I have accompanied myself, it has been an accepted matter. I think what we need here, as in so many of these things, is the exercise of commonsense and judgment. I do not think there is anything wrong in using a government plane. After all, we have got duties here and it is a convenient way, and if we pay what is worked out as the hourly cost for it, I do not see that it would be any more prudent—as the member puts it—to say we cannot do this, that we must go and do something else.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, did the Prime Minister make it clear that this rental basis would be available to Opposition members as well if they are prepared to make those payments?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am sorry. Does the member mean—

Mr. Nixon: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I did not make that clear.

Mr. Nixon: Because his explanation emphasized the fact that during the northern tour they were prepared to accommodate any of the members who were—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well we did; and they did not pay for it.

Mr. Nixon: No of course not, because this was a tour of the Legislature, a different thing entirely.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It all depends. If one left the tour to go to a political meeting in his own riding and then rejoined the tour; see what I mean? That is why I say there has to be some exercise—

Mr. Nixon: Could the Prime Minister answer my question?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well I suppose if one has some place to go and the plane is available and a member wanted to use it, they might ask. If the government plane—

Mr. Nixon: Could the Prime Minister just give the answer?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is a government plane. It is used for a variety of things. I might as well go into the whole matter now. For instance, we can clear every seat out of it in 15 minutes and it is a working plane.

During the rail strike all the seats were removed and it was used on government business. It can be used for fire fighting. It is a complete—

Mr. Nixon: Did the government use it in Kenora?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Pardon?

Mr. Nixon: Between here and Kenora?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I never used it to Kenora. I flew to Kenora, but I did not fly in an Ontario government plane. I was there for other things.

It has been used to move groups of civil servants from one place to another for meetings; and there is only one plane. There is only one.

I would have no objection, if the hon. member has some reason to want to use it, if he ask me about it, if it is available, and if

it is not going to cause any difficulty; he would of course be subject to the same rates I suppose that I would pay.

Mr. Nixon: Well I would say, Mr. Speaker, since the subject has come up so fully, we would be very interested in getting some estimate of the rates.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I will tell the hon. leader of the Opposition, because I had it worked out for myself.

Mr. Paterson: I might ask the—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: This does not happen very often. It is not a common practice. I would suppose in the time the aircraft has been in use, I would think perhaps three times—it has never been used on a basis where I personally felt that it was necessary for me to pay for it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, the auditor of this province has come out with the reports for 1965 and 1966, and I would ask the Prime Minister if he agrees with the content. On page 22, I would read four paragraphs and it states:

In some cases government owned vehicles are being used for personal transportation as well as for government business. Proper records are not being kept for all vehicles with the result that it is difficult to determine the amount of the personal portion.

I think this could apply to aircraft also.

There also appears to be an inconsistency in the charging for personal use when some persons make a payment and others do not. The following recommendations are submitted.

Mr. Sopha: We will ask if we can rent a car.

Mr. Paterson: And I would submit that these should apply to aircraft usage also. First, a standard form log book should be designed and maintained for all government vehicles. Second, the system of charging for personal use of vehicles should be reviewed with a view to establishing uniformity.

A general review of all government-owned vehicles and their use should be made periodically to ensure that each vehicle is necessary for the efficiency of the department. In this respect the establishment of inter-departmental pool cars rather than having each

vehicle assigned to a specific department should be explored. I would feel that the provincial auditor's report should also apply to aircraft in this regard.

As I stated previously, before I went off the topic of my prepared text, there were many reasons why this government was not going to be returned as the government of Ontario. There are many reasons why the people of our province are seeking change in the administration to a Liberal government. It is the problem of rural Ontario which I think is foremost—the problem of agriculture and all facets of this industry, a problem that has had its ups and downs, and mostly downs, during the almost quarter century of Conservative administration.

This government has failed to come up with adequate policies for agriculture to maintain our farmers' position in the provincial economy. Just as in any business, the farmers should be entitled to a weekly managerial wage. Members of his family should be entitled to get paid for their efforts on the family farm. But as well as this, a farmer, like any businessman, is entitled to a fair return on his investment, and this must be as high as, or higher than, the going rate of interest due to the seasonal and varied conditions in which the farmers work. I feel that this has not been achieved during the past quarter century.

This government has failed to solve the basic farm problem, the limited and inadequate share of the consumer dollar, and the provincial and Canadian market for our farm products during our limited growing season. Specifically I am referring to the fruit and vegetable industry in our province, and more directly to the industry that exists in Essex county. There are several points that I would like to make in this regard, and I shall try to make them as specific as possible.

First, there is the basic problem of communication of prices in the market place and communication of the availability of produce. The disorganized marketing position and lack of information has put Essex county growers in a very weak marketing position. Many sales are lost to imports as our growers have not been able to relate their position quickly and concretely to the changes in food wholesalers'.

Second, there are price spreads because of this lack of information, not only among the various growing areas of our province, but right among the growers in our county of Essex. Authoritative information is not accessible to many in spite of the excellent effort made by the office of the Essex county associated growers. Our isolation from the market,

ignorance of quantities being sold and the prices that this produce is sold at, put our local growers at a disadvantage not only with the many local dealers but in the market as a whole. This weak marketing position is further heightened by producers sending their produce on a consignment basis where they have lost complete control of the disposition of their product.

To this date it appears to me that the growers banding together in our area have tried to solve this problem of lack of communication. I assume that this is the same in other vegetable-growing areas of our province. However, I am convinced that these efforts have not been as successful as the growers would wish and I would like to make the suggestion that this government investigate the possibilities that I shall enunciate.

To solve this lack of communication as to daily and hourly changes in prices and quantities of produce being sold or offered for sale, I would suggest that the government establish at the Ontario fruit terminal an exchange office based on the principles and methods of the Toronto stock exchange. Through a telecommunication system to all

parts of our province, factual and accurate information would be readily available as to current bids and offerings, availability of supply, and the qualities of produce sold at each price level. A summary of the market would be made available daily in a printed form, both in the press and in a separate market sheet to those who would subscribe to the same. The technicalities of such a system could be worked out by experts in the field, considered by this government, evaluated, and, I trust, implemented.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the late hour and the number of wide-ranging topics that I would like to deal with, I move the adjournment of this debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, February 3, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1967

The House met at 10.30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests in the east gallery students from Delta secondary school, Hamilton.

Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petition has been received: Of the University of Western Ontario praying that an Act may pass altering the composition of the board of governors and the senate; and for related purposes.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Motions.

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves that the hon. member for Oshawa (Mr. Walker) be substituted for the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. R. G. Hodgson) on the standing committee on agriculture and food.

Also that the member for Victoria be substituted for the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Reuter) on the standing committee on public accounts.

Also that the hon. member for Kingston (Mr. Apps) be substituted for the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Brown) on the standing committee on natural resources and tourism.

Also that the member for Waterloo South be substituted for the member for Victoria on the standing committee on government commissions.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF TORONTO

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George), in the absence of Mr. A. H. Cowling (High Park), moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Toronto.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts).

Would the Prime Minister tell the House the cost of flying himself and the party to a meeting of a Windsor political club, and return, during the week of January 30 in The Department of Lands and Forests' aircraft?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have not yet received an invoice, but I checked this morning and I was informed that when it comes it will be for \$310.20.

Mr. Paterson: Could the Prime Minister advise me as to whether this account will be paid by the Conservative Party as stated by the Whip or by the Prime Minister himself, as he reiterated last night?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will pay the bill.

An hon. member: How much money has he got in the bank?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett).

Would the Minister inform the House what progress has been made in the federal-provincial discussions in respect to safety standards for motor vehicles?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of no federal-provincial discussions in respect of safety standards for motor vehicles, other than those flowing from the request of the specifications board of The Department of Defence Production for technical assistance and advice in drawing up a safety code and specifications

for use by the federal government in the purchase of its own civilian-type motor vehicles.

Mr. Young: Might I ask the Minister a supplementary question?

I had in mind what the press reported yesterday, that the Minister of Transport was conferring with the Ministers in the provinces. I wonder if the Minister would inform the House whether such communication has taken place?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I assume the question was based on a press report. I can add nothing to what I have said.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I wonder if I could take the time, of the House just for a moment to mention a very sad incident that took place this morning?

Yesterday the hon. member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben) announced a very happy event in the House, and this morning, unfortunately, we are advised that the baby passed away. I am sure that all members of the House will join with me in expressing sympathy to the member for Bracondale and his wife in this very tragic event.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker, I would join with the hon. member for Downsview. I do not think there really is anything further that can be said. We are all very sad about this occurrence, particularly in view of the joy that was shown over this event yesterday. Our sympathy goes to Mr. and Mrs. Ben.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have some questions for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree).

How many prospectuses were filed with the Ontario securities commission by Prudential Financial Corporation Limited? What were their formal dates? What were the specific dates of filing? What amending statements to these prospectuses were filed and what were their respective dates of filing?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I believe there was a subsequent question as well with respect to the names of the solicitors who had been retained.

Mr. Renwick: I have two further questions.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Would the hon. member put them all?

Mr. Speaker: Would the member put them all?

Mr. Renwick: The second question is: What was the name of the firm of solicitors who processed the prospectuses of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited through the Ontario securities commission?

The third question is: How many meetings did the chairman of the Ontario securities commission attend at which the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited were discussed during the period from January 1, 1962, to the collapse of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited in November, 1966, and what were the dates of such meetings?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: With respect to the first and second questions I have the material here and I will be glad to read it in. The answers to both of those questions will be contained in the material which I shall now give.

There are eight items in this list, which is headed: The Record of Filings by Prudential Finance Corporation, 1952 to 1967.

The first item has to do with a prospectus dealing with some 750 shares of six per cent redeemable, cumulative, preference, p.v. — \$65, and 750 participating preference shares, n.p.v. Date received, October 14, 1952; date of the prospectus, August 1, 1952; the acceptance date, November 6, 1952. The solicitors were Messrs. Carrothers, Egner, Fox and Roberts.

The second item is a refiling of the above material about a year later and dealing with the same shares. The date received was November 12, 1953; the date of the prospectus August 20, 1953; and the acceptance date was November 13, 1953; and that was submitted by the same firm of solicitors.

The third item had to do with 31,550 shares of six per cent redeemable, cumulative, preference, p.v.—\$65, and 630 shares of participating preference, n.p.v., again being filed with respect to a prospectus. The date received was January 17, 1955; the date of the prospectus December 15, 1954; the acceptance date was January 27, 1955; and the firm of solicitors Messrs. Carrothers, Fox and Roberts.

Item four has to do with the filing of a prospectus for approval and which dealt with 2,058 six per cent redeemable, cumulative, preference, p.v.—\$65; and 412 shares of participating preference, n.p.v. The date received was February 8, 1956; the date of the prospectus was December 15, 1955; the ac-

ceptance date February 10, 1956; and the firm of solicitors were the same as in item 3.

The fifth item was the filing of a prospectus which dealt with 2,750 six per cent redeemable, cumulative, second preference, p.v.—\$100 with warrants. The date received, March 12, 1960; the date of the prospectus was January 30, 1960; and the acceptance date is April 1, 1960; the firm of solicitors were Messrs. Carrothers, Fox, Robarts and Betts.

Those are all of the items, I have detailed five, which deal with shares.

The sixth item is the filing of a prospectus and the technical description of it is "no limit—short-term promissory notes". The date received is May 17, 1963. The date of the prospectus is June 14, 1963, and the date of acceptance is June 20, 1963. The firm of solicitors with respect to these promissory notes was Messrs. Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binnington.

Item seven was the filing of an amendment to the prospectus detailed in item 6. And that amendment was received on July 22, 1963. The date of the prospectus was June 24, 1963, and the acceptance date was August 1, 1963. The firm of solicitors was the same as in item 6, Messrs. Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binnington.

Item eight was a filing of a prospectus having to do with an offering to shareholders —19(2) 1(iii), so it reads 19(2) 1(iii). This had to do with \$10 million of seven and one quarter per cent sinking fund debentures, second series due November 1, 1969. The date received, September 1, 1964. The date of the prospectus is December of 1964 — I do not have a day for that — and the acceptance date was December 4, 1964. The solicitors were the same as in the two previous items — Messrs. Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binnington.

The last question, I believe, was answered yesterday by the Attorney General and I would have nothing further to add than the information which was then provided.

Mr. Renwick: If I may just ask the Minister: the question I asked the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) yesterday referred to the meetings which the Attorney General attended and the question which I have addressed to the Minister in this case is the meetings attended by the chairman of the commission. It was an identical question to the Attorney General about the meetings which he attended but the question I directed to this hon. Minister relates to the chairman of the Ontario securities commission. In that sense, it is an entirely different question.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Well, I would, having in mind the distinction which the member makes, be glad to check that further.

Mr. Renwick: Thanks.

Mr. Singer: I have a question for the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme). Would the Minister tell the House whether the rates for the GO transit system have been set? If at the moment he is unable to give a precise answer, would he indicate whether the rates will be higher or lower than is given by comparative transit in the immediate area?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, that is not quite the question which was sent to me. The question from the hon. member for Downsview was: "Would the Minister tell the House whether the rates for the GO transit system have been set? If unable to give a precise answer, would the Minister indicate whether the rates will be higher than generally anticipated?"

The answer is the rates for GO transit are in the final stage of preparation, and it is expected that they will be ready for presentation to the House next week. The member has my assurance that the rates will be comparable with other forms of transportation serving the area and that the service and equipment will meet with general public approval.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) posed some questions early this week. I was not in the House. I have the answers to these questions and, as he is not here this morning, I will read his questions and give the answers to the House.

His first question was:

What precise discussions, if any, took place between officials of your department and elected representatives of the municipality of Scarborough prior to the government's announcement of the Malvern housing project?

The answer to that is: The Malvern planning committee was established in the mid-1950s, consisting of representatives from Central Mortgage and housing corporation, the province of Ontario, the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, and the township of Scarborough. The representative from Scarborough on this planning committee was the director of planning, Mr. D. F. Easton. The committee was established to ensure the highest, and best use of the land.

Activities of the committee were discontinued in 1959 when it became known that trunk services would not be available to the area for a number of years. In 1965 the committee was reactivated as a result of a report from the Metropolitan Toronto planning commissioner regarding the possibility that trunk services could be available in 1967. In addition the corporation received many communications from the industrial commissioner of Scarborough requesting the early industrial development of these lands.

At the request of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, the Ontario housing corporation has undertaken a substantial public housing programme and monthly, the officials of the corporation meet with representatives from the Metropolitan Toronto housing advisory committee, which committee was established by the Metropolitan council. It should be pointed out that in all the housing activities of the corporation in Metropolitan Toronto, discussions are conducted directly between Ontario housing corporation and the Metropolitan Toronto housing advisory committee, and periodically the corporation reports to the Metro welfare and housing committee on the programme.

A meeting was held on September 21, 1965, between representatives of the federal-provincial partnership, Metropolitan Toronto, The Ontario Department of Municipal Affairs and the township of Scarborough planning commissioner. Subsequent meetings were held on November 23 and December 7, 1966, both meetings being attended by the clerk of the township and the planning commissioner. It is to be assumed that officials of municipalities and government departments keep elected representatives in the picture as far as developments go.

Now, question 2:

What discussions, if any, have taken place since that time between the same two groups?

I believe the answer is given in the first paragraph.

Question 3 is:

Can the Minister give details to the House about the project re: (a) Cost of servicing and what the division of that cost will be between provincial and municipal governments; (b) The total estimated cost of the actual project by the provincial government; and (c) The number of years before full occupancy is achieved and the estimated number of units per year until that time?

The answer to (a), Mr. Speaker: At the request of the committee, it is proposed that the Ontario housing corporation engage a firm of consulting engineers to carry out an engineering feasibility study, which report will make reference to the cost of servicing. The division of costs will be a matter of discussion between the federal, provincial, metropolitan and borough governments, when this study has been completed.

The answer to (b): This will be determined following the receipt of the engineering feasibility study in the event that the area has to be developed by sections as related to engineering considerations.

And (c): This information can only be obtained when the engineering feasibility study is completed.

Question 4:

Is the Minister absolutely confident that construction will start in the spring of 1968?

The answer to this, Mr. Speaker, is: On the basis of preliminary information received, and providing we receive the full cooperation of the other three levels of government, which we have in the past, it is possible to have construction commence in the spring of 1968. The actual priority of development by area will, to a large extent, depend on the findings in the engineering feasibility study.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, yesterday in my absence two questions were asked by the member for York South, and I now would like to give the answers to them.

The answer to the first question is that, in a practical sense, it would have appeared early in 1966 that the information would have been more readily available through the company's auditor than if the Ontario securities commission had initiated an audit of its own at that time.

The answer to question number two is that the difficulties referred to were that the auditor's footnote of the financial statement were not included. This matter is now before the courts and I cannot discuss it further except to state the fact of the matter.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, the Minister said "the difficulties referred to." Does he mean difficulties, or differences? My question was: Of what nature were the "differences" between the audited financial statement received by the Ontario securities commission from Prudential in July?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The differences became the difficulties.

Mr. MacDonald: I suspect that is true.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works.

Would the Minister advise the House whether any buildings in the new Queen's Park complex are now structurally completed?

Hon. T. R. Connell (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I would like to reply to the member for Downsview that the Hepburn and Ferguson blocks are structurally complete and the finishing trades of that part of the contract is well advanced.

Mr. Singer: By way of supplementary question, the Minister must have noted the criticism in the auditor's report. Why has there been such a delay in the occupation of the completed buildings?

Hon. Mr. Connell: I am not sure what the hon. member is referring to as far as the auditor has said. I have not had the opportunity to see it as yet. If he is referring to what we call the Frost building, it has not—at least in our records—been part of the Queen's Park complex; but that building is to all intents and purposes pretty well occupied now. There is one floor for which the furniture has not yet arrived, but we expect it any day.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, at six of the clock last evening, I had just made the first point on one of the methods by which I believe this government could solve the lack of communication to our producers, wholesalers, and chains, in relation to the fruit and vegetable industry. To solve this lack of communication as to daily and hourly changes in prices and quantities of produce being sold or offered for sale, I had suggested that the government establish, at the Ontario food terminal, an exchange office based on the principles and methods of the Toronto stock exchange; and that through a telecommunications system to all parts of our province, factual and accurate information could be readily available as to current bids and offerings and the amount of supply.

The point that I would now like to raise and ask this government to consider, and evaluate and implement if they see fit, for the betterment of the fruit and vegetable industry in our province, is to erect or co-operate to a very substantial degree in the erection of a number of controlled-atmosphere storage facilities in the market garden areas of the province.

With increased storage for perishable products, our primary producers would not be so vulnerable in the markets when there is slight overproduction, or even the suggestion that a glut is developing. Produce could be held for more orderly movement.

This is one of the frightening aspects of the fruit and vegetable grower, that perishability almost eliminates the time period in which buyers and sellers can seek out the best alternatives. The slightest variance in regular demand by the housewives, combined with the factor of substitutions either among the vegetables themselves or the availability of import produce, combined with the perishability factor, certainly puts the grower and his local broker in a bad bargaining position and at the extreme advantage of the chain buyer or wholesaler. Often the primary producer is paid for his fruit and vegetables at very nominal sums, with no relation to the retail price.

My particular area, Essex county, is especially susceptible to this condition, due to our climatic conditions. The tail end of the United States produce is piling in our markets, just before our produce hits the market; and unless there has been a freeze-out of a particular crop in the U.S., we start our marketing season at low prices, as our chains and wholesalers have committed themselves, through necessity and reasonable business practices, to prices and quantities and quantities, weeks ahead of our production, based on their normal demand.

Another factor that tends to hurt our vegetable producers is that imported produce at this time is often at its peak of quality, whereas our first production tends to be of lesser quality; and it is the poorer quality Ontario produce that seems to set the price for all Ontario produce, rather than the select qualities that many of my farmers are producing.

Another role that these controlled-atmosphere storage facilities could assist in would be in spreading out, to wider areas in our province, the distribution of our perishable products. This is always a problem, as dealers tend to concentrate on selling to the large markets and chains. However, there are

literally hundreds of small communities and thousands of our citizens that never see real fresh produce until weeks after the produce is common in the marketplace. Possibly these facilities would allow some enterprising buyers to move into this almost forgotten market, and thus relieve the pressure on the main market; in return our farmers might receive better prices for a longer period of time.

Another problem that is facing our fruit and vegetable industry, and our processing industry, is that of seasonal labour. Many attempts have been made by both the federal and provincial governments to alleviate this situation. Thousands of dollars have been spent by growers and governments to transport workers into these areas for the harvest. Thousands more taxpayers' dollars have gone into subsidizing housing for these migrants, and many hundreds of dollars have been spent by our municipalities and welfare agencies to attend to these migrant workers. These efforts generally have been appreciated by the fruit and vegetable industry, but they have not been the total solution to their problem.

In and near the fruit and vegetable growing areas are major communities, and many of these same communities have food processing plants. In these communities are many people who could work on farms and in the seasonal work of our food processors. They would not need government-subsidized transportation; they do not need more housing; they would not require welfare assistance; nor do they cause any problems for the local authorities. These are the people who could be readily available and who, in the past, took their place in the harvesting and processing of our crops. But now they are reluctant to do so. Their reason is simple, Mr. Speaker. It is a matter of personal income tax.

Many housewives work on the farms for a few weeks until they earn the \$250 amount they are allowed to make before their earnings become a factor in their husband's income—and in his income tax. Then they quit the farm. Usually they are the farmers' or food processors' best workers, and they quit work just as the harvest is moving along. This is very disruptive to the farmer and processor, and to me it is an economic disaster to our province and country.

I shall propose today, and I shall reinforce this with a resolution within the next few days, that this government, in conjunction with Ottawa, arrange to allow at least a \$500 tax exemption to housewives and others working in the harvest or processing of our fruit

and vegetables and can crops. I think this would help solve a great deal of our farm labour problems at very little, and possibly less expense than the provincial and federal government and Canadian taxpayer has had to put forward in past years.

Another problem that we as legislators should study and evaluate is that of encroachment on our prime agricultural lands. We have heard from time to time the outcry in the Niagara peninsula, and more faintly in my own area. Air pollution from encroaching municipalities can interfere with the operation of some farms, especially those of greenhouse operators. Many suburbanites are unhappy about many of the side aspects of farming, but I feel that these two factors are minor compared to the disappearance of this prime agricultural land.

Dr. Upshall, from Vineland, recently reported that 2,716 acres of prime fruit land have disappeared in the Niagara peninsula. In my county of Essex, 31,000 acres of this prime agricultural land produces \$21 million in horticultural crops, as compared to the balance of the county with 294,000 acres producing \$24 million. You can readily visualize the value of the prime land. I feel that this government needs a long-term policy on land use, based on the Canada land inventory for best land utilization. ARDA may have to be broadened or changed, and this agency enter into the competition of buying this prime land, and not the low-productivity land; buying this prime land, not for subdivisional purposes, but in the best interest of our country, to preserve this for agricultural use. Possibly before we accept this concept or evaluate it, we in the provincial arena, and the federal government, will have to evaluate whether it is in the best interest of Canada and our province even to be in the fruit and vegetable business. I think we must decide this, and decide it soon, and if we decide to continue this production, make sure the prime land and our markets are available, and that a reasonable return can go to these producers.

There are several other aspects of agriculture that I hope I can speak on during the estimates of the department. They would include the assurance that Ontario fruits and vegetables will be promoted and used at Expo in Montreal, and especially served in our Ontario pavilion. I would hope that consideration could be given to lowering certain rural hydro rates as many of my growers are large users of Ontario Hydro. I believe farmers in this province spent some \$18.7 million on hydro last year.

Further, I would hope that the research department of this government could be fortified to be abreast of the disease problems confronting many of our fruit and vegetable crops—especially that now plaguing my area, the bacterial canker in out-greenhouse crops. Further I would hope that the agricultural insurance commission could expedite its work, and see to it that our fruit and vegetable industry receives the right to participate in this programme during the 1967 growing season. I can see no reason to delay this programme.

Before concluding my remarks in this Throne Debate, I would like to reiterate remarks that I made recently at a meeting of farmers in my riding—and they concern this government's policy of productivity as the solution to the farm problem. No industry can claim such an increase in production with such a decline in workers involved in it, as can agriculture. Statistics prove that we Canadians have the highest growth rate in farm production in the world. Our weather is a factor in this. The quality of our land is a factor. The ability and energy of our farmers is a part of this. The policies of the government in Toronto have been a part of this as they have been preaching efficiency and more productivity. In fact, as an editorial in the *Leamington Post* points out:

The farmers have been running faster than anyone else and are managing to stay only in the same place. Those who are tired of running are dropping out. The gap in labour income between farmers and the rest of our economy has not closed.

Farmers in Essex county—and I believe the farmers all over Ontario—are tired of the preachers of productivity. The farmers realize the value of productivity and will continue to increase productivity and efficiency but they know that this philosophy that has come from policies initiated by the Ontario government does not solve their problems. In fact at this stage in agriculture this policy is compounding their difficulties.

This past spring, in the Legislature on May 4, I submitted a question through the Speaker of the House to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart). I asked him what was government policy in regard to productivity of market garden produce. At that time the Minister said there had to be a second look taken at spending research money to increase the production that was already plaguing the market. To me this seemed a reasonable answer, and I was satisfied. That was on May 4, 1966. However on June 18

of that same year I picked up the *Chatham Daily News* and the headline almost knocked me over. It read: "Produce more food, county farmers told by Stewart." I quote:

Mr. Stewart, in a talk to the first annual meeting of the Essex-Kent Progressive Conservative Association, said it was a disturbing fact that while Ontario produces about one-third of the food products in Canada, it still imports huge quantities. It is abundantly clear we must step up research and put this knowledge to work on our Ontario farms. For this purpose we have budgeted \$7.5 million. The Minister said the province is not attempting to duplicate research of the federal government.

The point that I want to make is not that we should not spend money on research for productivity, but to point out that in The Department of Agriculture and Food estimates last year we were asked to provide only \$120,000 for farm products marketing and another \$214,000 for the Ontario food council. I have not seen the estimates for this year, but I believe they will not have changed too greatly.

I realize that the spending of money does not necessarily reflect the results—but in this instance and with the reorganization of The Department of Agriculture and Food, I would hope that marketing and all its ramifications will be fully explored and acted upon, and that sufficient funds can be allocated to do this work, and save our vegetable farmers, and indeed a substantial portion of our Ontario economy. We all know what happened a few weeks after that June date when our early potato crop came on the market. There certainly was productivity by the acre, and by total acreage to the market or lack of market, that was certainly evident.

Many of us feel that federal marketing of particular crops is the simple solution. However, I read in the press that our BNA Act may stifle food sale laws on a national basis, as most areas of possible legislation lie within the purview of the provincial government. If this is so, Mr. Speaker, our provinces, with Ontario taking the lead, should meet with Ottawa and make the necessary legislation at both levels of government. We must develop a system of orderly marketing in which the individual producer still has some basic freedoms and rights, where he is allowed to produce sufficient farm products to fill the needs of the Canadian economy in our growing season, where he is allowed to make both a reasonable income and a reasonable return on his investment, and yet at the same time win the respect of our urban population with

high quality food products readily available, and at reasonable prices.

This concludes my remarks and I think the details that I have outlined in the failure of this government to act in certain of these areas, returns me back to my opening remarks—that I feel that Ontario agricultural people are in revolt and in fact that during the next provincial election they will return a Liberal government to the direction of the agricultural and other policies of government.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I regret the regular Speaker is not in the chair—that is no reflection on you, sir—because I had some words of congratulation and approval to say to him. We have heard those words in past years and my words have been among them. I was in Ottawa earlier this week addressing a nominating convention in the riding of Ottawa West. At that time we nominated a New Democratic candidate to remove the Speaker from his seat, if he could. I said to the people at that time that I had profound respect for the Speaker as a person, that I regretted very considerably that he belonged to the wrong party in my opinion, and that the party to which he belonged could not solve the present problems of Ontario.

What will happen in the coming fracas in Ottawa West only time will tell and I suppose the past history of that riding would not give the present Speaker too great concern. However, times are changing. But I do want to say to him that there are many in this House, if he does come back and even if the present government is not then the government, who would support him as a permanent Speaker in this chamber.

I also would like to register words of congratulation in the usual way for the mover (Mr. Bernier) and seconder (Mr. Yakabuski) of the motion for an address in reply to the Throne Speech. I am sorry they are not in their seats this morning, although I do feel that the paeans of praise that they sang in respect to this government were rather exaggerated and a little too fulsome. But I suppose that is the job they are supposed to do at a time like this. Also they can look across the floor and see that many of those who sang the same kind of song in years past are now ensconced safely, if only temporarily, in the seats of the mighty over there.

I also was very interested in the faith just expressed by the hon. member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson), the faith he expressed in his party forming the next government. Perhaps also if the hon. leader of the official Opposition (Mr. Nixon) were in the House I

would congratulate him on his elevation to that post and say to him that he should have the same faith that the hon. member for Essex South has if he expects people to believe what he has to say about forming the next government here. I say that for a very simple reason—because he is going about this province, saying that the Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts) has federal aspirations and that he will be leaving this House after the next election to assume federal responsibility.

This, I say, denotes his lack of faith in his own ability and the ability of his own party, because if the Prime Minister is to enter the civil war which is now breaking out in the federal party, he can only enter it successfully if he wins the next election and wins it by a wide margin. It would be absolutely impossible for him to enter that warfare if he came back as a defeated Prime Minister here. So the leader of the official Opposition had better take this into account and had better watch what he is saying in this province, if he wants the people to have faith in what he is saying regarding his chances in government.

Mr. Speaker, this morning I want to say a word about the answer which the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) gave me. I was rather disappointed in that answer because—

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Where is he this morning?

Mr. Young: Well, it seems all the people to whom I am speaking directly this morning are not here. However, that is Friday morning.

Yesterday afternoon, word came from Ottawa which indicated that the federal Minister of Transport was now taking steps to institute safety standards for motor vehicles in Canada. In this morning's *Globe and Mail*, it says:

Industry Minister C. M. Drury said yesterday that the federal government will discuss with the provinces the best way of imposing mandatory automobile-safety standards in Canada.

And he said he was going to discuss this with the United States. After discussion with United States authorities, the federal government would see if the provinces wanted to pass the necessary legislation themselves or leave it up to Ottawa.

Several provinces have indicated they will go along with federal standards.

Mr. Speaker, evidently Ontario is not one of the provinces with which the Minister has had these discussions. That is unfortunate because one would think that the province in which most of the motor cars are manufactured would be the first province to be approached in this respect. The Minister has said that these discussions have not taken place, so I think it is rather unfortunate and I am very much afraid that this is all talk at the present time. We are still looking for definite action.

During the past couple of years, Mr. Speaker, we have seen on this continent very great progress in the field of automobile safety, even though in Canada we have not yet achieved anything in the way of standards. Until recently it was taken for granted by most people—and this was assiduously cultivated by the automobile industry—that death, injury and property damage associated with the motor car could be traced directly to driver carelessness. But that concept has been challenged. We now know that while human carelessness may often cause an accident, much of the resultant injury and death is a direct result of the construction of the car itself. An inflexible steering column too often impaled the driver; sharp protrusions and knobs inside the car smashed bodies and broke bones; lethal dash construction killed occupants of the death seat; and tires designed for too small a load blew under stress to spell tragedy for unsuspecting occupants.

It is now well known that style and sales appeal have in recent years taken precedence over safety. When a choice had to be made between a safe design or flashy style, the style won every time. It has also been revealed that all too often, in the struggle for ever greater profits, the motor car companies have rushed models onto the market without adequate inspection or testing and with defects which were lethal to the citizens of the nation.

The crusade for car safety has not ignored the need for better highway construction and better training of drivers. But it did focus attention on the factor which had been heretofore largely ignored—the car itself. Out of this furore in recent months has come at least two things: (1) The public is more aware of the need for safer cars and the pressure for such cars is growing; and (2) the industry itself has admitted that safer cars are necessary and is willing to cooperate to some extent at least to build more safety into their products.

I say "to some extent" because the industry is still fighting hard to minimize the demands of government. They have succeeded in watering down the standards set by the United States commerce department, and in extending the time for some of them to be implemented. In Canada so far, no government has set any safety standards whatsoever except those the industry was forced to install in the United States. I presume the Minister of Transport will eventually get around to setting some standards. Whether these standards will be initiated federally or provincially remains to be seen.

The fear that I would have is that we will get into the same kind of struggle that they faced in the United States where the federal government waited for the states to set standards; the states in that case refused to set those standards and so we had the whole thing in the realm of limbo. Finally, the federal government moved and today those standards are now starting there.

I would hope that in Canada we will not wait for that kind of struggle between the federal and provincial jurisdictions, to be worked out. I would hope that our Minister of Transport will be giving leadership in the safety field, but at the present time it seems that he is waiting, and is ready to follow somebody else. Yet he tries to show us at the same time that Ontario is in the lead.

As a matter of fact, what are we getting in the way of improvements on Canadian cars are those things legislators in New York state and other jurisdictions mandate, often after the industry had sought such improvement for years. The Minister has then blandly announced that he had negotiated these safety features with the industry.

There is no guarantee that Canadian cars will have even the watered down improvements now being mandated across the border, unless the Minister of Transport also mandates them here in Ontario. Canadian lives are just as important as those in the United States. The Minister should now inform the House of the steps he is taking to ensure safer cars for Canadians.

Safer cars are coming; they are coming very slowly; they are still a long way off—that is, really safe cars. We still do not know for sure the best kind of design for maximum safety consistent with cost. The industry, with its much vaunted proving and testing grounds, has never established that. It just has not been interested.

The state of New York is going forward with its prototype car to test safety construction and safety devices. I hope the Minister, if he is not willing to cooperate with them, is at least watching progress there with keen interest. I hope too that the Minister is keeping in touch with the significant events taking place in Britain today.

There at Crowthorne, near Windsor Castle, the British government is building a multi-million-pound road research laboratory and track. The track is already built and the laboratory is almost finished. They are doing research work there both in car safety and in road construction. It is the only publicly owned facility of its kind in the world, I was told when I visited there last fall. They are already doing significant work, although of course the cars in Britain are for the most part smaller and lighter than ours, but they are testing some American cars and they are doing work with remote control with the electric cables under the roadway. They are doing work in crash testing, and experimenting with all kinds of aluminum for guard rails, poles, and lighting construction which will still hold the cars and save life.

In Canada, of course, we are just starting towards safer cars and we will move just as fast and just as far as governments force the industry to move. Style, not safety; profit, not the value of human life, still rule the roost in Detroit. The industry there will do what it has to do and no more. And let us not fool ourselves, the Canadian arm of the industry takes its direction from Detroit. The Americans have moved a bit. New standards have now been set. They are not yet good enough, but again I urge that at least those standards should be mandated on this side of the line.

There is one serious omission in the American standards, and that is in the field of tires. As this House well knows, motor car manufacturers up to last year were putting tires on cars designed to carry three people at the usual pressure. Since then, we have been assured that tires will be better. But so far, no specific information has been given and the new American standards do not include tires. Surely here is one field where the Minister might give leadership to the continent by setting tire standards for Ontario and thereby giving our people assurance that the labels on the tires do have meaning.

It may be, of course, that at some time in the future the industry will compete in a new way. Each manufacturer might then try to outdo the rest in selling safer cars. That time may come, but not yet. In the meantime, gov-

ernment must legislate to cut down the carnage on our highways.

Senator Abraham Ribicoff, the lawmaker most responsible for pushing through traffic safety legislation in the United States, says this:

How much better off the automobile industry and the American people and the cause of traffic safety would be if the manufacturers would stop arguing about why they cannot meet the safety standards and start competing to see who could first deliver an attractive and safer automobile.

One of the things that startled us all during the past year is the extent to which new cars have been shown to have safety defects. The revelation came only when the United States Senate committee demanded that the industry list tables of such defects. The result was startling to the committee members and to the general public. One car in every five, it was revealed, had such defects.

This had not been public knowledge, because the companies tried quietly to rectify mistakes when the cars were brought in for servicing. There is no way of knowing how many cars had been involved in accidents before defects in them had been corrected. The government of the United States now requires that manufacturers of motor vehicles file reports of safety defects when they are discovered. So far, we have no such regulations here. The Minister seems to think it is not necessary. But I call these items to the attention of the Minister.

In November, when the American motor car manufacturers filed defects with the government, the Minister of Transport was asked about Canadian cars. According to the *Telegram* of November 23, 1966, he promised to get the facts about Canadian cars. At that time, the *Telegram* reported, and I quote:

A Ford of Canada spokesman in Oakville said he was still awaiting word from the United States parent company on how Canada was affected. But he said there had been no significant complaint about 1967 models and that he was sure quality of the vehicles was high.

A Chrysler of Canada official in Windsor said he was sure that if any of the United States cars had been imported into Canada, owners would get a recall notice for free service. A General Motors official in Oshawa said his company had already checked with its parent firm in Detroit and learned that no action was required for Canada.

Note that word, Mr. Speaker. No action was "required" for Canada. Note too that the decisions as to whether Canadians would be told of safety defects are being made in Detroit, not in Canada.

Last Wednesday, in reply to a question I asked in this House, the Minister of Transport came up with a vague reply about the recall programme of the manufacturers and he gave total figures up to December 1, 1966, of cars recalled for defects. No specific makes were listed. The lecture which accompanied the answer could well have come direct from the public relations department of the industry. And that lecture is repeated in the house organ of the department in the last day or so.

But more specific figures were tabled before the Commons justice committee on Tuesday last. The *Globe and Mail* report says this:

Information given by the manufacturers of 1967 models included: Ford—2,878 passenger cars except Thunderbirds and Lincolns required replacement of seat belt bolts; 2,590 passenger cars with 4-V carburetors required new linkage to prevent possible holding open of throttle plates. Chrysler — 2,075 Plymouths, Valiants and Dodge Darts had faulty door latch strikers which, in case of collision might not meet safety design load requirements; 3,251 Valiants and Darts required new hose connections. American Motors and Kaiser Jeep made no report on 1967 models. General Motors and Volvo said they have experienced no defects so far in 1967 models.

But the Toronto *Daily Star* of January 7, 1967, carried a headline which said: "GM recalls 8,000 new cars." The article goes on to say:

General Motors of Canada is recalling nearly 8,000 1967 cars to replace steering shafts that were installed improperly. The company announced last night that owners are being advised by registered mail to take their cars to GM dealers promptly to have the fault corrected. Autos involved are Chevrolet Chevelles, Beaumonts, El Caminos, Tempests, Oldsmobile F-65s, and Buick Specials. All are made in Canada, except the El Caminos and Tempests, which are imported from the United States. The parent company in Detroit announced yesterday it is recalling 269,200 cars for the same reason.

In the light of the *Star* article and in the light of the GM report of no defects in the 1967 models, perhaps the justice committee will want to ask some questions. Perhaps too,

the Minister of Transport here had better get busy with legislation requiring the industry to file notice of all safety defects discovered in new cars so that he will not have to go cap in hand to Detroit to ask for such information as the industry may choose to give him.

While the struggle goes on for safer, new cars, those now on the road must also receive attention. We should have in this province an inspection service which would examine all cars on the road at regular intervals, possibly every six months. I know that we have a voluntary inspection service at Downsview, and I understand more are being planned. We also have road inspections during summer months but these inspections are not in sufficient detail, and they are not touching even the fringe of the need.

We all know that there are thousands of substandard cars on Ontario roads. Too many of these cars are virtual death traps, not only for their occupants, but also for other people using the roads. All too often the owner does not realize how near his car is to the danger point. He only finds it out when disaster strikes and that is too late. Many of these cars are roadworthy with proper maintenance work, but too many will not get that unless they are inspected, and let us face the fact a great many people with older cars just will not come in for voluntary inspection. It must be mandated by the province and inspection stations must be set up to do the job.

Already there is a considerable body of experience in this field. Over 20 states and at least two of the Canadian provinces now require such inspection. Last June the garage operators' association of Ontario presented a brief to the Ontario Minister of Transport. Page eight of this brief says this:

Research shows that 18 states and the District of Columbia which have periodic motor vehicle inspections (1961) had a 50.54 per cent lower fatality rate than states without statutory inspection programmes, based on a death rate of 100,000 population.

Page 18 of the same brief says:

Texas reports that 15 per cent of its accidents were due to unsafe vehicle conditions before its inspections started. Afterwards this figure dropped to five per cent.

New Jersey included motor vehicle inspection in its official traffic safety programme and in the very first year reported a 32 per cent drop in traffic fatalities.

Reports from states conducting safety inspection programmes show that up to

55 per cent of all vehicles inspected are rejected as unsafe because one or more parts affecting safe driving conditions required immediate attention — such as defective steering, alignment, and operation, bad brakes and faulty lighting. In many cases the cost of repairs is minor, with some adjustments even being made by the motorist himself.

The state of Pennsylvania reported that all vehicles examined indicated that 55 per cent were found to be in need of service attention. The District of Columbia reported that the reject average was 50 per cent.

These figures are startling. Even if they should not be completely accurate, and I have seen some doubt cast upon their accuracy, they do point to significant improvements through vehicle inspection.

I realize that the Minister faces staff and space problems if he tries to set up a complete inspection service immediately. But the garage operators' association offered him another way which I hope he is considering very carefully. The brief of the association offered to cooperate with the Minister by doing vehicle inspection on a piecework basis until such time as the province can set up a publicly owned operation—if such a service is indeed contemplated. The Minister can license and bond reliable garage operators and authorize them to issue windshield stickers good for a six months' period. Proper procedures can be set up to make sure these stickers mean what they say and to keep the operator efficient. Where the Minister sets up provincially operated stations the private operations can be phased out; where necessary, staff can be transferred after proper consultation among the parties concerned.

In this connection it was interesting to note the Minister's reply to my question last Wednesday. He said:

It should be emphasized that defects in new cars are very rarely a cause of accidents. The cause, in the vast majority of cases, is the action of the driver. Ontario accident statistics indicate that defects of all kinds in vehicles of all ages are a contributing factor in a maximum of four per cent of accidents, with newer vehicles being a small part of this percentage.

It may be true that Ontario accident statistics give this information. It is also true, as I have already said, that accidents may be caused by carelessness of drivers but injuries are often caused by other factors. As I have said before in this House, these statistics are

highly suspect because in most cases no thorough investigation into the causes of accidents takes place.

Dr. Alfred Mosley, of the Trauma institute, Lexington, Massachusetts, was in Toronto last autumn. He spoke at the Canadiana Motel to the garage operators' association, which I have mentioned. The member for High Park (Mr. Cowling) was there for a time, as was the Minister from Scarborough North (Mr. Wells). Dr. Mosley headed a five-year study, in depth, of 124 fatal accidents conducted by the Harvard medical school. He said this:

Vehicle failure or defects may play a role in 60 to 70 per cent of all traffic deaths. But, in most cases, police are satisfied to take a few notes, remove the bodies, and sweep up the mess.

Medical examiners do not bother to collect evidence that would reveal the actual cause of death and often ignore evidence that was collected. The Harvard study showed that nearly 25 per cent of them were not accidents at all.

Twelve of the victims committed suicide, ten and possibly twelve of the death vehicles had been sabotaged, and five others had been deliberately crashed. In other cases it was found that the vehicle and the design of the highways contributed to deaths which had been blamed solely on driver negligence, or on drinking.

All of this underlines again the need for greater care in the inspection of cars on our highways.

There are two other matters, Mr. Speaker, in this field of motor car transportation, which I would like to bring before this House. The first is that of financial protection for people suffering personal and property damage on the highway because of accidents.

This House has had laid before it on numerous occasions the failure of present automobile insurance to provide adequate protection. The Linden report pointed out clearly that only partial coverage for both person and property damage is offered. We have all had experience of people in our ridings who have had rates raised because of driving infractions or accidents. We know, too, how many people are forced into the assigned risk plan if they are to continue driving. These things have been documented here time and time again.

Add to all this the fact that car insurance rates have skyrocketed during recent years until, in January 23 of this year, the business

section of the *Globe and Mail* published charts showing the increases in the various cost of living factors from 1955 to 1965. Heading the list, with an 84 per cent increase, is automobile insurance.

Today I want to lay before this House the simple fact that our modern society can and must work out a way to adequately protect victims of automobile accidents, and to do it at the lowest possible cost. This project becomes all the more urgent as death and injury, as well as property damage, rise each year. It is my hope that with safer cars and with proper inspection of all cars on the highway, this toll may be cut considerably in years to come. But there will always be accidents and there will always be victims. Surely in this province we can see that these victims—all of them—are provided with at least adequate financial compensation for losses suffered in such accidents.

The Prime Minister yesterday pointed out that governments exist to serve the community. He said that where private enterprise could not be geared to do that job efficiently then governments must move in to do it. He was speaking then of the housing situation. Certainly private insurance has not been able to provide adequate compensation for victims of car accidents, and the protection it does provide is prohibitive in cost. Again a parallel situation to the housing.

There is another factor in this situation we must consider. In this age of automation, efficiency becomes not only essential but also imperative. In the business world, no industrial manager could tolerate waste and inefficiency and expect to survive. And we can hardly call insurance, which compensates only about 57 per cent of injured people, efficient. What is needed is efficiency in the insurance field, and since the private sector of the economy obviously cannot provide it, then the government must.

Efficiency in automobile insurance must include compensation in all cases and, on the financial side, efficiency can be stepped up in three ways. First, every car owner now must buy a licence every year. That licence could include an insurance policy designed to cover all loss caused by motor vehicles. It would cost not one extra cent to sell. In that one simple act of buying the licence, combined with the insurance, all selling costs are eliminated. Costs are drastically cut.

I know this would mean some dislocation of employment, Mr. Speaker, but every advance in industrial efficiency means some dislocation of the work force. Right now in

Oshawa, as we heard yesterday afternoon in this House, large scale adjustments are taking place. Men are being laid off because the motor car industry at the manufacturing level is being geared to greater efficiency. The men engaged in selling automobile insurance are pretty intelligent and an able lot. They will have no difficulty in adjusting to new jobs or in acquiring new skills. In fact, they will find it much easier than a great many production workers now being displaced by rationalization of another facet of this same industry.

The second way in which efficiency can be stepped up is in the resultant settlement of claims. All claims would be paid out of the one fund. There would be no need to establish blame so that the proper insurance could pay the damages. This eliminates court cases—most of them—and their attendant costs. It would also clear the courts of a tremendous amount of unnecessary work. It is true that the police may want to know the cause of accidents and they may assess blame, but this will have nothing to do with the claim settlements. Claims can be disposed of quickly and efficiently.

The third sector of efficiency introduced into this plan has to do with bookkeeping. Since all premiums come into one fund, any interest earned on this fund would be counted as income in a public plan. This, the private insurance companies do not do now in assessing their rates.

James Ridgeway, in the *New Republic* of December 3, 1966, did an extremely interesting article entitled: "Underground war on auto insurance." He documents a struggle now going on in the United States to force insurance companies to change their accounting methods, so far without too much success. He points out how premiums collected in advance are earmarked for a fund called the unearned premium reserve. This reserve feeds into the main books over the lifetime of the premium. They also set aside funds in a loss reserve to cover claims. Both these reserve funds earn substantial interest. But that interest is not counted as profit when rates are set.

Another device used by the companies is that of counting all claims as expenses when first reported, even though settlement of the claims may take years. The expense picture for the year is thus greatly exaggerated and as long as the company is in business, the imbalance continues and losses may be shown on the books, when as a matter of fact the company may be making a healthy profit.

Ridgeway lists other sharp bookkeeping practices which tip the books towards the loss column when money is actually being made. Proper bookkeeping procedures in a public plan would present an accurate accounting balance and add to reported income. This could cut rates.

These three factors, Mr. Speaker, can cut insurance costs considerably: selling with the licence, elimination of court costs, and proper bookkeeping. Efficiency in this phase of the whole motor car industry was never more needed and never more urgent.

The final aspect of the motor car industry which I want to place before the House today is that of the drinking driver, and recent new information which has become available in this field.

Impaired driving has always been a difficult matter to establish. Various standards have been suggested but none have been really enshrined in law.

Last summer, the Canadian bar association meeting in Winnipeg adopted what was called a sweeping resolution to reduce the carnage on our highways. The resolution urged the Minister of Justice to make changes in the criminal code that would make it unlawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle when his blood level rises above .08 per cent, or .8 parts per 1,000. The story relating to the event points out that the usually accepted level in the courts is .15 parts per 1,000.

The resolution of the bar association went on to urge that blood alcohol be determined by analysis of breath, which would be *prima facie* evidence only; that a person be permitted to have a sample of his blood or urine taken at the time the breathalyzer tests are made, and that it be an offence for any person to refuse without cause to give a breath sample when required to do so by any law enforcement officers. The association also recommended that section 222—driving while intoxicated, and 223—driving while impaired—of the criminal code be deleted and a new section enacted creating a new offence of impaired driving only.

This resolution, coming from the Canadian bar association, deserves attention. But there are those who would quarrel with the standard of .08.

I have here today on my desk a detailed study into the behaviour of drinking drivers conducted by the department of police administration of Indiana University. The Grand Rapids police force cooperated in the study and it lasted over a period of three years.

The police force provided data on all accidents in the city between May 1, 1959, and April 30, 1962. The report was first published in 1964 and last year it was summarized by the national research council of Canada, a document which I also have here.

The study was conducted with great care and with all the safeguards that science could devise. The results are pretty conclusive and extremely convincing. And there is comfort in them too for the two-drinks driver.

They show first of all that drivers with up to .03 of blood alcohol level are about one third less likely to cause accidents than the cold sober driver. They are aware of danger and their faculties may be somewhat sharpened. But as the blood level increases beyond the .03 level, the relative probability of causing an accident starts to increase, slowly at first, and then with increasing rapidity. Drivers with blood alcohol levels just under .04 are about as likely to cause accidents as completely sober drivers. They come into balance at that point.

When the .06 level is reached, the probability of the driver causing an accident is double that of the sober one. Drivers with a .10 level are six times as likely to cause an accident as those with no alcohol, and when .15, the generally accepted level, is reached, the probability of a driver causing an accident is 25 times as great as if he had not taken the first drink. Thus, .04 seems to be the top margin of safety. The report tells us that this is reached after two normal drinks or two bottles of beer for the average person.

The report points out that drivers with positive alcohol levels caused more than one fifth of all the accidents observed in the study while they constituted only 11 per cent of the driving population. Drivers with alcohol levels of .05 and higher caused 15 per cent of the accidents while constituting only three per cent of the total. The ratio went up with each jump in the alcohol level. At the higher levels the difference disappears. Apparently, given sufficient alcohol, all drivers become about equally accident prone.

Another finding of the study is that the severity of the accident is related to the blood alcohol level. The higher the level, the more frequently the driver appears in high-cost and serious accidents. The .08-and-higher driver is almost twice as frequently involved in serious and fatal accidents as is the sober one. These drivers tend to have more single car accidents, and more severe and expensive ones. The study then points out this fact:

Thus a successful programme to reduce the amount of driving by drivers with relatively high blood alcohol levels would not only reduce the number of accidents but also the average cost and severity of accidents.

A similar verdict was rendered by a study recently done by the CTV network and shown in December on that network. The programme, known as Point Zero Eight, is to be repeated on February 6 and I commend it to the members of this House.

Point Zero Eight was conducted by H. Ward Smith, director of the Ontario centre of forensic sciences. It used professional racing drivers who have consistently won trophies in Canadian racing. These drivers went over the specified track four times and were scored on their performance. Then they drank a predetermined amount of alcohol and had their blood levels measured by breathalyzers. They then drove the course and were scored. Further amounts of alcoholic beverages were taken and more tests conducted.

The results were described by Dr. Smith in these words:

The results were dramatic. The most notable finding appeared to be a failure to sense the attitude or position of the car. This showed especially on curves, and is connected with the deep muscle sense which is the balancing mechanism of the body. Since there was a reduction in this feeling, the driver reacted to visual clues, which only come after something has happened. Therefore his driving response is late and usually exaggerated. This gives a weaving, and at speed a choppy action of the car.

In this study, changes in driving ability were shown in all of the drivers at levels between .04 and .08 per cent. With three drivers, they were taken to higher levels of .10, .13 and .15 per cent. The results at these higher levels were even more prominent in terms of impairment in driving ability.

These results have a bearing on the legislation proposed by the Canadian bar association of .08 per cent as a level at which a driver would be guilty of an offence. These results indicate that this is probably too high a level. Should additional studies support these findings, the permissible level probably should not be higher than .05 per cent. This is in line with a recommendation by the British medical association advisory committee in

1960, which indicated that: "The committee considers the concentration of .05 per cent of alcohol in the blood while driving a motor vehicle is the highest that can be accepted as likely consistent with the safety of other road users!"

It is also in line with the current legislation in Norway, which has been in effect since 1926, of .05 per cent as an offence.

I bring these studies to the attention of the Minister and of this House because they point to still another way the death and accident toll on our highways can be mitigated.

The studies show that drivers with more than .05 per cent maximum blood alcohol are a menace on the highways. To effectively ban such drivers would drop accident rates, and be a service not only to the general public but to the affected drivers themselves. Banning drivers with more than .05 per cent blood alcohol is not an invasion of civil liberties as some have contended. Banning alcohol, if such a thing were possible, might be, Mr. Speaker. But when a driver takes charge of a lethal instrument on the highway after he is demonstrably a menace on that road, then he is infringing the rights of others. At that point the public has a right to move in to prevent possible disaster.

In the light of these studies, the Minister of Transport should get together with the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), and the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), and work out the techniques to put this knowledge to work in saving life in Ontario. The breathalyzer may not be 100 per cent efficient, but neither is the radar used by our police. We should no longer delay action here. Procrastination is just too serious.

Mr. Speaker, the House must take notice, too, of the other fields of concern regarding motor vehicles, that of driver training and highway construction—but they have been emphasized in this Legislature time and again and I am not going to discuss them at this time.

But the House must face the fact that action must be taken in this whole field. We must have adequate safety standards for motor vehicles. We must have inspection at regular intervals of all motor vehicles on our highways. We must have legislation and enforcement to ban drivers with more than .05 per cent blood alcohol content, and we must have the provision of an adequate and efficient method of protecting our people from financial loss caused through automobile accidents.

The death and injury toll on our roads is assuming terrifying proportions. The problem must be attacked on a broad front and with imagination and determination. This House has an obligation, Mr. Speaker, to undertake that task.

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I would like first to take this opportunity to compliment you upon your fairness in arbitrating the many disputes that arise in this House, to compliment the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) in his success at the polls, and to compliment my friend from Brant, the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), on his recent acclamation. I am sure all of us in this House hope that, come this year or next year, whenever a provincial election is held, we will all have the same easy time that the member for Brant had in his acclamation.

I rather doubt that this will be so. I am sure that many of us have read the reports of my friends on my right indicating that we are going to be categorized and computerized completely out of existence. I, however, am something like the hon. member for Oshawa (Mr. Walker); I feel in my own heart that the people in Lakeshore will make that decision. I think the people throughout this province will give sufficient thought to this matter, to ensure that most of the members will be back with us after the next election and, I suggest, in the same proportions. In that way, we can still have this same happy group of friends and continue to guarantee to the people of Ontario good government in this province.

As the session starts again, as it did last week, it is something like going back to a fellow's own home town. You see people that you have not seen for some time. You look around and some of the brows look a little more furrowed; some of the hair looks a little greyer; and, yes, just to show we are not forgetting people like the hon. member for Lambton West (Mr. Knox), even the heads look shinier. But in any event, it is nice to be back with all the members, and to see them again, and rely on their knowledge and hopefully suggest that in the next few months we are going to have an enjoyable time in this Legislature and have the good times we have enjoyed during the past three years. I hope we are all going to be back in the same quantity and the same quality as we have enjoyed in the past years.

I would like to comment on a couple of matters which I feel are of prime importance to this province. As you may have recognized

in the past year or so, I have been referred to as the hockey players' lawyer. The problems of professional and amateur hockey have, by inadvertence and coincidence in many cases, been laid on my doorstep. I had the opportunity during this time to make what I feel is a very fair assessment of the problems and the advantages of hockey within our province and throughout our country.

I feel that one of the main features that we must adopt, if we are going to continue to have Canada operate on an international level in hockey at a high quality level, is the convincing of our universities throughout the country to adopt some type of athletic scholarship.

Many years back, I am sure you will all remember the complaints that were made with respect to this type of scholarship. We read in the newspapers, and heard on the newscasts, that there were many football players and basketball players throughout the United States of America who were receiving these scholarships and receiving academic credits for such courses as water-skiing and basket-weaving. Well, times have changed and all we have to do is look at our own Canadian national ski team.

In the last ten days you may have noted in the newspapers that these young people, who are on scholarships from the province of British Columbia, attained an honour aggregate average approximating 91 per cent. You can rest assured that these same athletes have the same desires to continue their academic careers as their sports careers, and I say to you, and I say to the people of this province, and the university people throughout this country, that if we are going to keep our young people in our country this is a proper way to do it.

It is not a spoiling of our youth; I think it is done and can be done in a proper manner. We have Simon Fraser University in British Columbia and Notre Dame in British Columbia, both of which schools have adopted the scholarship system. Certainly they have the advantage in attracting the youth of our country to attend those schools. Why then should not a good athlete, who also has the academic qualifications, be allowed to participate at the University of Toronto, or McGill, or Laval, or any number of universities throughout this country?

Instead, I suggest to you that what is happening is this: Many young men and young women are leaving the members' ridings and leaving my riding and going and getting their education in foreign countries, namely the

United States of America. There are records and comments that prove this beyond any shadow of any doubt. There are over 1,000 Canadian athletes at present attending American universities on scholarships, and I would suggest to you that many of these young people are going to be satisfied with their years at university and the friends they make and will continue to reside in this foreign country and fail to return to Canada.

Take, for example, the prime hockey team in the United States of America on the collegiate level, the University of Michigan. It has a record of 15 wins, one loss and one tie of 17 games played. The team's top players are Bob Baird and Jim Keough, both from Toronto. Another one of their top players is a young man named Paul Dorn from Owen Sound, the home of the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent). In addition there are four other players from Ontario, two from Quebec, and one from Alberta. Hon. members can see that the 16 top players on this team are Canadians and are responsible directly for the international acclaim that the University of Michigan is attaining in hockey circles. In addition, these boys are furthering their education and having the advantage to obtain a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree through this process.

Many other teams throughout the states are similarly populated in their hockey and track and swimming teams with Canadian athletes. In hockey, Boston college, Rensselaer polytechnic institute, St. Lawrence college and university, Michigan tech., Minnesota—all of the top teams in the United States—have many Canadian athletes with them. We have even got to the point—surprisingly enough, to hear some people—that some of our football players are going down to the states to receive training because it is obvious for their football careers that they cannot get the proper type of training in Canada. This, then, shows a lack, at some level, of a degree of coaching. How can a coach be interested and happy in his position when he sees the young men of his community coming up to university level and then leaving town to further their academic and athletic careers in the United States of America?

It was recently stated by the Canadian amateur hockey association that a second national team was going to be set up in Ottawa. If scholarships are available by next year to some of our outstanding junior players then I feel that these young men will

have the opportunity to play on that team or on the team stationed in Winnipeg, and ultimately have the opportunity to represent their country in the 1968 Olympics. If these scholarships are not available for them, then conceivably many of them will adopt the same attitude as the present hockey players and athletes in the United States and travel down there on scholarships.

I had the occasion last month to spend some time in Winnipeg with my colleague, the hon. member for Kingston (Mr. Apps) and our hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts). At that time we attended the Russia-Canada game and it was a very thrilling and exciting game of hockey for me as an interested fan, and as a Canadian. To stand up with the other 10,000 people that were there on that particular evening and join in the singing of "O Canada" was a thrill that I will not forget. I only hope that next month, if I have the opportunity to get to Vienna during the Easter recess, I will be standing at the same time honouring our national team in its victory there.

This, of course, is not going to be simple, and again I say this partly reflects on the lack of athletic scholarships. There are many young men whom I had the opportunity of meeting in Winnipeg who are playing for the national team, who are in Winnipeg because certain people have made available to them the opportunities for academic advancement. And yet, there are many other hockey players who have not had the same opportunity, but who would do better for our country, on an international level. I feel that our sports fraternity throughout this country does as much in athletic endeavours to sell the good will of this province and this country as any other vehicle.

Last year in July I had the occasion to address this House, mentioning for a moment athletic scholarships, and at that time there was an interjection from my friend the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha). It is too bad he is not here to remind himself of this as well. But his question, and I quote, read as follows: "What is Carl Brewer going to do?" At that time he indicated that Mr. Brewer was on an Imlach scholarship, as I recall.

Well, I do not imagine the same member was going to ask the same question today, had he been here, because we all know what Carl Brewer did—he saw fit to leave professional hockey and take a stand against professional hockey, and interest himself in the Canadian national hockey team. He did

this by taking, as I say, a firm stand against professional hockey. Many press reports indicated that this could never be done. The reason they suggested that this would never be done, gentlemen, is not because professional hockey had the binding on Carl Brewer that it thought it had, but rather because the agreement between the Canadian amateur hockey association and the national hockey league indicated that if a player were under suspension by a professional team, then no amateur team associated with the CAHA could ever allow him to play for that team nor would they permit him to be reinstated as an amateur. I suggest to you that this is beyond the bounds of proper contracting and it is time that this government, and governments throughout this country, put an end to such types of agreements.

On Thursday, January 26, 1967, the report of a special committee of the national advisory council on fitness and amateur sport was made public, and it described the national hockey league as a corporate giant that has handcuffed the CAHA with one-sided agreements. It recommends that other provinces, and particularly the province of Ontario, follow the lead of the province of Alberta and enact laws and proper legislation which would protect athletes under the age of 18 years from professional hockey and professional hockey contracts, so that any contract that would interfere with the academic and athletic pursuits of an amateur person should be prevented.

I would like to advise this House that I have written to the Minister of Youth in Alberta for his comments and a copy of his legislation. I hope to have the opportunity before this session ends to introduce a similar bill for the members' perusal and comment.

The report said, in addition, that the CAHA should have the sole opportunity and the exclusive right to reinstate any professional player to amateur status. As members will recall, Brewer required the approval not only of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the national hockey league, but of every professional league in North America, including the western hockey league and the American hockey league. Members might recall that the fellow from Springfield, Mr. Shore, who subsequently retired—I am sure not entirely of his own volition—indicated that Carl Brewer was never going to be allowed to play for Canada's national hockey team because he just did not think it was right. Well, Eddie Shore's determination and the determination of the courts, I suggest to the

House, would have differed, and I think for that reason the national hockey league and the members of the other leagues offered to change their minds accordingly.

Certain NHL representatives, when they heard the comments of this board that had been set up by the federal government, stated that most of this had already been agreed upon between the parties and that the CAHA and this particular group were stealing the thunder of the NHL. Let me say this, gentlemen, if the NHL had agreed on this, why did it not say so and make it public long ago, so that it could obtain the benefits of good publicity for a change?

I suggest that this was not agreed and ratified by any NHL group prior to the comments of the national advisory fitness council. Some of the people failed to recognize the fact that the members of this committee—which included Mr. Max Bell, Mr. Bill Crothers and several other people who are interested in sports—also had an interest in humans and human relationships throughout our province on this particular topic.

One of the NHL representatives said that as far as he was concerned, these people had no right to comment on hockey because they were not knowledgeable in the field. Surely these people are sufficiently knowledgeable in human relationships that they can comment on the same.

The other matter I would like to point to at the present time is the problems associated with amateur hockey throughout our province and our dominion of Canada. I have had several matters referred to me in the last few months—one as recently as an hour ago—which convince me, and I suggest, should convince the members that things are going on in amateur hockey throughout our country that should not be condoned.

In one instance a young man signed with a Toronto team, was traded to a team outside of Toronto and was advised by the team that had purchased his contract, even though he is completely an amateur, that he had to play for that team or he would not be allowed to play hockey anywhere else. Additional teams in the Toronto area sought his services and asked if he was available. He indicated what his problem was. They said, "We cannot touch you, you have been black-listed. You have been suspended by that team and none of us are allowed to touch you or deal with you, or we face the threat of expulsion from the league."

In another instance a young high school student, a 17-year-old boy, was playing with

a team on the outskirts of Toronto. He decided, for his academic future and his family future, that he wanted to come back to Toronto and live, or play hockey in the Toronto area. The coach and manager of that team said, "Well, what you want to do and what I want to have you do are two different things. And sonny boy, you are going to play hockey here or you are not going to play anywhere".

This boy had the good sense to speak to his father on this point. The father went to the Ontario hockey association. Nothing was resolved to anyone's satisfaction, at which time they decided to give me a call. I subsequently had a conversation with members of the different leagues, and the Ontario hockey association in particular, and I am happy to report that the young man is now playing hockey in Toronto, where he should have had the opportunity to play in the first place.

The third instance is the most ridiculous and preposterous one of all. It involves a boy 11 years old. His father was a professional hockey player and had gone through the mill in pro hockey. His son was 11 and wanted to play with a hockey team in his area. The coach and manager of that team said, "Sure, we will let him play. Have him sign the certificate." The father had enough sense to ask him what the certificate contained and what it involved and they said, "Well once you sign here with us, your boy is 11 years old and he signs it, he acknowledges that not only will he play the rest of the season with this team but next year, if he wants to play hockey, he plays with our team or he does not play at all."

I say that the time has come when we have got to intercede on behalf of these young people and spell out specifically, in no uncertain terms, that this must end. There is no reason why an 11-year-old boy in the province of Ontario, in the dominion of Canada, a country of free enterprise, should not have the opportunity, once his obligation is completed with this team at the end of the season, to deal for himself and be a free agent. How can a child of 11 years of age be bound, as far as the OHA is concerned, and yet a person under the age of 21 could not be bound as far as the courts are concerned? This, then, is a very difficult problem. It has to be straightened out.

The last thing is one that happened, as I said, just half an hour ago. A woman from Etobicoke, part of which borough I represent, called me this morning to say that her son was an atom hockey player. Now these

terms—atom, minor atom, minor bantam, bantam—are strictly age classifications. Her son was an atom hockey player. Next year, by the category scale, he would be a pee-wee hockey player. Members of this House may not be aware of this fact, but every boy in my area—and, I suggest to you, every boy in your riding—looks forward to the opportunity to participate in pee-wee hockey tournaments: the Quebec tournament, the Goderich tournament are things that are looked toward by every atom hockey player in Canada, looking toward the following year.

Let us take a moment to direct some comments to the Quebec tournament. Down there, we have some 40 to 70 teams of young athletes, representing areas throughout this country, joining in a sense of fellowship and camaraderie that cannot be done in any other area, I suggest to this House. You have the French influence; you have the Anglo-Saxon; and every other aspect of Canadian life and influence there. You have boys with the name of Zubiacci. Every type of Canadian background is represented in these tournaments. In Quebec, you might remember, in the past week, they had quite a snowfall. Did that hinder the operation of the tournament? Not one iota, because the people in Quebec saw fit to take time away from their work and their daily routine to borrow Skidoos, to make sure that every member of every team got to the rink on time. At this tournament, if you do not get to the coliseum at eight o'clock in the morning and stand around and get your ticket, there is no chance of you being able to see a game the rest of that afternoon or evening, because the place is packed.

When I was down there just a week and a half ago, every time I turned on a radio, and every time I looked at a newspaper, the headlines were about young Canada coming to Quebec. They even have a song called the pee-wee song. All the boys at the opening ceremony sing this song in a feeling of community spirit throughout our country. These are boys that are going to be men some years hence.

Now then, you say, what has all this got to do with this lady's problem? Well her problem is this: The CAHA and the NHL have recently agreed upon a series of clauses which would reduce the playing age of the junior hockey players throughout this country. At one fell swoop they have determined that no boy after a certain level will be allowed to participate at the junior level, because once he is at that level and reaches that age, he is eligible for professional pluck-

ing by the professional hockey teams. The draft that is going to prevail throughout this dominion, as a result of this agreement, gives the boy no opportunity to bargain, in the proper sense of the word.

So, the CAHA has decided, because they have agreed to reduce the age at the junior level to have available more young men for professional hockey, that the boys then must go to their individual groups, starting at the juvenile, the juvenile A, the midget, the major midget, bantam, the minor bantam, and every year must perforce come down one year in age classification.

This, then, has caused this mother to call me. She is up in arms, and she mentions too that the mothers of all the children in the region in which her child plays, and her husband coaches a team, are completely upset. These boys have been deprived of their right—because of professional interference from the national hockey league—of having the opportunity to play in any pee-wee tournaments next year.

As a result of this agreement, these boys, even though next year they would have been pee-wees and eligible, have just been told, "I am sorry, the regulations have changed. Although when the games started it was one way, we have now changed the rules in mid-stream."

As a result, members of this House are going to hear about it. They are going to hear about it from people in their ridings, because they have boys playing hockey, as I have boys playing hockey in my area, who want the opportunity to play in that pee-wee tournament.

If the amateur associations had agreed among themselves to change it, that is a different story. Surely they are entitled to make such adjustments in their own house as they feel are necessary. But when the time comes that professional people can step in and tell my son or other members' sons, or the sons of our constituents, "I am sorry, professional hockey says you must perforce change all these categories and your son is not going to be eligible in such and such a year", I say that the time has come when we have got to take a stand.

Gentlemen, I hope we will have the opportunity to discuss this in the form of a bill before this legislative assembly finishes sitting this year.

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my remarks to the other members of this Legislature who have spoken on this Throne Speech debate, in congratulating you again. I did not have the oppor-

tunity last year of taking part in the Throne Speech debate so therefore it is two years since I offered my congratulations. Certainly since that time you have continued to be what I think is a first-class Speaker and chairman of this House in the deliberations here. I would also mention, of course, that your deputy, the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) continues to carry out his duties as Deputy Speaker; and last year, particularly during the long hours of Budget debate, he carried out his duties in a very commendable fashion. We feel proud that he sits on the overflow side of the House. Regarding the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), I would also like to offer my congratulations to him. We have the privilege of sharing office facilities together; and if his desk is any indication of the work he plans for his constituents during the next few months, I feel that, particularly in view of his recent by-election victory, he should obtain an acclamation in the next provincial election.

I would like to also congratulate the new hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon). Unfortunately he is not in his seat right now. I have had the opportunity to serve on a select committee with him, I know him to be a very affable and intelligent person, and I think that he is a credit to the Legislature. I know that any best wishes that I might offer will have to be qualified somewhat; however, I will miss him well—wish him well—and I hope that any later remarks I might make will not detericrate my sincerity in that regard.

Probably the most significant announcement in the Speech from the Throne was the HOME programme. There is a shortage of housing, particularly low-cost housing, in many parts of Ontario today. The situation is most acute in Metropolitan Toronto and the new programme was probably the quickest method of providing homes in a manner which more people can afford. By the assembling and servicing of residential lands and the disposal of lots by outright sale or lease, the cost of building lots generally should be less and the programme should have a sharp deflationary effect on the whole market.

However, I cannot help but feel that the high cost of housing has been the result to a great degree of a 16, 17 or 18 per cent sales tax on building material and the high cost of borrowing. In my constituency, the area surrounding Metropolitan Toronto, where municipal councils have collaborated, the building industry has been able for the most

part to keep up with the demand and the demand has been great. This requires planning, usually long-term planning, between the various branches of municipal and provincial governments so as to assure that proper serviced lots are available in areas zoned for residential development and that all other ingredients such as roads, hydro, water, sewage disposal and schools are available or will be available as development takes place.

There must be a proper mixture of single-family dwellings and multiple dwellings, so that one complements the other and land is utilized to the fullest. By planning in a way that those who are in the business of building homes are aware of a community's long-term objective, there can be a partnership between industry and government to meet a demand that will always exist. By orderly development and construction, there may be less requirement on the provincial government to get into the housing business.

However, as long as we have high costs in those things that make up the package and a constant fluctuating of interest rates on the mortgage market, it will be difficult to build homes at a cost that is within the reach of the majority of our citizens. Monthly payments now for most people have become prohibitive, particularly at eight and one-half per cent interest. With a winter works bonus to the homeowner of \$500 on the one hand and excise tax on material on the other, there seems at least to be a confliction because really there is no saving to the buyer.

Then we have the problem of municipalities financing the installation of sanitary and storm sewers. Most municipal governments are experiencing difficulty with respect to capital borrowing requirements. Possibly a provincial or national municipal loan fund should be established so that the physical interrelationship between housing, roads, works, utilities services and recreation facilities may be developed and financed at less cost and with less uncertainty as to carrying charges to meet the tremendous urban growth in many parts of Ontario. This, together with the easing or the elimination of taxation on municipal purchasing, may help to provide an increase in residential development at a lower cost.

There is no doubt that subsidized housing is necessary for many people in many areas, but it is not the full answer to a national housing shortage.

One of the most current political issues is the cost of education as it affects property taxes. There is no doubt this will be a major

issue during the next provincial election campaign. It seems that the leader of the Opposition and his advisers believe this, and that is why the member for Brant spent considerable time on this subject in his remarks in this debate and also refers to them quite frequently on the hustings.

As each municipal council struggles with budgets and attempts to keep its mill rate down, there is a constant reference to the high cost of education by mayors, reeves and members of council. There is a tendency, Mr. Speaker, to blame Queen's Park and a demand for the province to take over a greater share or even the total cost of education. At the present time, the province pays about 48 per cent of elementary and secondary school costs. In some areas, it is slightly less and in some it is more. It is estimated that local taxation provides about 50 per cent for these two levels. The average cost to educate an elementary school pupil is about \$360 per year, and a secondary school pupil about \$735 per year. The average home sends at least two children to school and therefore this would amount to approximately \$1,100. I think it is safe to say, Mr. Speaker, that the average homeowner pays less than this in taxes.

The leader of the Opposition submits that the province must set a goal of 80 per cent average provincial involvement. What does he mean by that? The member for Brant says this should be done over a period of years. How many years? Does he mean involvement in total education or just at elementary and secondary levels? Is he referring to university education, technical schools, retarded children's schools, teachers' colleges, a new system of education known as colleges of applied arts and technology? Not to mention education research, portable schools in the north, education centres and teachers' pensions.

Provincial involvement is 100 per cent right now. We have the federal government involved in vocational and university education but this has been decreased and could not have happened at a worse time. The federal Minister of Finance in his confused battle against inflation, in his attempts to justify the postponement of national medicare for a year, callously terminated The Technical Assistance Act and cut back on assistance for higher education. These programmes must not be neglected, they must continue to expand and the province alone will have to find the money that has been denied it.

I would think that the province will have to spend about \$1 billion in education just

to carry out its present commitments during the next year. Where does the leader of the Opposition suggest that the province get the extra millions that would be required to increase its share of elementary and secondary costs? An increase in the sales tax two or three points. Should it be by more corporation taxes, or does the member suggest that some other services should be cut back?

The leader of the Opposition suggests that education should not have to depend to such great extent for financing on property tax. On the other hand, the member says that policing, fire protection, sewage, certain roads, and administration in general can all reasonably be charged to property and should remain so. But the province subsidizes these costs as well and it amounts to over 30 per cent of the total cost to local authorities. Is it suggested that the province discontinue that help and transfer it to education? Would there really be any relief to the homeowner?

We have heard the arguments that real estate should not have to bear this burden, because schools are service to persons and not to property. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that it is hard to make a real distinction here, or to dissociate one service from another. In my opinion, all municipal services are service to persons, since without the persons, the need disappears.

How do police and fire services, for example, or water, sewers or roads serve property rather than people? Also, if one really thinks education does not enhance property value, ask a builder what chance he has of selling property at a reasonable profit without the assurance that good schools are within reach of all homes.

All the discussions by economists recently stress the concept of education as an investment in the development of human resources for the benefit of all of us and that capital investment for education has been returned already in increased earning power, consumer spending and general expansion of the economy. There is a social as well as an individual demand for education and we may describe education as a social benefit for good, enhancing all aspects of our economy. Possibly we could put this issue in the form of two basic questions, or principles, which are of fundamental importance.

First of all: Why should local government have any control over education? And two: Why should property be taxed for the support of local government activities and services?

I understand that all the policies and practices of our government are based on

the premise that local government is an essential feature of our democratic way of life; and above all in any service as important as education there is and must be a continuing partnership between the provincial and local governments.

The problem is therefore to find an equitable proportion of the basic costs of these services to be paid by the local government unit and by the province. It seems reasonable that both partners must assume some financial responsibility. Under these conditions it is possible for the provincial government to delegate substantial power and responsibility to relatively autonomous local governments, while paying even the major share, which in some cases is up to 95 per cent under the Ontario foundation tax plan.

For example, in Burlington the province pays twice the amount to separate school boards for schools as it does in a municipality. Therefore if a case exists for the preservation of local government each local government must have an independent source of revenue from which it may secure as much as is needed to support its share of the partnership, with legal freedom and tax leeway to exceed the level of service established as a minimum by the provincial government, if it so desires.

What then is the best type of tax for local government purposes? Is it the property tax municipalities can level if they wish? A poll tax, amusement tax; even a sales tax? They have business taxes and taxes and fees for licences and permits, and so on.

Mr. Speaker, I am not advocating that any municipality get into all or any of these available tax fields, but I think it is important that we be politically honest about this subject and encourage a dialogue which might result in solutions which will be of benefit to the overburdened taxpayer or the homeowner.

Possibly when the Smith and Carter commissions submit their reports we will have the answers. Certainly with education costs continuing to spiral and the constant demand for relief from all municipalities in Ontario, any improvement or solution will involve all levels of government and will also involve all facets of municipal spending and cost, including the cost of borrowing and debt charges.

In the meantime, however, it would seem that no other tax but property tax has the unique combination of features that makes it suitable for major local use. Also it should be recognized that no tax is going to correct all the difficulties of local government.

We must remember also that the foundation tax plan was the result of a great deal of study. The main purpose was to improve the quality of education in Ontario and to assure that each student had an equal opportunity for a good education. Provincial grants vary from board to board and from system to system. And demand for more provincial funds must take that complex plan into consideration.

I cannot help but feel, Mr. Speaker, that as we progress in the direction of larger units of local administration or regional government, many of the problems of municipal financing will be eased.

As the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), mentioned this week, there are three current government reviews known as the Jones, Mayo and Plunkett commissions, concerning the Niagara peninsula, the counties of Halton-Peel and the Ottawa area. There is also another study being planned for the Kitchener area. I am sure that the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), finds it most annoying when the Opposition in this Legislature accuses his department of dragging its feet as far as regional government is concerned.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I guess we should not do that.

Mr. Kerr: No, the facts are that it is difficult to convince local administrations and councillors of the benefit of larger units of government, particularly where history, parochialism and sentiment are involved. On the other hand, the government is criticized by the same people because it suggests that if some change in the make-up of local units is not accepted the province will have to make the decisions.

It is quite possible that those who complain the most about education costs and local mill rates are strongest against any change in municipal administration. The Plunkett report covering the Halton-Peel area was submitted last September. Since that time the

councils, school boards, public utilities commissions, and so on, in the counties have studied the report and made their opinions known. Of the 15 or 20 submissions, only one municipality has endorsed Mr. Plunkett's recommendations with any enthusiasm. Most are quite vehemently opposed, although they agree that some change is necessary and that the commissioner had some good suggestions.

Mr. Plunkett has submitted a very comprehensive study and we have at least a detailed analysis of the complex problems we face. The main recommendation is to have just two units of administration in the area of Halton-Peel; one basically urban in make-up, the other basically rural. It is the boundaries of the proposed municipalities that have raised the most objections.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to make some suggestions which may help overcome some of the opposition, and at the same time establish the format for an involving form of regional government.

First of all, we might have a two tier system of municipal government.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the member would care to adjourn the debate, in view of the hour; that is if he cannot finish his remarks in the next five minutes?

Mr. Kerr moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will proceed with the Throne Debate and there will be a private members' hour and I might add that we do not contemplate a night session on Tuesday.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.00 o'clock, p.m.



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Monday, February 6, 1967

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have visitors to the Legislature today and we welcome, as guests in the east and west galleries, students from St. Lucy's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ELECTION ACT

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Election Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the amendment is to enable students who are qualified to vote, and are registered and in attendance at a recognized educational institution, to vote in the polling subdivision in which they reside for the purpose of attending such educational institution.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the designation of the Andrew Mercer reformatory for women as a centre for the reclamation of alcoholics.

This action brings provisions for the rehabilitation of female alcoholics in line with those now available to male alcoholics. Under The Liquor Control Act it is an offence to be drunk in a public place. Every person convicted of this offence is liable to a fine of not more than \$50 or a term of 30 days imprisonment, if it was his third conviction for this offence within 12 months, or, and I quote:

Where it appears that he may benefit therefrom he may be ordered to be detained for a term of 90 days in an institution for the reclamation of alcoholics that is desig-

nated for the purpose by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

Mr. Speaker, in January of 1961, the Ontario reformatory at Mimico was designated as an institution for the reclamation of alcoholics. However, it serves only male persons. Until today there has been no similar institution designated for female persons. Thus many women with alcoholic problems received 30-day sentences, a period not considered long enough for adequate assessment and referral.

This designation of the Mercer complex means the courts can now take advantage of the option of sentencing female alcoholics to terms of 90 days. Following as it does a recent increase in professional staff, the introduction of this new role is a logical extension of the well integrated programme now operating at the Mercer complex.

It is felt that the 90-day assessment period will be useful to two main groups. One is the young group, a more treatable group of women who it is felt could be motivated to continue some form of treatment in the community. The other is the older, chronic group of women for whom it may be possible to arrange protective care within the 90-day period. A 30-day sentence often does not allow time for exploration of family resources, or for specialized procedure such as neurological consultation.

The designation of the Mercer complex for this purpose also assures greater flexibility in the programme for women. The Liquor Control Act provides the superintendent of the institution with discretionary power to release a person at any time during the 90-day sentence if he feels that this person will not benefit from further detention.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, notice of which has been sent to him.

Has the Minister or any representative of the Ontario government to his knowledge, taken part in any discussions with Sinclair Stevens, James Coyne, or any other director or official of British International Finance, or

any of its related companies, concerning the affairs of these companies? If so, when did these discussions take place; what was the nature of them; were any decisions made, or actions taken, as a result of the discussions?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the question is: yes. Over a period of weeks there have been numerous discussions conducted in the normal course of business. York Trust and Savings Corporation comes under provincial jurisdiction. There have also been other discussions with officials of other companies, with respect to the public interest and the provisions of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. The results of these discussions and decisions will be contained within the framework of government legislation, notice of our intention to introduce legislation having been given last week, and being contained in the votes and proceedings papers of last Friday.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to make a brief reference to some matters here. Then I would like to deal with another question which the hon. member for Downsview proposes to ask, I believe today, because I think there is a relationship here to the question from the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, with the Minister's permission I could ask the question and then he could carry on with his reply. My question, addressed to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, is this: Does the government of Ontario intend to direct that the deposit accepting institutions under its jurisdiction be required to accept the deposit insurance provisions embodied in the federal statute now before the House of Commons?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Against both of those questions I would say this: Some reference to these matters, and the matters which are at the heart of these questions, was made in the Throne Speech. Subsequently, on January 26 in this House, I made certain reference to the federal bill dealing with deposit insurance. We had an opportunity of looking carefully at the federal bill and we have had numerous discussions with the federal government about these and related matters, and I would like to say, and say it publicly, that we believe that in all the circumstances, and having regard to the nature of the operations of trust companies which are carried on frequently in more than one jurisdiction, that the national interest will be best served if the

federal deposit scheme is carried on and the various provinces participate in it.

I now would like to say that the government of Ontario will direct those trust companies, by whatever name they may be described, and which may be eligible under the federal deposit scheme, to participate in the federal scheme whenever the federal legislation becomes effective.

The federal deposit insurance bill passed second reading on Friday last, so the principle of that bill has been approved by the House of Commons. We are now, as of today, in a position to state in the right and correct sequence of events just where Ontario stands. You will also recall that I said on Thursday, January 26, that one of the problems with the federal bill was that it was not effective at once; no date was known as to its effectiveness.

I would think that there will not be any delay by the federal government in advancing this bill. But it is my view that the depositors of Ontario should have absolute protection. We do not know when the federal bill will be effective; that is still undetermined. It is against that proposition that the government of Ontario will introduce our own legislation, probably tomorrow, but in any event some day this week, so that that hiatus between now and the effective date of the federal legislation will be covered.

At such time as the federal legislation is available and operative, we will then direct Ontario companies to participate in it. In the meantime, it is our intention to see that no depositor or holder of a guaranteed income certificate or debenture is not without insurance to the extent of \$20,000 per deposit in conformity with the provisions contained in the federal bill itself.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if you will permit a supplementary question: The Minister has dealt with both questions together and I would like to ask him specifically about the meetings that he said had taken place concerning the changes in British International Finance—if these have involved any special audit or any special concern over the specific executive changes.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think the hon. member will understand this when I say that, in the course of business, the office of the registrar of loan and trust corporations has a staff which carries on audits and seeks information from all companies licensed under that statute. This work continues in a regular, and confidential, way. That branch continues to function and will continue to do so.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question to my question: We get a little complicated in this because it is all being dealt with at once. I wonder if the Minister had addressed his attention to Bill 16, which is a bill standing in my name. It probably would have saved him the trouble of introducing his own bill because the bill standing in my name would have accomplished what he just said he wanted to do.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister which is not unrelated.

Will the Prime Minister assure the House, or make such inquiries as are necessary to assure the House, that the dissension in the top management of British International Finance (Canada) Limited and York-Lambton Financial Corporation is not caused by financial difficulties of this group of companies, including York Trust Limited?

Hon. J. P. Roberts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it appears that this is a quarrel, or a discussion or a situation, arising between groups of directors as to policies, aims and objectives of companies that certainly operate in areas beyond the jurisdiction of this government both geographically and legally. However, I would like to assure the House that this government is completely conversant with various aspects of this situation, insofar as they concern companies under provincial jurisdiction.

I think this has been explained in some detail by the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs in his reply to the two questions from the official Opposition. The government and its officials have been keeping themselves fully informed as to these matters over a period of some weeks, in order to assure that the people of this province are completely protected, or as completely protected as one can be in these situations.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister explain why it was necessary to have a government representative fly to Ottawa, in a province of Ontario aircraft, in order to deliver by hand a message to Prime Minister Pearson about the Confederation conference proposed in the Speech from the Throne?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Mr. Speaker, I can only say that this government accepts full responsibility for how it chooses to communicate with heads of other governments.

I had felt from the beginning there was a high degree of urgency in this situation. I

have had to deal with certain press reports, or rather not deal with them as the case may be. I wanted to complete my correspondence with the Prime Minister of Canada as quickly as I could in order that it might be made public—and I now propose, by mutual arrangement, to table (See Appendix—page 254) Mr. Pearson's letter to me and my answer to him. I think the leader of the Opposition can understand that in some of these matters in the national interest there is a high degree of urgency.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Perhaps we should distribute these questions a little bit more fairly among the Cabinet Ministers. However, this is today's question: According to Richard Robert's column, "Mining," in the *Toronto Telegram* of Friday, February 3, Larenim Securities Ltd., acting as a promoter for Jandon Mines Ltd., under permission given by the Ontario securities commission, stands to make \$235,000 at current market values, if all options are exercised; and the Jandon Mines Ltd. will receive only \$165,000. Does the new securities law still permit so little of the money raised from the public going into the treasury of the company?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I have inquired of the director of the Ontario securities commission with respect to this matter. I am informed by him that the new securities law requires fuller disclosure in prospectuses with regard to the amount of money that a company will actually receive for its stock, as opposed to the amount the public will be asked to pay for it.

I would like to point out that the securities commission operates as a separate entity. The decisions it makes are not those of the government, in the sense that government makes the decisions. The commission operates within this department, but as an entity on its own responsibility. I want to make that point clear at this time.

I would like to add, Mr. Speaker, that this matter is one that interests me and I shall look further into it personally.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General.

Did the Attorney General or any of the officials of his department instruct a special counsel, Mr. Haines, acting in the prosecution of Mrs. W. A. Fletcher, under the Ontario human rights code, to require the accused to testify as a prosecution witness?

Does the Attorney General think that the fact that she was required to testify against herself is a violation of the time-honoured principle of the law that no person ought to be required to incriminate himself or herself?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question, as to the instruction, is: No, there were no instructions issued by myself or by any of the officials in my department requiring Mrs. Fletcher to testify.

Actually the prosecution was carried on by another department, and by special counsel appointed by another department. I have not been able to reach the Deputy Minister of Labour since the question was received, but I think from what I have learned that no such instructions were given. I have not yet received a report of the case.

As to the second part of the question, as to what the Attorney General thinks, I would point out to the member that the case has not yet been concluded. I noted in the newspaper report that Magistrate Bice adjourned it until February 13. I would say that I think it is fair to place before the House the law relating to this matter, which is found in section 7 of The Evidence Act—in section 9—and to point out that there is an area of protection still. Although it is a common-law principle that an accused should not be compelled to testify against himself, or herself, the Legislature of this province saw fit, in The Evidence Act of Ontario, which is chapter 125 of The Revised Statutes of 1960, to enact in section 7 as follows:

Parties to an action, and the person on whose behalf it is brought, instituted, opposed, or defended are, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, competent and compellable to give evidence on behalf of themselves or of any of the parties; and the husbands and wives of such parties and persons are, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, competent and compellable to give evidence on behalf of any of the parties.

Now that section, that is the whole of section 7, speaks of an action apparently between parties. But then section 9 affords a protection, an exception to that, and reads as follows:

A witness shall not be excused from answering any question upon the ground that the answer may tend to criminate him or may tend to establish his liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the Crown or any person or to a prosecution under any Act of the Legislature.

That is where I think it touches here, if I may interject. Then subsection 2, of section 9, says this:

If, with respect to a question, a witness objects to answer upon any of the grounds mentioned in subsection 1 and if, but for this section or any Act of the Parliament of Canada, he would therefore be excused from answering such question, then although he is by reason of this section or by reason of any Act of the Parliament of Canada compelled to answer, the answer so given shall not be used or receivable in evidence against him in any civil proceeding or in any proceeding under any Act of the Legislature.

So that subsection 2 of section 9, which I have just read, affords a very substantial area of protection, and in my view would make the evidence given by Mrs. Fletcher not receivable or to be used against her.

However, further than that I would not like to speak—in view of the fact that the case has not been disposed of—except to say that I would think the magistrate would take the law into account in reaching his decision.

Mr. Sopha: I am moved to ask, in a supplementary way, and notwithstanding all those sections the Attorney General read, with which I am familiar, the Attorney General knows that this constituted the precedent, this action of Mr. Haines. This is a quasi-criminal prosecution and it was a precedent. But I would now ask the supplementary question.

People are not required to incriminate themselves in the courts in criminal matters, and the Attorney General knows it. Now let me ask the question: The Attorney General mentioned The Department of Labour is conducting this prosecution; are they not required to clear, with the Attorney General, the appointment of special counsel before the government is in the courts?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Not necessarily, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sopha: Then why not?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the Legislature that the Act to amend The Child Welfare Act, 1966, has now been proclaimed in force. It will be noted that, commencing April, 1967, we are giving effect to a one-third reduction in municipal expenditures for child welfare costs. In other words, the province will be absorbing 60 per cent of the costs of children's aid societies, and the municipality 40 per cent.

Members will note that the province already assumes 100 per cent of the child welfare costs relating to services to children of unmarried mothers. The overall municipal share will now be in the neighbourhood of 20 per cent of its total expenditures.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct the following question to the Attorney General.

What is the government's position with regard to the proposal that criminal records should be expunged after a period of time?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asks the position of the government. I must say, since I just received the question prior to the noon hour, I have not had an opportunity to consult with my colleagues or to discuss the matter, as a matter of government policy. So I am not able to answer on that point at present. I think I might suggest that I be allowed to take the question as notice and, after an opportunity has been afforded to discuss it, perhaps I could then make a statement.

I think I would like to add that I noted the resolution of the Canadian bar association recommending the expunging of criminal records after a period of time. I think there are a number of considerations which apply to this proposal, such as the nature of the crime, the length of time which should be considered. Perhaps in various types of crime various times of the proposal were to be adopted.

The matter of a criminal record is used in cases of persons leaving this country and entering foreign countries, it is a matter of interest to bonding companies. It is a matter of interest to employers obtaining persons who go to work for them in positions of trust. I just point out that there are a great number of considerations which do apply. To go back to the question, I am not at the moment in a position to state the position of the government. I hope I can make a statement later.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I would like now to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs: When will a board of the nature envisaged in section 3 of The Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System Act, 1961-1962, be appointed to manage and administer the retirement system established by that Act?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): In spite of the fact that I answered a similar question last year, I made a certain promise that I unfortunately have not been able to keep. The best that I can sug-

gest to you at the moment is that some time by spring I should be in a position to name the board to which you refer.

Mr. Bryden: The spring of 1967?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The spring of 1967—yes.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Before the orders of the day I would just draw the attention of the House to the fact that there was a 21-gun salute fired at noon today marking the fifteenth anniversary of the accession to the throne of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. I would say that during the period of the past 15 years we have seen some enormous changes take place—not only in our own province and in our own country but also throughout the world. Without hesitation, I would say that the position and place that Her Majesty holds in the affection and in the loyalty of all of us has not changed in these 15 years. In fact, it is with a deepening appreciation of her functions and the great influence she wields in her position as head of the Commonwealth and Queen of Canada that we recognize this anniversary today.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me, I welcome the explanation that the Prime Minister has given for the 21-gun salute. I lost track, as a matter of fact, after about the 16th gun—and I would say that we welcome the opportunity to join with the Prime Minister in extending our felicitations to Her Majesty. I would suggest to the Prime Minister, as well, that during the Royal visit in the coming months we extend an invitation to the Royal party to do some touring in this province, as well as in the province of Quebec. We look forward to welcoming her at Expo 67 and here in Toronto.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, there is nothing more that I really can add to what the Prime Minister and the leader of the Opposition have said. I personally appreciate this explanation. When guns start to fire under my office window I wonder exactly what is happening in this go-go province of ours.

Mr. Singer: Are they shooting with the member or at him?

Mr. MacDonald: And when I discover that it is a greeting to Her Majesty I am greatly relieved.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: The member does not need to worry. We will not let anything happen to him!

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I would like to draw to the attention of the House the fact that on Saturday afternoon in Quebec city the Dorset Park pee-wee hockey team won the grand championship in the Quebec international pee-wee hockey tournament. This tournament is conducted each year in conjunction with the Quebec winter festival and 86 teams took part—from all over this province, Quebec, the United States, and as far away as Yellowknife.

I think the interesting thing about it, Mr. Speaker, is that the Dorset Park team, to win this grand championship, won seven straight games and more fans saw them playing this game than see the Stanley Cup winner. In the last game on Saturday afternoon, 17,000 fans were in the Quebec Coliseum to see this team win. The Dorset Park team is a team sponsored by the Dorset Park community association, which is in the riding of Scarborough North; and I am sure this House would like to extend congratulations to the 14 boys, ages 11 and 12, their coach, their trainer, and manager on this magnificent victory.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the Speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): When we adjourned on Friday I was discussing the Plunkett report, and was about to make some suggestions that might resolve some of the opposition in the area to Mr. Plunkett's recommendations about the future of municipal government in Halton and Peel. This might help establish a format for an evolving form of regional government and eliminate some of the opposition.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, we might have a two-tier system of municipal government, consisting of a regional council and local and municipal units. Individual municipalities would continue to be responsible for many of the services they have provided in the past, and the regional council would be assigned

to those functions and responsibilities upon which the growth and stability of the region depends.

In determining the organization of the regional council and the divisions of functions between the two levels, it is important that the vitality of local councils be maintained. The present county administration would be discontinued, and one regional council would be composed of members of local councils with the possibility of direct representation from some rural areas where two or more municipalities may be combined in an electoral district.

Members of the regional council could hold office for three years, and the chairman could be elected from among its members or could be named by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, with no voting power except to break a tie. Frankly, I like the idea where the council itself will elect its chairman from among its own members, the same way as we choose our county wardens at the present time.

It would not be necessary to immediately alter municipal boundaries or require compulsory consolidation of two or more municipalities at this time. There should be a minimum of interruption in the process of establishing a regional organization and transferring certain functions from the local level. Such responsibilities as arterial streets and roads, welfare services, administration of justice, responsibility of the supply and distribution of water on a wholesale basis, major sewage works, regional planning, assessment and taxation, could be assumed by the regional council.

The reference to water should be qualified in that local councils could continue to be responsible for local mains and distribution, including the fixing and collection of retail water rates. The regional council could take over all existing plants and facilities, the construction and operation of additional facilities, and the assumption of all outstanding debts except those for local water mains.

As far as education is concerned, I would suggest that, for the most part, school boards as exist today in the area remain intact, with the possibility of a regional board such as exists in Metropolitan Toronto having the main function of ensuring a high quality of education for the area, and having some say in capital budgeting and expenditures. Existing school boards, particularly in some rural areas of the two counties, could gradually be enlarged so as to have jurisdiction over more students and larger units of education.

I cannot help feeling, Mr. Speaker, that one of the main advantages of a regional council would be the financing of capital works and the advantage of borrowing by a larger unit of government. All debenture debt could be handled on the basis of regional government, therefore providing a stronger borrowing power for the area. There is no need for me to point out, Mr. Speaker, the difference that one quarter of one per cent can make in debenture carrying charges to a municipality over 15 or 20 years. This gets us right back to this whole problem of costs, with which I dealt at some length last week.

Borrowing on a regional basis would provide the double advantages of securing necessary capital funds at the least possible cost, and at the same time providing for the establishment and continued operation of a comprehensive works programme. Provision could be made to protect the interests of the various local units having minority representation on the regional council, if any local municipality considers itself aggrieved by the decisions of the regional council, in the operation of such a programme and in the fixing of priorities for actual construction.

There would have to be some mandatory system of differential taxation to meet the costs of certain types of services that will be required. In the Halton-Peel area, many municipalities are, for the most part, rural agricultural areas which neither need nor desire costly urban type services—which may be required for some of the other towns and suburban areas. It is essential, for the protection of these rural areas, that the limits of urban service areas should be defined and that property owners beyond such limits be assured of either total or partial exemption from taxation for certain carefully selected services. This is being done at the present time in municipalities in the Halton-Peel area where there is a mixture of urban and rural character.

It would be proposed that in general the cost of services provided by the regional council would be levied by the council upon the local municipalities, in proportion to the distribution of taxable assessment on a uniform basis. This could be done somewhat along the same lines now followed in the administration of the county. However, there would be an improvement on county administration, particularly representation by population.

Debt payments on any debentures issued or assumed by the regional council would, of

course, be included. There would not necessarily be any compensation to the local municipalities for works, properties, or projects transferred to it, or assumed by the regional council, but at the same time the regional council would become responsible for any outstanding debts in respect thereof, whether funded or unfunded.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very broad and general reference to what might be an immediate solution for the development of regional government for the Halton-Peel area. We now have a regional jail, a regional detention centre, for Halton-Peel, and there will be a college of applied arts and technology for this area. I have mentioned, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Minister from Peel (Mr. Davis) would not dare put this college in his riding so I would assume it would be somewhere in the Oakville area.

These suggestions would have to be given much more detailed explanation and in much more detailed form. They are, however, basically those suggestions that have been made by The Department of Municipal Affairs for the Ottawa area and, it would appear, appropriate for Halton-Peel.

I have not bothered referring, Mr. Speaker, to the composition of regional council, or the representation each municipality would have, but I feel particularly that the financial implications of the two-tier municipal system could be of great advantage to these local units.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal just for a few minutes with the Niagara escarpment and some of the problems faced in reserving its natural beauty. The urban sprawl that we hear so much about is also affecting the escarpment; and most of it is haphazard, without proper planning. Quarry development is a potential problem of encroachment on the escarpment area. Stone extraction has more than doubled in the last ten years and the rate is likely to increase rapidly as available sand and gravel resources are depleted and the demand for stone increases accordingly.

As members of the Legislature know, particularly those who drive on Highway 401 past the Kelso area, this attractive rocky ridge or mountain runs from the southerly tip of Niagara to Tobermory in the Bruce peninsula. Its location helps complement the fruit lands and farm lands and the streams which are adjacent to it. As the population of southern Ontario increases, land, water, ground water, and other natural resources become

more fully occupied. It is essential for this reason, and in the interests of conservation and recreation, that some policy regarding the whole escarpment be implemented immediately.

Mr. Speaker, I referred to the quarry and gravel industry. In my opinion, particularly in Halton, which has a part of the escarpment, this industry is for the most part a good citizen. Although its prime purpose is the excavation of stone, gravel, and limestone, the industry has been and is willing to cooperate with local authorities to preserve the face of the escarpment.

The industry, for the most part, has a programme to rehabilitate worked-out pits and quarries, planting trees, and developing green areas. However, there are exceptions, and these exist where local authorities have not implemented proper plans, by-laws, and zoning regulations to control quarrying. Nor has there been an effective attempt to convince some companies that there is no conflict in objectives and that it is in their interest to cooperate with the municipalities concerned.

The select committees on conservation authorities heard a brief submitted by a committee of the Halton and Hamilton conservation authorities on these problems. The committee believes that a central or provincial authority should have jurisdiction over the use of the escarpment. The central authority would implement long-term planning and zoning regulations commensurate with present use and long-term objectives. Quarry operations would be prohibited on the face of the escarpment.

In order to prevent overlapping and conflict between the municipalities through which the escarpment runs, and so that the industry knows exactly its rights, one such authority is essential. Possibly the Niagara parks commission could be extended to include all the escarpment, and be called the Niagara escarpment parks commission. The commission should have some policy of land acquisition at or near the face of the whole escarpment.

Some restrictive legislation may be necessary, but I am not convinced that a per-ton levy charged on stone and gravel extracted is the method of protecting the escarpment. It will only raise the price of these materials. We must remember that those who will levy this royalty buy a great deal of stone and gravel. However, there must be a plan and it should be directed by the province, and it could be formulated by local municipalities, conservation authorities, and the industry concerned.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the select committee will make recommendations along the lines I have suggested. In my opinion, there is no collision course here. All parties believe the beauty of the escarpment should be protected and preserved.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my remarks with a brief reference to GO transit. It would be an understatement to say that the people of my constituency are looking forward to the day this system commences, and rapid commuter service is available to and from Toronto. I realize that this is a very important experiment in public transportation, and it will take time to have the service operating in a way to satisfy all potential customers, and to iron out the kinks, so to speak.

However, the government is not establishing a new bus line. As the system rolls, and the government has some indication of patronage, new trains will run to the west end of the line for Burlington and Hamilton customers. In the meantime, it is hoped that the four initial trains will be convenient to people living in Burlington and working in Toronto, and an improvement on the present system.

A close watch should be made, Mr. Speaker, on demand for service after GO is going. All reports to date indicate comfortable and speedy service at a reasonable fare for commuters. In time, in my opinion, GO transit will be a model concept of public transportation for large urban areas.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): Mr. Speaker, at the outset of my remarks, I would like to say that although we are moving closer to an election, when all of the political parties represented in this chamber are drawing their battle lines, we can still look to you, sir, for impartiality and fairness in dealing with the deliberations of this House. Thus, may I extend congratulations to you upon your election to this important position.

At the same time, I want to congratulate the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) who, I know, has also won the confidence of members on both sides of the House for his fairness and firmness in presiding over the committee of the whole.

And since plaudits are in order, I could not miss the opportunity of extending congratulations, too, to the men who have moved into the Treasury benches from the back rows of the chamber. I would like to single out one of those men—the hon. Minister from Cochrane North (Mr. Brunelle). The hon. Minister is not in his seat, but he knows my sentiments in this regard anyhow.

First of all, there is a common bond between northern members, and since this Minister has a background of knowledge of the resource for which he has assumed responsibility, and because he has already demonstrated an earnest desire to develop this resource, I feel that the right northerner has been appointed to this important department.

I also wish to compliment the new member for Kenora on his recent success. I am sure he will make a valuable contribution to the Legislature. He also feels, as he said recently, that the north is still eating the crumbs from the tables of the east. We northern members appreciate these sentiments and welcome him to the "club."

In that same context I find myself becoming increasingly amazed at the approach which Conservative nominees contesting various ridings are taking at their nominating conventions. In the *Sudbury Star*, Thursday's edition, another Conservative nominee in his acceptance speech says something like this: "The people of the north have been and are being exploited. We have not received just benefits for what we have been pioneering."

He castigated the Ontario water resources commission, the fire marshal's department, and the grant structure for municipal services and The Department of Education and I must say he made a really good case against this exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, this is a new twist to me: "Vote for this Conservative government because the government has been so unfair and discriminatory and I will go to Toronto and change its policies."

I expect the government has given its approbation to these tactics. These tactics give strength to the Opposition and may elect some members. I am delighted that the Conservative candidates are supporting Opposition attacks. It will be interesting to see whether these tactics elect Conservative members or defeat them.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to use this privilege of speaking in the Throne debate today, to discuss the great housing problem in this province. I do not intend to deal directly with the problem as it affects this or other metropolitan centres in Ontario. There will be plenty of time for that, and plenty of Metro members better qualified than I and closer to the problem than I to do this, but I would rather like to speak on the related effects of government policies, or lack of policies, that have allowed this situation to become so monstrous and unmanageable.

I wish to deal with the inadequacies of this government's approach to the orderly housing and care of its citizens. Before I do, I want to apologize if these remarks sound like, "I told you so." I have no desire to sound like that but, as this government blunders from crisis to crisis, a frustrated Opposition is inclined to sound that way, especially in cases where at least a partial solution is so obvious and where measures to counteract the problem have been so often proposed in this House.

However, Mr. Speaker, this crisis is different. In the case of the shortage of housing, this government refuses to learn or to accept the basic answers to the problem; and even now, when the shortage has reached emergency and crisis proportions, it is still today making moves to further compound the problem.

Let me ask you, Mr. Speaker: What real thought or real effort has gone into incentives to move some of the swollen numbers of our people elsewhere? Except for speeches about regional development, what actual incentives or encouragement is offered to industry and enterprise to locate in places where land is cheap—where, in places like Elliot Lake, 300 or 400 complete housing units, heated, serviced and in repair, are available, empty and crying for purchasers or renters.

Here are houses that could be purchased for \$15,000 or less, or rented for a maximum of \$95 a month, and where many acres of service and zoned adjacent land is available for from \$700 to \$1,000 per building lot. Here are schools, churches, hospitals and recreation facilities, ready made. Here children do not have to be piled in tiers and regimented. Here people do not have to live and play in polluted water and breathe smoke-filled air. In places like Elliot Lake, families could play a part in building their own new cities and help to develop the country.

This government not only neglects to encourage a means of livelihood in what could be a natural setting, with hundreds of square miles of land to use, with more fresh water from lakes Huron and Superior available than in southern Ontario, but this government compounds its own problems of overcrowding by expropriating and purchasing and leasing large tracts of expensive land for purposes of its own growth.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that it is difficult to persuade industry to establish itself in any specific area. Industry will not be told or ordered, although I am not satisfied that this

government has properly used an incentive approach. This fact, however, does not excuse the government from refusing to place some of its own governmental institutional buildings in places other than an already overcrowded metropolis.

I have picked out just a very few of the construction projects in and around some southern metropolitan centres. Completed recently, and others in the planning stage, were Toronto psychiatric hospital (\$8 million), the health laboratory on Highway 401 (\$5 million), the day care centre, Thistletown (\$80,000), the Hamilton institute (\$15 million), the first phase only of the Milton school for the deaf (\$4 million), the offices only of the Queen's Park project (\$50 million), the Centennial centre in Don Valley (\$21 million), the Vanier institute for women (\$3 million).

Mr. Speaker, there are many more, including such proposals as the hon. Minister of Health's (Mr. Dymond's) new drug addiction centre, to be placed somewhere east of Spadina I gather, to a possible figure of \$10 million. I have not included these and many others but even these few that I have mentioned amount to \$106 million.

Sir, \$106 million—just imagine what any portion of this expenditure, and the personnel necessary to staff these facilities, would do for some of the population-depleted areas that any northern member in this House represents.

I listened very carefully last Thursday to the hon. Prime Minister's (Mr. Roberts') recital of the merits of the new design for development, and if ever there was a conglomeration of phrases describing levels upon levels of appointed bodies set up to survey and study each other, this was it. If any real action could possibly develop from this unwieldy structure, it will certainly be a surprise to all of us.

Since I am concerned and still hopeful that this government has a really workable organization buried somewhere in that speech, I will study it again in *Hansard* but I feel now, as do many, that once again a fancy name has been given to a Ministerial statement so profound and elaborate that its only purpose must be to cover up inaction once again.

Let us look at some of the other results of this policy, or lack of policy. In most rural areas in the north, the population has declined steadily over the period of the last ten years. Our young rural people, because so little attention has been paid to the orderly distribution of the wealth of the province, have been and are leaving for the cities.

This of course is compounding the needs for housing services and extra facilities for education and medical services.

Even this is not the most important result of this exodus. What do they leave behind? They leave behind a population which shows a steadily increasing percentage of older citizens, not only elderly but tired, discouraged, frustrated and sick, who every time they hear about the burgeoning economy of Ontario just become more bitter.

What can this age group do about building their communities? What can they do about increasing assessments and shrinking revenue-producing ability? What can they do about finding money for new and modern educational facilities for the youths that remain? What can they do about finding money for their share of the costs of providing for themselves the senior citizens' homes and the municipal share of public welfare and social services that will continue to be a rising cost for this age group? What can they do but vote in their municipalities—which they do—against the establishment of these facilities because they are afraid, and with plenty of reason, that they, the taxpayers, can simply not now generate revenue-producing ability to pay for them.

Mr. Speaker, I wager that the time is not far off when The Department of Public Welfare is going to see that something will have to be done about the grant structure for the building of senior citizens' homes in these areas. It is going to be an absolute necessity to make some changes unless these senior citizens are going to be abandoned to their lonely fates, or unless every possible means is used to inject new industrial life into these many rural and population-depleted areas. I know the new Minister of Public Welfare has already been faced with a classic example of need for new grants legislation along this line and whether he entertains any sympathy for this kind of request or not—

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): He does.

Mr. Farquhar: —the facts are simply this. Well, I am delighted to hear this.

An hon. member: Do not believe everything!

Mr. Farquhar: There was a day, before the energetic youth of this forgotten area left in such large numbers, that the grant structure was fairly realistic. That was before the real value of property began to deteriorate and before building costs of such institutions sky-

rocketed. But today the position of the rural taxpayer, with respect to his ability to levy for these facilities under normal grant structure, is not comparable with the rest of Ontario.

The rural taxpayer could, in earlier days, expect to provide most of these facilities under normal grant structures, but not today. The difficulty that the city or urban dweller faces in trying to meet the demand of increasing building costs has been offset by a burgeoning economy—or at least partially so. I maintain that the only effect of Ontario's burgeoning economy on rural northern Ontario has been to further depress land values and ability to pay because of the loss of population. So standard grant structures for municipal services for all parts of Ontario are realistic no more and will continue to be less realistic.

But the crisis is upon us, so out goes a spate of press releases and Ministerial pronouncements, out pour the dollars to meet a situation completely out of control. With government — both governments — striving to bury the misery and suffering caused by procrastination under a flood of speeches and a mountain of pronouncements, but not one word of invitation or incentive to new residents of Ontario to open up new horizons, no suggestion that industry, even governmental, institutional industry, move to places where accommodation would be no problem. There is no effort to inject a little economy into northern rural Ontario, so that we could even keep the people we have. Just another expensive effort to alleviate the pain but no effort to cure the disease. Why not a planned attack at the provincial level on rural poverty and rural depopulation?

Mr. Speaker, is it any wonder that the northern people are disillusioned with this government? Is it any wonder the feeling is becoming more and more prevalent that this province is governed by press releases?

I expect the Prime Minister is going to find yet another occasion to tell the people of the north that he tried his best to steer a heavy water plant into the far reaches of this province and thereby open up a resource that is lying idle.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): I am trying to understand what the hon. member is saying.

Mr. Farquhar: I will try to get around to that in a minute. Let us dissect this proposition for a moment and it will help members to understand what I mean when I say that

no real constructive effort is being made to encourage population away from the golden horseshoe into vacant rural and forgotten northern Ontario. We have heard recently about forgotten Kenora. There are many parts of northern Ontario that claim the same distinction.

Mr. Speaker, on the closing day of the 1965-66 session of this Legislature, on July 8, 1966, the Prime Minister referred to his desire to have the people of northern Ontario know that this government tried to persuade the federal government to establish a heavy water plant in Moosonee.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I heard him say it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He did.

Mr. Farquhar: We all remember the details of this package. It was a good package. Certainly, all northern members would have been delighted to see it work and it was a good try. The Prime Minister has referred to it since, in Fraserdale, and I expect elsewhere.

I am not here today to rub salt in old wounds, and I was certainly not carrying any torch for the federally designated area plan. Most of us here have good cause to argue that this designated area plan is anything but adequate. But the fact remains that there was a plan, and this plan constituted the guidelines for the choosing of the location of the heavy water plant. The details of the plan, and the terms under which Canadian General Electric was contracted for, meant that this area of the province never really was in competition for this great industry.

The Prime Minister might just as well have offered a \$50 million or \$60 million or a \$100 million steam plant and other incentives in this case, and made a really good fellow of himself since this part of the province had ruled itself out of competition at the outset. The Prime Minister knows, moreover, that there was a part of northern Ontario that, under the terms of the contract, could have competed; but, unless I am mistaken, there was no such provincial offer made.

The main point I am trying to make, Mr. Speaker, is that this province does not need to rely on the federal government for incentives, or blame Ottawa when the incentives do not work. This government could be providing incentives of its own to entice industry into the far reaches of northern rural Ontario and could cease to look upon this vast area as millions of acres that it would be glad to

write off—except for the wealth of its resources and the advantage of having a playground for industrial and affluent southern Ontario.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, a good many of the Metro problems, as well as rural problems of which housing is only one, could have been diminished and even yet could be helped if this government could be persuaded to adopt the policy of really doing something about decentralization of industry and broadening of the industrial and commercial community. Money and effort spent in incentives to accomplish this purpose would, I am sure, not only relieve housing and other burdens but be returned many times over.

Mr. E. A. Dunlop (Forest Hill): Mr. Speaker, I cannot resist the temptation—other members have been unable to resist it—to make some general commentaries about our Confederation, and this seems particularly appropriate at the time of the first debate in the session which marks the 100th anniversary of Canada and the 175th anniversary of the first meeting of this assembly.

Like so many others in this province, I was privileged to be brought up in an environment in which the people took a great interest in the workings of this House, the government of Ontario and the affairs of the nation, and have had some opportunity to participate in those.

Indeed, my great grand-uncle, after one unsuccessful attempt, succeeded in making his way to this assembly in the year 1871. My grandfather, after one unsuccessful attempt, succeeded in making his way here in 1890; and my father, at his first attempt—things were getting better—was first elected to this assembly in the year 1903 and was last elected in the year 1930, preceding his death in 1934.

I am glad these gentlemen represented the great constituency of Renfrew North, and from the time that my great grandfather first captured the seat in 1871 for the Conservatives, I am glad to say that very seldom has it been in any other electoral column, and is represented today, of course, by my good friend from that constituency.

I am glad to say that I was able to follow my father's example and become elected the first time I sought election for Forest Hill. My son and daughter can look forward to Centennial year with some rather special interest, knowing that two of their great-great grandfathers were fathers of Confederation.

They acquire this, of course, not through me but through their mother, and I married her for reasons which were entirely different.

I have done some small research in this matter and am pleased to find that my children can look back upon relatives direct, collateral and by marriage, who have in this 100 years, devoted almost 200 years to service as elected representatives in various Legislatures and in the Commons at Ottawa.

I think perhaps those of us who are closely engaged in politics have a higher regard for politics and politicians than the people who send us to this chamber and to other assemblies. I think it is regrettable that all too many people have forgotten that politics is the duty of the citizen. I think it is regrettable that we do not have more extensive instruction in Canadian government in our schools, in our homes and in every possible form. If people are to be true participants of the democratic process, they must be informed about that process.

Perhaps we as politicians have not presented a very favourable impression at times of our honourable craft, and perhaps we must, in the next few years, present a better impression of our honourable craft. But let us never forget that it is indeed an honourable craft and I suggest the highest calling to which a layman can aspire in this country.

Our nation arose, Mr. Speaker, because of a determination of English-speaking and French-speaking people in this country to ensure the continuation of an independent Canada in the northern half of North America. Had they not done so and had they not succeeded in that task, the British and French languages and cultures would long since have been overwhelmed within a general American language and culture. The many institutions to which the English-speaking Canadians were devoted, such as representative and responsible government, would have been absorbed into a quite different system from the United States.

If we continue to share the determination that there should be an independent nation in the northern half of this continent—and I suggest we all do share that determination—then of course it is well for us to look constantly to the welfare of the nation, and to look constantly to its future. It is for that reason that I particularly welcome the announcement that Ontario will seek to assemble a conference on the Confederation of tomorrow.

I have not yet seen the letters so recently tabled here, representing an exchange of correspondence between our Prime Minister and

the Prime Minister of Canada, but I hope that calmer counsels will prevail in Ottawa than have been represented to us by press stories, and that Ottawa and other governments will cooperate in this conference.

As the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has pointed out, this is not a dominion-provincial conference of the kind which have been going forward for so many years, since the days of Laurier and earlier, in which very many rules have been developed about their conduct. This is a proposal to have a conference which is open to the public, for full and free and frank discussion; a conference not designed to reach firm and binding decisions. The conference is not limited to an agenda and position papers put before it by the government of Canada. It is a refreshing initiative, and I trust and hope that it will be respected as such, and that the response to it will be one of which all Canadians may be justly proud.

If we were to look, if we were to consider our Confederation internally, that is to say, if we were to consider what we tend to call dominion-provincial relations, what do you think we could accomplish, what may we hope to see change within a reasonable length of time? What indeed needs to or can be changed?

I would not expect, for example, that there would be any very great change in the distribution of powers between the two levels of government. Oddly enough, although the fathers of Confederation had never heard of the automobile or many of the apparatus of government of today, they regarded education as a matter needing beyond grade eight only in rare occasions. Oddly enough, the constitution they gave us has served us well and as a result of the work of the courts, there are not many areas in which haziness or inexactness remains.

There are problems in the areas of jurisdiction with respect to credit and securities legislation. One could perhaps hope that jurisdiction over the laws of divorce could be clearly centred with the provinces and thus allow the different provinces in their legislation to reflect the different attitudes of the country in this complicated matter. One might hope, too, that at some time general responsibility for income maintenance might be assumed by the federal government—all these things by way of constitutional amendment. I would not expect many great changes are necessary in our Canada.

We need perhaps to be more certain that we interpret the spirit as well as the letter of

that section of The British North America Act, 183, which has to do with the status of the French language in Canada.

Most regrettable is that fact that we still cannot say that our constitution has been domesticated, that it lies in Canada, in Ottawa, and its provinces. I fear that it will be a long time before there will be a formula developed and accepted which will replace the Fulton-Favreau formula for the amendments of The British North America Act in Canada.

It is extraordinary that a formula which was advanced by leading Ministers of two governments of opposite parties and which has been approved in one way or another by the governments and Legislatures of nine provinces failed to be introduced into the Parliament of Canada and was turned down in one other province. The power to amend the constitution effectively lies solely now with the Parliament of Canada and the provinces have no constitutional or legal word in its amendment.

Perhaps we can get along well without such power. Perhaps this atavism will continue to be only an embarrassment to us, but not necessarily a hindrance to constitutional development and progress in Canada.

I rarely agree, Mr. Speaker, with the sentiments of the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) but when he said a few days ago that inter-governmental finance was really the warp and woof of Canadian Confederation, I did quite agree with him. It seems that agreements which will meet the needs of Canada for the five years following the expiration of the present agreement are almost within our grasp. We may hope that this will be a field of very productive discussion in the next two years.

As I hope to place a resolution on the order paper dealing with inter-governmental financial arrangements, I will not say further about it at this time.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in addition to matters internal with respect to our Confederation, there are matters which might be described as external or which have to do with its effective working. There appear to be three issues which should be of concern to us now and in the next several years.

One is the matter of the maintenance of the economic independence of Canada, which is sometimes put as the issue of the economic domination of Canada by the United States. A second question is the defence of Canada, and a third is maintaining and enhancing

those special qualities of Canadian life which warrant the maintenance of a special Canada.

I think more than enough has been said to focus our attention on the question of economic independence. Indeed, I believe there has been more than enough viewing of alarm in this sector. Surely the natural course of events is that in five years or 10, or 25 or 50 years, there will develop some form of economic union between Canada and the United States which may take the form of a common market or trading area involving more than those two partners, but which will be essential to enable our manufacturing industry to take advantage of the economies of scale through long runs and mass production.

A protectionist policy was also essential to Canada at one stage of its development. It is essential still in certain aspects of its development, but it cannot continue to be a total way of life for an independent and viable Canada. If there is, indeed, to be some form of closer economic relationship with the United States our whole concern must be on what terms will this be negotiated and what will be our bargaining strength other than our natural resources?

We are concerned with defence and other aspects of the apparatus of sovereignty. Indeed, defence was really the catalyst which brought about Confederation and the consideration of Confederation in the years a hundred or more ago. A concern for the common defence of British North America was very much in the minds of the fathers of Confederation.

Some arrangements were made after Canada was formed to improve our own defence, but the fact that we remained sovereign was really the result of the good sense of our U.S. neighbours and the existence in the world of *Pax Britannica*.

It is interesting to think back that four times in four different centuries the people of Britain, acting alone and unaided sometimes and sometimes in concert with allies, prevented pirates from exercising complete domination and supremacy over western Europe. Had they failed at any of those times the light of intellect and freedom and democracy would have burned very low indeed and might have gone out. Instead, for the last 400 years, the best environment for the development of freedom, justice and democracy has been established that has been ever known in the history of mankind. We are the beneficiaries of that process and it still lies with us to continue it and to improve it.

The current era of our defence will probably be known to history as *Pax Americana*. We can survive and the western world can obtain its security only through collective measures, but we must make our contribution as well as derive support from our allies.

I have wondered if sufficient thought has been given to certain questions of the defence policy upon which the independence of Canada will ultimately depend. In Ottawa, there is a great deal of debate about integration or unification of the armed forces. I am not concerned about that, although I deplore what the Minister is doing about unification and the way he is doing it. But I hear very little discussion in Canada about defence policies.

We are told, for example, that the present interceptors are to be phased out and are not to be replaced. The almost essential consequence of that is that Canadian bases in places such as Uplands, the airport just by Ottawa, and Comox in British Columbia, will have to be occupied by American fighters because this is essential to the credibility of the nuclear deterrent, which they cannot allow to be outflanked in the air space. This is likely to take place somewhere in four or five years.

We should be worrying as Canadians more about this than perhaps the domination of certain of our equity shares by Americans. So, too, if we remain unable to patrol our offshore waters and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, against the passage of nuclear and other submarines, the United States will take over that patrolling.

The fathers of Confederation would have had much more to fear about loss of sovereignty today than they had to fear 100 and more years ago.

The third aspect of sovereignty which concerns me very greatly, Mr. Speaker, and which I think is a matter of joint concern not only to both the dominion and provincial governments, but should be to all people in Canada—is what might be called the quality of Canadian life. Should we aspire simply to a high standard of living comparable to that of our neighbours, with a great deal of consumer goods and comforts? Or should we aspire to excellence in all fields of public and private endeavour, particularly in art and in science and in culture?

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, relatively recent economic thought suggests that you cannot have one without the other, that in this era, in this modern world, it is not possible for a developed country to enjoy high standards of living without devoting a great

deal of its substance to art and to science and to culture.

When the population was growing relatively slowly, and when knowledge was growing slowly, it was possible to wait for new ideas to mature, inventions to be made, prototypes to be developed, patents to be issued in other countries and then allow the benefits to come slowly to us through their application in Canada. But that situation no longer obtains.

We must develop in Canada, as a matter of policy to which every government and every industry subscribes, an environment in which art and science can truly flourish. The artistic and scientific attainments of a developed country are really a determinate of its future social, economic and cultural growth.

Whereas at one time we used to believe that the only place where there should be graduate schools was at the medieval universities of Oxford and Cambridge—our elite, our civil servants and our top management, top professional people went to these schools—we later began to believe that the proper place for the best of graduate schools would be places like Harvard, MIT in Chicago, and our elite went to those schools.

Now in every field we must do all in our power to establish outstanding graduate schools in our Canadian universities, develop institutes of technology, government research institutes, industrial research parks. All this involves joint effort between the two levels of government, of senior government, and industry and the people. But we must set our objective as nothing less than an environment in Canada which will attract and retain the most outstanding people available in the world in every possible field of relevant artistic and scientific endeavour. There are some fields which are not relevant, but most fields that are relevant to Canada can be readily identified.

It has been said that we suffer in Canada from a branch office or colonial state of mind. It is that state of mind which I suggest we must stamp out, root and branch, during the next very few years before it becomes too late.

Now Mr. Speaker, I should like to congratulate the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and the member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) for the superb manner in which they moved and seconded the address in reply.

In both speeches I detected the warm and human sense of history and of pioneering,

and sensed a great future for them and for their areas. Mr. Speaker, I should also like to associate myself with all those warm and well deserved expressions of appreciation for the extremely fair and open manner in which you conduct the debates of this House.

Mr. W. B. Lewis (Humber): Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my congratulations to the others who have preceded me. As the Speaker of this House I can think of no one more admirably equipped to carry out the responsible duties of this office, and your administration to date has borne out my contention.

Mr. Speaker, as I am about to formally address this House for the first time in this, the fifth session of the twenty-seventh Parliament of Ontario, I feel honoured to be able to do so in this the first Centennial year of our nation.

This Legislature stands as one of the diminishing number of free governmental institutions. Communism in the last half century has spread its tentacles into country after country with immediate liquidation of representative and responsible government. Fortunately that so called progress has been arrested in recent years.

On this continent free institutions have been preserved, and although they differ in detail it is by no accident they have all sprung from the Mother of Parliaments at Westminster. Our system of government permits a member of this House to present to his colleagues the views of the people who in a free election have sent him or her here to represent them.

Now Mr. Speaker, having dispensed with the opening formalities of my address, I should like to make some personal comments on the Speech from the Throne so aptly titled programme for people, emanating from a people's government which has shown over the years their great interest in the welfare and problems of all the people of this great province, and which has rightly earned its status as the premier province of Canada.

First, as a fourth-generation Canadian, I am greatly enthused by a brief sentence on page 2 which says:

Our belief in, and support of, Canada, and Confederation, is a fundamental of Ontario's existence.

To clarify that statement, I quote to you a brief comment from our hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts), which no Canadian with the

best interests of his country at heart could object to. I quote:

The proposed Confederation of tomorrow conference is for the purpose of examining the present status of Confederation in Canada and our federal system. It would not deal with fiscal matters, as those have been settled for the next two years as a result of a series of federal-provincial conferences held in Ottawa.

Nor would the purpose of this conference be to set about the drafting of a new constitution or amendments to the present constitution. Rather the intention would be to examine Confederation as it is today, to take stock after 100 years, to examine your areas of agreement and disagreement, and to explore what can be done to ensure a strong and united Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my opinions on the subject of adequate housing for people. This projective programme, I may say emphatically, has aroused the interest of every province across the dominion.

I admit there are many details to be considered as yet, but the principle is admired by everyone who has at heart the interests of our young families who, under present conditions, cannot afford accommodations suitable for decent living. I am sure this government will make every effort to see that this situation is corrected as soon as possible.

If we examine the mechanics of making this possible, it is relatively quite simple. Land inside Metropolitan Toronto has now reached a figure by speculation and resale, of \$20,000 to \$30,000 an acre; while, at the same time, land 10 to 15 miles outside the boundaries of Metro, adjacent to our super-highways, which cost the people of this province millions of dollars to build, ranges from \$800 to \$1,200 an acre.

On the generally accepted theory of planning deducting road allowances, and so on, four medium-size building lots can be obtained from one acre of raw land. Therefore, your initial cost of production is reduced 20 to 30 times.

Of course, that is not the end of the story. Next in succession comes services. This in turn, I suggest, could be an ambitious programme of the Ontario water resources commission, on a long-term repayment basis.

By comparison, if the Ontario Hydro can supply the whole province with electricity, it is not beyond the bounds of imagination that the Ontario water resources commission could

equally produce the other two services in a more limited way. As far as other major services needed are concerned—such as hospitals, schools, and so on—it does not make much difference. As long as our population continues to increase we will have to have them regardless of where they are located. Regarding transportation, the MacDonald-Cartier freeway, east and west, and Highway 400 to the north, provide excellent facilities for bus transportation until we ascertain the success of our initial commuter system.

Mr. Speaker, concluding this particular subject of the Speech from the Throne I would like to make it very clear that, except for cooperative planning, the towns or satellite cities should not become part of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, but rather an integral part of the municipality in which they are located. Having been one of the original members of Metro under Bill 80, I firmly believe that for good government Metro has reached its zenith in size and responsibilities. I would say also, that if my ideas have merit it would be the first major step in decentralization, and eventually assist the development of this province in a more equitable manner—which, in my opinion, must be our ultimate goal.

I would like to discuss also another matter highlighted in the Throne Speech, namely the consideration of the small home-owner who faces loss of his home through expropriation. If anything was ever needed to be included under the title of humanities, this surely is it. It is not enough to offer a couple a price set by expert valuers and expect them to go out and buy another home equal to the one they are being forced to leave; because, under today's prices, that is utterly impossible. One only has to read of the innumerable cases in Metropolitan Toronto where people, and mostly elderly people, have been placed in impossible situations through expropriation.

I believe legislation must be enacted where the dollar sign is not the first item on the agenda, but rather the assurance to those people that they will be established in residences at least equal to that which they were forced to leave. Progress to some should not, in all good sense, be disaster to others.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is a great discovery. Where were you when there was an expropriation debate last year?

Mr. W. B. Lewis: I will answer those questions later.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words about pollution.

Mr. Singer: More helpful, I would hope, than what he had to say about municipal planning and expropriation.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to the member for Downsview that I did not interrupt him in his speech.

An hon. member: He had a better speech.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words about pollution. Giving full credit to both American and Canadian authorities for their efforts in trying to clean up the Great Lakes, and in particular Lake Ontario—on which many of us in this province depend for our water supply—due to the St. Lawrence seaway we witness an ever-increasing flow of industrial shipping. To keep this body of water at its present condition is going to be a monumental task, if not impossible. But behind this gloom the people in this part of Ontario have an alternative, if needed.

I want to compliment the Ontario water resources commission on the great job of the rigid control of Lake Simcoe—about 50 miles north of Metro Toronto, a huge lake of pure water, adequate to serve a good portion of our province and, by chance, nature has provided terrain which would enable a gravity flow right to the shore of Lake Ontario. It was probably a mistake that we, in this part of the province, did not establish that lake as our source of supply in the first instance; but nevertheless, it is still there if we need it and, with continuing rigid control of the Ontario water resources commission, its good quality should continue for years to come.

I would also suggest to the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) that he request the producers of patent medicine and prescriptive medicine to consider using larger print relative to content and dosage requirements. This request has come to me from many people with impaired vision and I am sure that this, if it were achieved, would lessen the burden of Dr. Shulman in trying to decide whether the situation was accidental or otherwise.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in this subject I am about to discuss, I appreciate the initial responsibility lies with the Metropolitan Toronto council, but as we, the province, also have a considerable interest in the welfare of our people, I am going to discuss it at

this time, again at the request of the people I represent.

The Lakeshore area, or now the southern portion of the new borough of Etobicoke, seriously needs senior citizens' apartments. Of all areas in Metro, this area has been entirely forgotten. Elderly people who have lived there many years—and of course that means friends, familiar surroundings, and the wants of their remaining lives—are forced to take up residence, if they can get it, miles away in new, unfamiliar and somewhat terrifying surroundings to them. I would ask our new Minister of the branch of family and social services, the hon. Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko) to assist me in any way he may be able, to give peace of mind to these senior citizens on the Lakeshore in west Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to join with the other members of this House who have complimented you on the fine work that you have done during your tenure of office. Unquestionably, you have done an outstanding job. I do regret though, Mr. Speaker, you have not taken one bit of advice that I have offered on a previous occasion, and that was to please get rid of that silly hat you wear. I notice you take it off as soon as you come in, but I think that while you are making reforms in the office of Speaker, and I know you have made a few, getting rid of some of the old adornments is a very good idea—and I include the hat.

I would like to take this opportunity in congratulating the new Ministers, but particularly I would like to congratulate the new hon. member from the riding of Kenora (Mr. Bernier), I do hope the new member enjoys his stay here. Maybe it is because of my bias in politics, Mr. Speaker, that I hope his stay is not too long; but just the same I wish him well.

I would like to congratulate especially the new hon. leader of the Liberal Party (Mr. Nixon). I say with all confidence, Mr. Speaker, that within a very few months he is going to be Prime Minister of this province, and it will be a great improvement and something that is needed. One of the things that is needed, Mr. Speaker, is a government that will meet the problems that face people. I know that in the Speech from the Throne we heard about programmes for people, but there is one programme that this province has needed for a long time and which we thought

we were going to get in the last session of this House, and that was the protection of the consumer.

We spent a great deal of time in the last session debating two bills, Bill 100 and Bill 101. One was to provide for the duties of the consumer protection bureau—set up that bureau—and the other was an Act to provide for the protection of buyers of consumer goods and for the fair disclosure of the cost of credit.

The government, prior to doing that, went to a great deal of expense in setting up a committee to study many parts of legislation in Canada. They also went down to the United States. They came out with a very good book as to their findings and their recommendations. Previously, we in this House had discussed the need for consumer protection until finally these two bills came out. There is just one catch. They both have a similar section. It says:

This Act comes into force on a day to be named by the Lieutenant-Governor by his proclamation.

I am reading from section 34 of the Act to provide protection for buyers of consumer goods. Well the government has never seen fit to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to proclaim a date when these bills will come into effect.

Mr. Speaker, on various occasions since I have been elected to this House, I have gone over and over different types of cases, such as the door-to-door salesmen, such as the freezer deal, where if you buy food you get a free freezer; or the vacuum cleaner deal, where people have been played for suckers for years and years. Yet this continues to go on in the province of Ontario and we have gone through the façade of getting them some kind of protection.

The government, either through lethargy or by deliberately tricking this Legislature and the people in the province of Ontario, have brought out these two bills—100 and 101—which have done absolutely nothing except waste time for the people here in the province of Ontario. It is a Madison Avenue gimmick to go after headlines, to proclaim what they are going to do, and then fall completely flat. Sometimes the government passes legislation and marks “done”—that they have done something. But in this case, the programme for protecting the consumer in this province is not even half-baked. It is so bad the whole pie of the situation is completely uncooked.

Recently I have come upon a situation with which consumers are faced; it is the worst I

have ever seen. I know it is bad enough when old ladies are signing to buy magazines, or find out their financial obligations to finance companies—that is bad enough—but there has been a racket going on in the city of Toronto in the matter of hearing aids. For some reason, the Attorney General's office does not seem to care, The Department of Health does not seem to care; and even, surprisingly enough, the Canadian medical association, which is usually aware of these things, and is aware of it, has done little to stop the racket that goes on in the manufacture and sale of hearing aids.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, I was on the committee looking into the problems of aging and the report of that committee was evidently leaked to the press, one way or another. It is now obvious that this committee has recommended the licensing of anybody who is selling, or manufacturing, or advising on the use of hearing aids. But, in the meantime, nothing is being done—and heaven knows what will be done in the future and what protection the public have.

One of the benefits that the public have—and I give all credit to the men who write the column—in the *Toronto Telegram* they have a column called Action Line. It has been running for some time now and obviously, for very good reasons, time and time again it attacks problems that we in this Legislature have brought up and asked the government to do something about in protecting the consumer.

Sometimes it is the old salesman trick of going door-to-door on the magazine deal, or it is the old trick on the vacuum cleaners. But what they did hit on, and found to exist to a very wide extent is the racket in Toronto—and a particular Toronto agency known as the Beltone agency here in Toronto. They have hit on that racket and have hit it very hard in their column, but still it exists.

I arranged for a call to be made this morning to see if this firm was still existing. It seems they even have a fake doctor there who is operating, pretending to be a doctor. But I phoned this morning and, despite all the publicity they have been given in a large paper here in the city of Toronto, the *Telegram*, they are still existing. And if any of the records that I have before me are even in the least part true, they are causing a great deal of harm to the public in Ontario and particularly here in the Toronto area.

I have a few cases I would like to cite and I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the people who have been harmed—I do not want to use

their names, but I have their names and addresses and phone numbers in all these cases I have as examples—have been checked and checked thoroughly. And this will give you, Mr. Speaker—and I hope through you the members of the House—an idea of the importance of having some type of consumer bureau. Because the only way, for the most part of these cases, that the public have any means of protection is if some crusading journalist takes up the cause, or occasionally a few of us on this side of the House can make a speech in the Legislature.

There is no doubt about it that this publicity that we as members, or journalists, can give does help in many respects. I know that a few years ago I was going after the door-to-door salesmen. I have never had such correspondence from people across the province, telling how a city or town is blitzed by the salesmen who get the contracts signed and then they are gone and there is no way of getting any redress. The next thing you know the finance company is chasing the unsuspecting person who signed the document.

I recall a few years ago that the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) was going to change The Municipal Act and permit the municipalities to license door-to-door salesmen. For some reason that amendment was withdrawn, I do not know why. Now comes this new Act, Bill 101, where again we are going to license door-to-door salesmen and still the Act has not been proclaimed.

I often wonder if the men in the government or the men who are our Cabinet Ministers are getting the type of phone call that I was getting at the time I was going after Family Publications. They are supposed to be so respectable because they are owned by *Time* and *Life* and yet you get calls from their lawyers saying: "Say it out of the House because we would like to sue you." The better business bureau has had to go after these people and it is about time they did.

The better business bureau did go after the Beltone Company. In fact, the Beltone Company here in Toronto was a member of the better business bureau and now it is not, maybe for the obvious reason that the better business bureau in the city of Toronto probably could not tolerate the situation that had been developing. They have on their books 39 complaints from the public about the way the Beltone Company has been treating the public.

Well, what type of person is going to the Beltone Company for help? Obviously a person who may have hearing troubles or think

they have hearing troubles, and for the most part they are people who do not have a lot of money. This is the type of person who falls for a fast line.

When I saw this in the paper about the Beltone people, I, too, was curious about the kind of replies they would get, knowing what had taken place from my own information.

Well, here are a few of the situations that developed and came to light. I will just read some quotations briefly from these, and I say that all these have been checked through.

A salesman from Beltone hearing aids came to my house and sold me a hearing aid. I paid \$35 down, but went back the next day when I found out the hearing aid would cost \$350, which I was not told by the salesman. However, they refused to cancel the contract. I am an old-age pensioner and cannot afford to pay for this.

When I was on the committee looking into the problems of the aging, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian hearing society, a highly reputable society, came before our committee to tell us of the complaints that they had from various companies and particularly how Beltone had been carrying on. As I mention these various cases, Mr. Speaker, I would ask all the members to bear in mind the lethargy of government that allows this type of thing to go on. I cannot understand it.

Last summer when the Canadian national exhibition was on, the Beltone company had a booth there and they sold 300 sets. We know of at least 10 per cent resulting in complaints. They sold 300 sets, yet these people who bought them had no medical examination. The only medical evidence I have here is from doctors who have been quite horrified at the way these people who have been using the Beltone have been treated and how the company is using them.

That is why I say that this particular case is far worse than the magazine deal or the freezer deal because it is not only that people are being bound in some cases to pay as much as \$789 plus finance charges, but in many cases it is actually damaging their hearing. It is not just their pocketbook or their standard of life, but it is actually damaging the hearing of the individual.

This is why it is not only a problem for the Attorney General's office, but it is a problem for the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond).

The Beltone office was on Yonge Street, then they were in the Colonnade at 131 Bloor

Street West, and then recently they moved to 950 Yonge Street and are operating there this morning. If you want to call and talk to a Dr. Harvard, then Dr. Harvard will talk to you. But the one thing they do not tell you is that Dr. Harvard got some type of a Ph.D. degree in politics in France. I do not know if it was a mail order degree or what it was, but that is what the man is called.

I have letters from individuals who say that he has used a stethoscope on them, that he has medical instruments around and you would have every reason to believe that this man who talks to you up at the headquarters is a medical doctor. Obviously a person who is unsuspecting and goes there assumes he is getting the best of treatment. And if you are going to have to spend anywhere from \$385 to \$700 plus the charges for financing, you probably would expect to get good treatment.

Here is another example: A woman writes—and this particular letter was written to Action Line:

I have a problem. I paid \$600 for a hearing aid and found it not satisfactory. They came and took it away and told me when they sold it they would settle with me. They phoned me last week to say that they had sold the hearing aid, but could not pay me. I said I wanted my money. I have not heard from them since. I am a pensioner and I need my money.

Here is a person who puts down the \$35 deposit. In some cases it may be \$50 and others \$100. In this case it was \$35 and they signed a contract for \$600. Then they said they had not got this money. They didn't realize what they had signed.

So Beltone said: "Give the hearing aid back to us and we will sell it for you."

In one case, after a person had paid \$300 Beltone took back the equipment and sold it for \$50, and yet the Beltone thought that they were helping that particular person.

This is the kind of thing that is going on and it exists here in the city of Toronto, a situation that need not exist if we had a proper government agency to which people could come to see they were getting the protection they needed.

I commend the men, the journalists, who took up this particular matter, but it should not be necessary for journalists to do that. It should not be necessary even for a member of the Legislature to have to take up the time—everybody's time—to read particular cases that have happened. But how in the world are we ever going to get this lethargic government

to do something? This has gone on year after year that I have been here and it is a frustrating, almost an act of desperation, to try once again to bring to the attention of the Cabinet, the Treasury board, to the members of this House, the necessity of getting some type of consumer protection.

Here is another letter. I do not give the names, Mr. Speaker, but I could supply them to the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), to the Minister of Health and I hope both of these departments will look into this problem. I can supply all the information.

On July 14, 1964, I purchased a hearing aid from the Beltone Company for which I paid \$150 and at night when I tried to use it, it fell and the two pieces came apart. I took it to them in the morning and they promised to re-assemble and mail it to me that day.

During the day two men called and said if I would come with them they would make it fit better. I went and when there they told me it was a foreign made aid and would ruin my hearing and wanted to sell me a much higher priced fitting. They injured my ear pressing the compound into it and I walked out fearing greater damage. I have never been able to get my money back.

Here is a company that sells one hearing aid and then when it falls apart they say well that's a foreign make, we will sell you a better one. This is the type of tactics that they use here in the city of Toronto.

The Canadian hearing society has been very disturbed about this problem. When they came before the committee on aging, they urged that the government licence individuals trading or dealing in hearing aids of any kind. This is an obvious gap in our legislation. I know that the matter protecting the consumer basically will come under The Department of the Attorney General, but it also concerns The Department of Health because it is certainly harming the hearing of many of our citizens here in the province of Ontario and particularly in the city of Toronto.

I would like to draw another example to the attention of the Minister of Health through you, Mr. Speaker. This particular person who is a civil servant and has a pretty good job with this government, says this:

Early in 1966 I attended the Beltone of Toronto booth at the sportsmen's show at the Canadian national exhibition grounds and underwent a hearing test. I was told by a woman employee of Beltone of

Toronto that I really needed help with my hearing. As a result of what she told me I placed an order for two hearing aids and gave her a \$200 cheque as partial payment. A few days later this woman picked me up at my home and took me to the Beltone of Toronto office at 131 Bloor Street West, where I was introduced to a man I came to know as Doctor Harvard—

Don't forget this is the doctor that I mentioned who has a Ph.D. in politics from France, but he is called Doctor Harvard—

I saw this man on about six occasions over a period of six months between April and September, during which time I was under the impression that he was a medical doctor. On the second visit to see this man he produced a stethoscope and examined me with it. He placed it at various places on the chest and back. He conducted hearing tests involving the use of the stethoscope on this occasion.

On another occasion I mentioned a large chart of inner parts of the ear on the wall behind this man's desk and commented that there is a lot to know about the ear. He replied: "Yes, it is a specialized field."

On another occasion I had been kept waiting because he had another person in his office, a nun. When he was able to see me, he told me this nun was about to have an ear operation. He said he had been making a special diagram of her ear so that the surgeon would know where to work. She said that if this operation was a success, she would undergo another within 12 months.

The next time I saw him, I asked how the nun was, to which he replied: "Don't worry about other people's troubles, you have got enough of your own."

I construed this to mean that my hearing trouble was serious enough that I should definitely persevere with using my hearing aid. This concerned me because on another occasion this man I knew as Doctor Harvard told me that I might be subject to dizzy spells if I didn't wear my hearing aid. He said I had a nerve problem in my ears, my left being worse than my right and that this condition had caused part of my brain to become lazy as he put it. He said that if I neglected the hearing aids I could have dizzy spells and fall down and this information concerned me and I attempted to follow his advice.

I understand that this man I knew as Doctor Harvard is the same doctor referred

to by myself in a letter which was sent to the *Telegram*.

This man has been a member of the better business bureau. This company was a member of the bureau, but is no longer a member because the bureau has got fed up. Yet if you phone today to their office—they have now moved to 950 Yonge Street—this man is still operating. It is up to the government to see that he is stopped, first, because of medical reasons and secondly in order to protect our consumers here in the province of Ontario.

One of the top ear specialists who doesn't want to be quoted publicly says that Beltone is the most unscrupulous hearing aid company in the business. He goes so far as to say they are all bad, but Beltone is the worst.

There are some good companies, but they don't need to operate this way. It is a very serious tragedy, but this has continued to go on for so long a time. What is so surprising is that the government agencies have known that it has existed from time to time.

One doctor who was an ear specialist had patients coming to him who had gone to Beltone and he, of course, would phone Beltone and demand that his patients get their deposits back.

It is the same thing, Mr. Speaker, as when a fuss was being raised about the sale of magazines and this was getting publicity as a result of speeches being made in this House and when people would read about it they would realize that they too had signed these contracts. They would phone the magazine company and ask for their money back and they would say, "Well, if you do not take it to Trotter, we will give you your deposit back." It is the same way. I have three cases here where a specialist—an ear specialist in the city here—phoned Beltone; and in two of them got the deposit back because he personally was going to give them a lot of trouble.

But our citizens should not be put to the worry, the inconvenience, the loss of money and the risk of loss of health, that they are being put to because we have—not just no bureau—but we do not license or control the hearing aid people in any way. If you are a plumber, you have to have a licence. If you are a carpenter, to go out and fix a bench, you have got to be in a trade union, you have got to have a licence. But if you are going to sell \$700 worth of hearing aid to somebody, which can affect their whole life,

anybody can go into business. Any of us can go out and go into the hearing aid business today and, if you are really unscrupulous about it, you can go through the façade of having a doctor.

I imagine a lot of us here, Mr. Speaker, could qualify as a doctor of politics—as the present man is. One specialist here in Toronto who tried to help his people has said this. He stated, shortly after the last Canadian national exhibition in 1966, that he had three cases since the CNE had closed. One was a retired accountant, signing for a free hearing test to be conducted at his home. A woman came to his home, tested him, and demanded \$30 which he paid. The woman told him he needed an aid and proceeded to make a mould. The man refused to sign anything more until he had seen his doctor. He went to his doctor and the doctor told him all that was wrong with his hearing was that he had wax in his ears. Once the wax was removed, the man was fine.

Again a Hydro engineer—I do not know if this happens to civil servants, but I notice in some of these cases civil servants or people who work for Crown corporations—and I am not using names here of course—seem to appear from time to time. But a Hydro engineer was told by Beltone at the CNE that he was deaf in one ear and it turned out again it was just wax. But a medical specialist will tell you that even though you may be slightly deaf in one ear, if you have good hearing in the other ear you really do not necessarily require a hearing aid.

But the layman who is dealing with this type of thing and may think that his hearing, or her hearing, is not as good as it was at one time, is completely at the mercy of any fast talker who is anxious to have a quick sale.

There is, of course too, Mr. Speaker, a great risk for older people—and the vast majority of the people who are involved in cases such as this are older people. There are a few exceptions, but at the same time it is of particular importance and of particular interest to someone like myself, who was on the committee on aging to see that the older people are protected.

Mr. Speaker, I note that it is five of the clock. I suggest I adjourn the debate.

Mr. Trotter moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 2, by Mr. J. R. Knox.

RESOLUTION: That, in developing its programme for the control of air pollution, the government should:

- (a) Call upon the federal government to recognize the gravity of this problem by:
 1. The establishment of national criteria based upon research into the causes of pollution and its effects upon the individual;
 2. The assessment of current knowledge of air contaminants with a view to the immediate production of realistic standards to serve as guidelines to all concerned with this problem;
 3. Assisting with the cost of installing control equipment by means of an industrial loan fund together with a tax incentive programme similar to that now in effect for water pollution control;
- (b) Recognize the need for planning and coordinating control measures on a regional rather than local basis;
- (c) Under the air pollution control division of The Department of Health, carry out research in problem areas peculiar to this province and release regular reports on pollution levels.

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): I move, seconded by Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa), the resolution that stands in my name on the order paper.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to have this opportunity of calling the attention of members of this House to the problem of air pollution. It is a subject which has received a great deal of attention recently in the press both in Canada and the United States. Air pollution is undoubtedly one of our most urgent and serious problems and yet there exists a great lack of knowledge of the complexities involved in the control of air contaminants.

For this reason, irresponsible individuals are prone to exploit this subject for political or purely personal motives, or as a result of uninformed hysteria. Perhaps no one is more aware of this than are the residents of my home city of Sarnia. We are also personally aware of the importance of air pollution control measures and, as a public servant, I am

conscious of my responsibilities to my constituents in this matter. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, while I do not presume to be an expert on this subject, I have been obliged by circumstance to study it rather closely for several years.

Later in this session I intend to speak at some length on air pollution generally, and of the Sarnia area specifically. At that time, I hope to show that our government has been well on top of the pollution problem in this area through research and control, and that industry has been not only concerned but has acted in good faith, as good corporate citizens always do, to prevent and control all sources of possible air pollution, and express a continuing intention to cooperate fully with authorities in this field.

It would have been better, perhaps, if I could have made the speech first and then brought forward this resolution later. It would have provided a better background for the resolution than the time I have today will allow. However, it is my privilege to propose measures which will have general application throughout the province, and indeed throughout Canada, and which I feel will improve the programme of air pollution control—even that which has been developed by the government of Ontario, and which is at present the best in Canada, with the possible exception of Alberta.

I would like to mention that my proposals are based to some degree upon the resolution passed at the recent Progressive-Conservative association's annual meeting here in Toronto. I would like to express my appreciation to this association for the interest and leadership which it has shown in the matter of air pollution.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer to the Sarnia area once again, in order to illustrate the first important point which I would like to make in connection with this subject of air pollution.

This is the need for a responsible approach to the problem involved on the part of our communications media, elected representatives everywhere, and the public at large. I cannot stress too strongly that one of my main purposes in presenting this resolution, and the speech which will come later, is to develop a sane responsible approach to this problem at all times. In this, I echo the plea of the mayor of Sarnia, in his inaugural address to the people of that city, the plea of the immediate ex-mayor, and the editorial pleas of two Sarnia newspapers.

Recently, completely irresponsible and unfounded statements of a certain individual from Sarnia, dealing with air pollution in that area, received wide publicity in the Toronto newspapers. I must admit, Mr. Speaker, my disappointment with these papers for accepting and printing this material at face value, without checking more carefully on the source.

As we know, the statements and charges were completely untrue. Once in print however, they must be answered, and this wastes valuable time of individuals who are deeply concerned with the problem of air pollution and who are busy attempting to do something constructive about it. The situation in this instance was well summarized by an editorial which appeared in the *Sarnia Gazette* of January 5, 1967 entitled, "Melons on the Moon". The last two paragraphs of this editorial read as follows:

What Mr. Crouchman, the individual who made these statements to the press, knows about air pollution you could stuff up an ant's ear.

He has about as much genuine interest in the pollution problem and in the betterment of Sarnia as we have in growing melons on the moon.

This same individual, members will recall, approached the leaders of each of the Opposition parties of this Legislature.

Although acting only as House leader at the time, the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) reacted as one would expect of a responsible member of this House under the circumstances. He denied having any secret information on pollution in the Sarnia area as reported in the press, and he emphasized the necessity for taking a responsible approach to this subject.

I am sorry to say the leader of the New Democratic Party did not appear to take the same responsible attitude to the same individual's approach.

I repeat my plea for a sane, sensible, responsible approach to air pollution control. Now, Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to indicate to this House the need for action to control air pollution along the lines indicated in the resolution before you.

There is a saying that, "There is nothing new under the sun," and this is certainly true of air pollution. It has been a problem throughout history. In Roman times, Seneca complained about the "stink" and "pestilent vapours" and soot of the "heavy air of Rome". In 1257, England's Queen Eleanor was forced

to move from Nottingham because of the "unendurable smoke". In 17th century England, with the industrial revolution still 200 years away, John Evelyn said Londoners "breathe nothing but impure air and thick mist—so that catarrh, coughs and consumptions rage—"

Contamination of the air has existed since the beginning of time. In fact, small particles of dust are essential for natural rain. The first source of contamination is therefore nature itself: smoke and soot of forest fires; dust storms; volcanic eruptions; pollen; rotting vegetation; decaying animal matter; swamp gases—which are deadly. The continuous blue haze that hangs over large fir forests is volatile hydrocarbon emitted by the trees. Pliny the Elder died in A.D. 79, after breathing in an overdose of sulphur oxides emanating from erupting Mt. Vesuvius.

To this, of course, we must add the contamination which results from heating our homes, cooking both indoors and out, smoking, burning of refuse, moving about—whether by motorcycle, car, bus, truck, train, aeroplane, or even Skidoos.

Finally, there is industry's contribution, which does not emanate solely from the smelters, foundries and refineries of heavy industry, but also from generating stations, dairies, bakeries, laundries, restaurants, hospitals, hotels, schools, stores, office buildings, banks, and so on.

Contamination of the air is therefore an essential and inevitable fact of life. It exists in every community and in the most deserted areas of the ocean. To illustrate the dangerous oversimplification of the problem by blaming industry right off the bat as soon as air pollution is mentioned, let me quote a few lines from an article entitled "Home Pollution Greater Threat than Outdoor Air, Dr. Warrens", by Joan Hollobon, *Globe and Mail*, January 19, 1967:

Air inside an average home is often more polluted than the air outside, according to a University of Pennsylvania physician.

And further:

All kinds of chemicals in cleaners, solvents, abrasives, bleaches, colour restorers, pesticides and air improvers have invaded all households. Some of these products, when mixed with others, produce gases that have in some cases caused death.

Recognition of the role of house dust in causing allergic reaction has led physicians of the allergic clinic of Long Island Jewish hospital in New York city to prepare per-

sonalized vaccines made from sweepings brought in by patients after they have vacuumed their homes. The doctors found that after October, when windows are closed and furnaces come on, exposure to house dust increases and patients arrive at the allergic clinic.

My point, Mr. Speaker, is quite simple. It is that while industry does contribute to pollution of the air wherever it exists, industry alone must not be saddled with air pollution responsibility that pertains to everyone.

I have found industrialists, with whom I have spoken, quite prepared to accept their responsibility. Yet, a recent article in *Time* magazine, states that more than half of the contamination in the air over the United States consists of carbon monoxide, most of it issuing from the exhaust pipes of automobiles, trucks and buses—and 10 per cent of the pollution consists of hydrocarbons mostly emanating from automobile fuel systems.

In Los Angeles, automobiles are responsible for 12,420 of the 13,370 tons of contaminants released into the air over the county every day. On the other hand, in New York city's smog, it shows that 50 per cent of the contaminants come from chimneys, smoke stacks and open fires. The pollution in Chicago is to a large extent supplied by communities outside of Chicago itself. So, I repeat, all segments of the community must shoulder their share of responsibility for the control of air pollution.

Governments too must accept their share, and all those responsible must recognize that hasty, ill-conceived expenditure of funds could result in a hodge-podge of temporary solutions with little or no realistic relationship to the major problem. It is not enough that we be informed about the problem; it is essential for us to accept the fact that we are all contributors and, as such, must be prepared to do something about it and prepared to pay for it too. For the cost of control will be high. However, we must act now in the interest of our own health and longevity, and even more for the health of future generations.

This fact will be driven home to us later in the session when my colleague, the hon. member for High Park (Mr. Cowling) will speak to a public bill dealing with the removal of noxious fumes from vehicle exhausts. This measure will require each one of us to participate directly in the control of air pollution. But we must also be prepared to pay for the research that will be necessary on a continuing

basis and for the cost of control measures themselves.

To summarize the problem then, one can say that air pollution results from man's activities and its effects are increased with increasing population and industrial density. In Ontario, air pollution consists of particle matter, gases such as oxides of sulphur and nitrogen, hydrocarbons, ozone and odours. Pollution generally is confined to the southern, more built-up portions of the province. Yet in northern Ontario, altogether different problems arise from mining and paper operations. The mining operations can result in extensive vegetation damage from sulphur dioxide and potential health hazard to humans and wildlife due to arsenic. Paper-making results in heavy particulate fallout and odours.

I would like to speak to the factors that are affecting the problem. Nature's contribution might be a topography which prevents the wind from dispersing the contaminants. Los Angeles is a good example of this. It could be through humidity and fog, too much wind or no wind at all, it could be just plain sunlight, which catalyzes reactions in the air between various of man's contaminants. Or it might be a temperature inversion—that is, a layer of warm air on top of 500 to 1,000 feet of cooler air immediately above the ground. This phenomenon effectively prevents contaminants from rising above the bottom of the "inversion layer".

These air inversions occur frequently. In areas of 500 feet elevation and below, they occur between 10 per cent and 50 per cent of the time. In the Great Lakes region, air inversions for example occur approximately 20 per cent to 30 per cent of the time, that is, 20 to 30 hours out of every 100 hours.

There is, therefore, a close relationship between topography, meteorological conditions, and industrial concentration. It follows, therefore, that the pollution problem will differ from one region to another, rather than from one municipality to another. It seems logical, therefore, Mr. Speaker, that we should recognize the regional nature of this problem in developing a long term programme for air pollution control.

Now there are economic considerations that must be given. As we have already seen, air pollution reaches its most serious proportions under adverse weather conditions in highly urbanized and industrial areas. In 1952 4,000 Londoners died during the prolonged smog. In 1962, in spite of the application of air pollution control measures, 750 died. These concentrations, however, were not the

photochemical types of pollution caused by industry and the automobile, though some such pollutants must have been present. Rather, they were of the natural variety.

In October, 1963, the entire northeastern United States was covered with a similar build-up, which fortunately was blown out to sea before disaster struck. More recently, New York city had a severe scare in which their emergency measures plan for the control of air pollution was put into effect.

The lesson for us is therefore very clear indeed. It is that consideration of the problem of air pollution must play an increasingly important role in our future development plans. The tendency to concentrate industries for economic reasons must be resisted by government intervention if necessary, if we are to avoid the problems which now exist in many areas of Europe, the northeastern United States, and the west coast. By knowing the levels of pollution of various types at all times in any area, placement of another industry in that area, which would increase the level of certain pollutants above the danger level, must be prevented.

Although not specifically mentioned in this resolution, I feel that this is a vitally important aspect for us to remember. It may appear uneconomic to deliberately disperse industries in this manner. If we ignore the warning signs however, it is clear that the final price we will be called upon to pay will not be calculated in dollars but in the lives of our children's children, if not our own children, or even members of our own generation.

Economic considerations also point up the need for a national approach to this problem. Effective control measures are costly, and unless these are made applicable across the country (with minor variations as required by local weather and topography), industry can be expected to locate in those areas where their costs are minimal. Thus provinces which act to protect their citizens from air pollution may thereby adversely affect their chances of further industrial development. The same controls must apply to all provinces—just as research on the subject must go on in all provinces and the results coordinated and disseminated, and taken into account when controls are established. The federal government is obviously the only jurisdiction that can handle this.

Finally, modern industries are highly competitive, and profit margins are critical. In applying air pollution control measures, particularly to smaller concerns with limited capital resources, this fact must be borne in

mind certainly—but it is vital to large industries too. In many cases, application of new and more stringent control measures could tip the delicate balance between profit and loss and force the closure of the industry concerned, and in my speech later on I hope to elaborate on this point.

It is in the public interest to provide an appropriate measure of financial assistance and tax relief, in like manner as is provided for expenditures to alleviate water pollution. A resolution to this effect, sponsored by alderman Arthur Bradley, was passed by the Sarnia city council on January 16, 1967; and, through our federal member, Mr. Walter Foy, it is being presented to the federal government. I can only repeat that it is a wise and necessary measure.

Now, something on the need for further research—one of the most serious handicaps facing air pollution control agencies and industry is the lack of criteria and guidelines upon which to base control measures. It is agreed that control of pollution must be decentralized because of the regional aspect of this problem, but the federal government, being the only jurisdiction in a position to do so, must provide a basic concept for the system as a whole which can then be tailored to the individual provincial and regional needs.

It seems logical, Mr. Speaker, to expect industry to carry out a major share of research related to the control of contaminants at source, and I believe industry accepts this premise. Industry can not be expected, however, to carry out research encompassing other aspects such as climate, topography, or the health hazards of contaminants.

This latter type of research dealing with health hazards, I feel, must be the responsibility of a single agency at federal level. This central authority would weld together all the disciplines involved, and direct and coordinate research and investigational work which could be contracted out to those groups and establishments most proficient in their respective field. Of top priority is the study and evaluation of ambient air quality criteria to establish standards for application right across the country.

So very little is known about the effect of pollution on health. Howard R. Lewis, federal public health consultant, in his book entitled, *With Every Breath You Breathe*, which I have researched, states:

Laboratory experiments and community studies tend to confirm the suspicion long

held by treating physicians that air pollution is a significant factor in public health.

While the extent of direct relationship between air pollution and disease has not been established, it is known that the incidence of chronic bronchitis is three times more prevalent among British mailmen, who deliver mail in areas with heavy pollution, than among mailmen who work in cleaner regions.

It is known that there are more deaths from chronic pulmonary disease in high pollution areas of Buffalo than in other neighbourhoods. During the 1952 London smog, hospitals were soon filled with patients suffering from acute respiratory diseases; and, during the five days of the smog, 4,000 more deaths occurred in London than would have occurred under normal conditions. While it is known that sulphur dioxide will affect health, no one knows what the danger level in the air really is—three per cent, 10 per cent, more? And for how long a time must one be exposed to such levels before it is dangerous?

What are the levels for those already having respiratory ailments? Are certain levels of contamination safer in one region than in another? These are but a few examples to illustrate that much, much medical research must be done in order to establish the standards and guidelines referred to above. Yet, the man on the street cannot hold his breath until this information is known.

Some of these things may take years and years to establish. As the 1958 United States national conference on air pollution declared:

The intensification of control efforts should not, and cannot wait on definitive answers to many of the medical problems.

Initially these standards must be based upon our present knowledge of the word "contaminations", incomplete though it may be, so that reasonable and obtainable standards may be established immediately to serve as guidelines until more accurate and authentic criteria can be produced.

These guidelines must also reassure the industries concerned that they will not be called upon suddenly to assume additional heavy costs in future for replacement of control equipment which may be adequate today. Industries must have **this assurance when** guidelines are set, or planning for future development would only be one of confusion and uncertainty. I believe, too, that a grant system should be established to support research, not limited as at present to the health aspects of this problem alone.

Great progress has been made in the means of reducing the amount of contaminants discharged into the atmosphere at source, and I hope to elaborate on this point also in my speech later on. These measures include: (a) proper and most efficient operation of existing equipment; (b) installation of equipment initially that will insure the minimum contamination; (c) improved designs to minimize smoke, nitrogen oxide, and other emissions from boilers, furnaces, heaters, ovens and incinerators; and (d) addition of special devices to control dust, soot, fly ash, metallic fragments, liquid droplets, fumes and mists.

Twenty-five years ago, the latest devices known could remove no more than 85 per cent of fly ash. Today the equipment being installed in the Ontario Hydro's new generating stations will remove 99 per cent of this contaminant.

(e) Absorption devices to remove such pollutants as ammonia, hydrogen sulphite, hydrogen chloride, chlorine and hydrogen fluoride. Absorption techniques can also be used to sweeten smelly gases and control vapours of organic solvents such as alcohol, benzene, carbon tetrachloride, and so on.

To acquire this information, industry has invested millions of dollars in research and development and further millions in the installation of the pollution control equipment indicated to be required by research. In my speech to the House later, I want to deal with some of the contributions that Sarnia industries have made in this regard for it is extensive, thorough and continuing.

The federal government has no air pollution control legislation other than provision in The Canada Shipping Act applying to marine traffic in Canadian waters within one mile of shore and orders by the board of transport commissioners controlling smoke from railways. Yet a boat at the dock in Sarnia over the Christmas season was belching huge clouds of smoke into the air. One wonders at the effectiveness of the control measures.

Although several federal departments are active in the research field, no single agency has been made responsible for air pollution control. The international aspect of the problem is handled by the international joint commission.

Financial assistance is available to the provinces for approved projects under the national health grants programme. Public health research grants are also available to universities and other agencies for studies on

the effects of air pollution on health. In addition, cooperative studies are undertaken with the provinces.

Looking at the problem from a national standpoint, the most urgent requirement is for one central authority to be established at the federal level. This agency should, I believe, assemble all available information on the subject of air pollution and provide a basic concept of control which could be applied across the country. Now before someone says I'm trying to put the onus on federal shoulders in order to escape it provincially, this is not so.

1. All provinces must have the same controls and guidelines, or how can the provinces with controls on industry, for example, compete economically with those that have not?
2. What good are controls on automobiles in one province if they do not apply to autos in or from other provinces?
3. Topographical features and winds and air currents are not confined to provincial borderlines.
4. Only the federal government could undertake control over interprovincial areas such as Ottawa-Hull.
5. Only the federal government, through the international joint commission can deal adequately, and indeed only the federal government can deal at all with the pollution areas such as Detroit-Windsor which involves large areas on both sides of the international border.
6. Only the federal government can co-ordinate the research that is necessary from all provinces to work on medical research and other research, thus avoiding duplication in all provinces. This will also insure an overall picture for the whole country.

At this point I might interject, Mr. Speaker, that after my resolution appeared on the order paper, in fact reported in the *Globe and Mail* on January 31, there was this excerpt from which I would read just two paragraphs. From Washington:

President Lyndon Johnson urged Congress yesterday to authorize a vigorous attack on air pollution through federal and regional regulatory procedures.

Mr. Johnson requested authority to establish and enforce industry-wide limits on the emission of pollutants. He asked also for the creation of regional commissions that would set and enforce clear air standards in designated interstate zones.

Then later on:

The measures taken under three laws passed since 1963 have been inadequate, the President said, because state and local efforts are ineffective in the absence of broader standards. Industries do not know what is expected of them or their competitors, he pointed out, and communities cannot attack the problem unless their neighbours in other states join the effort.

But I would hasten to assure you, Mr. Speaker, there was no collusion on this, between the President and myself.

Thus I can only urge our government to present these arguments to the federal government and hope for immediate acceptance and agreement from the federal government in its role as outlined in my resolution.

A most important function of this federal agency should also be the establishment of interim criteria to provide the necessary guidelines now to provincial authorities and industries in the administration of air pollution control until more accurate criteria can be established. Coordination of the research necessary to produce these criteria should also be the responsibility of the federal government with participation by provincial authorities, universities, research establishments, including those of industry itself.

Responsibility for control of air pollution in Ontario is divided at present with the province being responsible for industrial emissions and municipalities for products of combustion. This split was considered advisable in the interests of economy and because daily inspection is required to enforce control of smoke and soot emissions.

I think experience with this programme has proven that, except for the larger cities, municipal control is spotty and largely ineffective. In many cases, the situation does not justify the passage of an air pollution control bylaw or the employment of a specialist on a full-time basis. The result is that little or no effective control is exercised at the local level. Furthermore it is difficult for one community to apply rigid controls, while others are allowed to ignore the problem altogether.

And finally, air pollution affects areas and regions as a whole; it is related to economic development, land usage, topography and climate. The regional concept is the basis of the provincial control system, and I am convinced, Mr. Speaker, that this same concept must be applied now to the control of the

products of combustion. It must also apply to other causes of pollution not directly related to industry. In short, I urge that air pollution control within a province in all its aspects be placed under provincial control—and an arrangement worked out with the federal government wherever there is an interprovincial or international aspect involved.

Regional control of air pollution in the province should conform to our ten regional development areas if at all possible. Each area or region of control should be responsible to the provincial government.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, a comparison of the air pollution control programmes across Canada indicates quite clearly that Ontario's programme is one of the best, if not the best in this country. While I find no cause for alarm it is still just not good enough for now, and certainly not for the future. But this is recognized, and improvements are now being developed and carried out by dedicated civil servants.

I pay special tribute to The Ontario Department of Health and its dynamic Minister and to municipal authorities working in close harmony with specialists from our various industries. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to express the gratitude of this House to every one responsibly concerned and working to resolve this problem of air pollution. I would like to assure them of our deep and abiding interest in their work. I feel that the adoption of this resolution would provide the additional support that is required to make their efforts even more effective in the future. I hope this ends once and for all the irresponsible and very damaging statements made by ill-informed persons.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition):
Mr. Speaker, I believe it was the year 1957 that the select committee on air pollution and smoke control of this Legislature brought in its report. In dealing with experts in the field in this matter since, the report is referred to as one of the standards of information and excellence that has been done in this problem, that has continent-wide importance. I think that even after this many years, 10 full years, we should congratulate the members of the Legislature who are still in office for the good work that was done on that occasion.

The first recommendation that was made by that committee was that Ontario should set up an air pollution control commission with similar terms of reference to that which has

presently jurisdiction over water pollution. This has not been done by the government.

As you know, sir, we have a division of The Department of Health which has the responsibility for the control of air pollution, at least the legislation associated with it in this province. We are aware of the fact that the jurisdiction is divided with the province of Ontario accepting some of it. But the municipalities themselves have the right to pass by-laws by which they can control the rate of emission from the stacks of industries which might cause pollution at the local level and from the heating plants and plants of this nature that are so important to the industries and to the homes of Ontario.

I would like to begin by saying that I believe this is a responsibility that can no longer be left with the municipalities, that when we talk about a community we should be referring to the community of Ontario itself, and that this Legislature and the government that is responsible to the Legislature should take action as soon as possible. This is predicted, as you know, in the Speech from the Throne, to see that general legislation with general inspection is set up so that this very important problem, a problem that is increasing in importance, can be dealt with effectively in the years that lie immediately ahead.

We do not question, as members of the Legislature, the importance of air pollution abatement. It has several serious aspects, but I suppose the health aspect is the one that is most important and in reference to this air pollution as a serious health hazard I would quote directly from the report of the select committee in 1957 as follows:

We believe that there is ample authority and a continually increasing amount of evidence to justify the statement that air pollution is a major cause of lung cancer and other malignancies.

It goes on to say:

Of course there are many factors to be considered when rural and urban populations are compared, but it is in our opinion air pollution which is one of the principal reasons for the greater incidence of respiratory cancers and many other diseases in the more thickly populated centres as compared with rural areas.

I would like to point out, sir, that in a recent paper in the *Journal of the Canadian Medical Association* the statistics showed an alarming increase in the death rate from primary cancer of the lung in Canada over a period of

1936 to 1964. Among males the death rate has increased more than 11 times, so that as of 1963 it had risen to more than 33 deaths per thousand male population.

This is significant, of course, in light of the recent reports associated with the injurious effects of smoking. I believe that all of us must be aware that, added to these effects, are those associated with the pollution in the air of our major urban centres. This has undoubtedly added to these statistics that are increasing at an alarming rate.

Mr. Speaker, following the report that I referred to, The Air Pollution Control Act of this Legislature was passed in 1958, and this set out the abatement of air pollution as municipal responsibility. We know that since that day there have been by-laws set up in a number of municipalities for inspection and control. But I submit to you, sir, that we are past the time when we can look to this sort of control as being effective.

My own experience in this, of course, coming from a rural area, is somewhat different to those of my colleagues who come from the larger urban areas. I was much struck, in driving into the city just today, to notice that the stacks that take the gaseous effluent from the Ontario Hydro plants along the waterfront were belching out great clouds of pollution that I suppose could be measured in miles. I notice that my good friend, the vice-chairman of the commission, is shaking his head at me. He is about to tell me that a good deal of this effluent is in fact condensed water vapour and due to the low temperature of this particular time of year. But naturally even he must be embarrassed by the large clouds of these noxious gases that come out of the thermal electric plants even in the warm weather because, as he knows, when he looks to the stacks for which he has some responsibility, there is no doubt that there is a tremendous amount of air pollution coming from this source.

In Toronto we are fortunate that the city is on the north shore of the lake. We have a prevailing northwesterly wind that carries the poisonous effluent out into the area where the international joint commission has the responsibility. It is very easy for the hon. member for Lambton West (Mr. Knox) and others to say that surely this is a federal responsibility, if not the municipalities; then the federal government. I submit to you, sir, that by the fact that we in the province of Ontario do contribute to the air pollution of the environment through Ontario Hydro, and through a number of other provincial agencies,

that this is the beginning of a very serious responsibility that we must take in the Legislature of the province.

I feel it is necessary that legislation be brought forward at the earliest time to allow us to regard the southern part of the province particularly as a community which would be governed by one set of guidelines, one set of regulations, and a common inspection. Certainly in this way we can carry out the abatement that is so necessary in this particular day and age.

I do not want to say anything that would exclude northern Ontario from the air pollution problem. My friend, the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) was telling me just a few moments ago that the pollution problems from sulphur dioxide are still very great in the Sudbury area, although much has been done over the years to abate them.

I remember at one time my father, who was trained in agriculture, was on the verge of accepting a position with the International Nickel Company about 1914. He was going to go up there as their liaison man with the local farmers, who were even then experiencing great difficulties with the sulphur dioxide contamination in the air. If he had taken that decision rather than the one that he did take, I might presently have been one of the underground workers and a member of the united mine workers, or mine, mill and smelter workers or the steel workers.

This would have been quite a different career as far as I am concerned; but the truth is, sir, that sulphur dioxide contamination is of great importance in this province, in the northern part as well as the south, and a very difficult one to control. I do not believe there is any direct method whereby sulphur dioxide can be removed from the gaseous effluent other than by converting it through an expensive process into a by-product, usually sulphuric acid. This is something that has to be considered when we determine the control of the gaseous effluent from these plants.

Naturally it should be the responsibility of all of us, as citizens of southern Ontario, to set definite guidelines and to provide assistance for companies that can prove that they cannot remove these effluents themselves and remain in operation. But there are other ways whereby we can approach this specific problem.

As you know, sir, it is possible to set certain limits in the sulphur content of the fuels used themselves, so that even if none of the sulphur dioxide is removed from the gaseous waste

there is not as much in it to start with if the fuels used in the original process are of proper quality.

Mr. Speaker, the contamination due to industry is only a part of the problem that we have in this province. We already are well aware of the fact that the internal combustion engine used in automobiles and other means of transportation is a serious hazard, particularly when the concentration of these vehicles is as great as it is in a good many of our urban areas. We know that certain states of the union, and as a matter of fact the whole of the United States, are going to require in the near future, devices that are fitted to the internal combustion engines to remove these products that contaminate the air, and which are so dangerous to health.

We are often lulled by the fact that the number of automobiles per capita in Ontario, although it is very high, is not as high as it is in California. Of course, this argument does not hold true when you take part in the rush-hour traffic coming into a number of the large urban centres across the province; Toronto, I suppose, being the outstanding example.

The fact that a good many of our people find themselves, for two hours each day, in the bumper-to-bumper traffic where the concentration of the carcinogenic hydrocarbons that come out of the internal combustion engines must be a severe health hazard, directs to our sincere attention something that should be done and can be done to relieve this matter. We know that the cars that are coming off the assembly line, for example at the Ford plant in Oakville, can be equipped with the anti-pollution devices which are put on the automobiles that are manufactured here for export. It seems to me ridiculous that we cannot apply the same type of regulation to the automobiles that are going to be put in use in the province of Ontario. And further, and more specific, it seems to me that a rather simple regulation, directing the exhaust from the big trucks and buses that ply our cities and our highways into the sky, rather than into the faces and lungs of the people who have to live and work in some of these city centres, would be of good use to all of us as citizens of the province. There is much that can be done.

I think that we should start with the setting up of a proper system whereby the levels of air pollution are measured regularly and the results made public. Much has been said about the expense of such a system; and the fact that we are building a couple of air-

pollution-measuring towers in the province of Ontario does not seem to meet in any way the requirements as they are developing in the 1960s, and as we enter the 1970s.

I submit to you, sir, that some of these air-pollution-measuring devices must be set up beside the great thoroughways on which the rush hour traffic comes into Metropolitan Toronto, for example, so that we will know once and for all the emergency of the situation that presents itself to us. I know, sir, that my time is limited in this regard but I would say to you in closing that this resolution does not deal as effectively as it might with the need for provincial jurisdiction on a community-wide basis—the need for proper testing of the air pollution, as it presently is, particularly associated with our highways and freeways.

We know that a national criterion might be of use, but the problem in Canada is very different to what it is in the United States, where the competition for industry between the states is different to the competition we experience here in Canada. I would say, sir, that not enough has been done by the government of Ontario; that it is useless for us to try to shuffle this responsibility off, onto the federal government. We have tried to put it onto the municipalities, and we are now prepared to accept the fact that this does not work, that it is up to us in this Legislature to provide leadership and legislation in this matter of great public importance.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this resolution, I would only say that in general I agree with what has been put down here although I can see no reason why the resolution should attempt to shelve the responsibility to the federal government. I quite appreciate the fact that the mover said he was not trying to shelve that entirely.

What he said about standards, I think, makes sense—that standards should be set up by the federal government. But in lieu, or because of the lack, of those standards I think this province must take immediate steps to set standards and to enforce certain regulations. I bring before the House two illustrations of this.

Right here in Metropolitan Toronto we have an air pollution department, well staffed, well equipped—men who know what they are about. Some time ago a by-law passed through the council of Metropolitan Toronto—not a perfect by-law by any means, but a good one that had come to the Minister and

had been sitting on the desk of the Minister for some months. It seems to me that here is a place where action should be taken by this government to allow Metropolitan Toronto to go ahead. They are equipped to go ahead; they want to go ahead; and are being held up by technicalities in The Department of Health in this government.

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that here is a place where action can be taken. This pollution does not affect any international situation particularly. It has to go a long piece before it affects us internationally, but I think here that action is needed and that action ought to be forthcoming.

The second place I would draw to the attention of the House is that already mentioned by the hon. leader of the official Opposition (Mr. Nixon), that of Sudbury, where the united steel workers, when they came into Sudbury some time ago, began to look at the pollution situation in the smelter and mines there. This has been known for a long time. A lot of agitation has taken place, and certain remedial measures have gone forward over the years.

About a couple of years ago, when some of us flying south from the Lands and Forests tour flew over the smoke stacks of Sudbury and saw that beautiful yellowish-brown smoke billowing out from those stacks going to the east, we realized the extent of the kind of contamination that is going on there.

One of the briefs presented to the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope), by the steel workers pointed out certain salient facts. In the Sudbury area sulphur dioxide is generated by a burning or roasting of sulphur-burning ores in an abundance of oxygen. CIL is using about 300 tons per day of this gas, turning it into sulphuric acid. But about one million tons of sulphur yearly, most of it as sulphur dioxide, is now escaping into the atmosphere in that area. And we are all, I think, familiar with what has happened over the years to the vegetation in the area—and still vegetation is being affected. As has been said already by the Sarnia member who introduced this resolution, we do not yet know very much about its effect on human beings; but we do know that if it has this effect on the vegetation it must also have some profound effect on people. While I do not have time to elaborate too much on this this afternoon, because of the shortness of time, certainly the effect on the human body must be considerable and certainly we should be doing something about it.

On January 4 of last year, 1966, a delegation of the steel workers met the Minister and his officials and they pointed out certain things that were taking place in Sudbury. The union had bought and had used regular gas-measuring devices and they had taken certain readings which they brought to the Minister. I have copies of those readings, taken at various places, over a year's period, within the mine and in the mills.

Mr. Speaker, this is a serious document.

The best information we have is that the international medical bodies have established certain maximum levels of concentrations for various harmful gases, and the maximum allowable concentration for this gas—sulphur dioxide—is about five parts per million parts of air. According to accepted medical practice, an unprotected worker exposed to a concentration of sulphur dioxide for eight working hours should not be exposed to a concentration of about five parts per million for an eight-hour period.

Now I know that within the works of International Nickel there are devices used for the protection of the men—they have masks which protect them to some extent—but even the men who are not using masks have to work in some of these heavy concentrations. Over the years, the revelation of the counting devices showed concentrations sometimes up to 200 where the maximum allowance should be not more than five.

In the early part of the year the devices would only count up to 20. In many cases they reached that, and later in the year they got better machines and they found much heavier concentration. I have pictures here, too, which the Minister knows about, which were filed with him—he has seen them—of conditions inside the plant, and a situation which is extremely serious.

The union at that time asked the Minister for three things. First of all—and these are the things which the resolution also asked for—that the government carry out tests to verify the tests of the union; and the union understood the Minister promised to do this. There has been some question about that since.

The second thing that was asked for is that the government should set standards that are realistic for the concentration of the gas. And the third thing that was asked for was that the government should carry out research in respect to the effect of the gas upon the workers of industry in the Sudbury area. The union offered assistance in a letter later to the Minister, dated February 15. They in-

dicated that they had approached Dr. John R. Brown, professor and head of the department of physiological hygiene, of the school of hygiene, at the University of Toronto, and that he had agreed to act in a consulting and advisory capacity in this regard. The union was quite willing to spend money to help in this respect.

In April, with no answer to this letter, the union again wrote the Minister, pleading with him that some action be taken. About seven weeks after the first meeting, some inspection work had been carried on in the plant. With what results we do not know, because the attitude that both the government and management took was that this was the business of government and management and that the employees had no right to have any information as to what had been found out.

Later on, in April, a letter was written to the Minister and I have a copy of that letter here. I am not going to read it, I have not the time, but they did plead with the Minister to take action because of the serious effect of the gas—not only of this gas, but of carbon monoxide as well, which was also apparent in the plant.

The Minister at that time made an answer, and the answer from the Minister was very illuminating. He said it is an impossibility to set a figure on the maximum exposure to gases, and that all employees who might be subjected to gases in any concentration are supplied with respiratory equipment. Tests are being conducted to prove the effectiveness of this equipment.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, tests of this kind can be made and should be made. He also points out that there is no particular need of a test, because the company is now putting in new equipment. Fluid-bed roasters will replace the present roasters and the erection of ventilation of a new design, with increased capacity will increase the volume of air throughout the plant.

I call the attention of the House to these two things. The roasters are going in, after all these years. This is late action, postponed too long. In the second place, the ventilators are being put in which will help the interior atmosphere of the plants. But they are simply going to shift the sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere outside, to pollute air. It seems to me that more is needed than this. There should be some way by which the sulphur dioxide is recovered and is not spewed out into the atmosphere so that the member for

Sudbury has to breathe it after it comes out of the plant.

A few years ago, in western Canada, Cominco, which has a plant just north of the line, was doing the same thing that Inco is now doing in Sudbury. The people to the south, in the United States, objected, and Cominco was sued and the people who were suing won. Cominco was told in effect to keep their harmful gases to themselves. They did. It cost a lot of money, but there is no more sulphur dioxide problem from Cominco.

Now what Cominco can do, surely International Nickel can do, and it is high time that this was undertaken seriously.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Was the situation corrected after the union objection? Did Cominco correct the situation fully?

Mr. Young: According to the information I have, Cominco has corrected the situation and the amount of gases now escaping into the atmosphere is within the limit of tolerance.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: No more danger from it?

Mr. Young: This is what I am told. Now perhaps the Minister has further information.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: It is a funny thing the unions have this information and we do not. I will find out.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, there is one further thought that I want to make and that is that carbon monoxide is also a problem in this plant and heavy concentrations of carbon monoxide—I have not the time to give the full story of that—are also a problem. This also should be immediately looked at. The monitors have recently been shifted, for the information of the Minister, from 30 feet from the source of the carbon monoxide to within 10 feet, but men are working between the monitors and the source of the carbon monoxide even now. It is a serious situation and the Minister has received documented accounts of 23 cases where men had serious results from this.

It seems to me that while the member introducing this resolution said the cost of control is high, and that is true, the fact is that International Nickel is a company with 1965 profits of \$143.7 million, paid in American funds. This company can afford to clean up this situation and make it possible for those men within the plant to breathe properly and not to have the kind of results which are coming up there now.

It seems to me that this provincial government should take action now to see that Inco is cleaned up. It should also take action to see that Metropolitan Toronto has the power to enforce this by-law which it wants to enforce at the present time.

I bring to the attention of the member who introduced this resolution, that while I agree in substance with what he has said, I think this province also has a responsibility to act quickly to clean up situations such as the ones I have mentioned this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: I believe under the arrangement we have for private members' hour that the debate automatically ends at six o'clock.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will resume the debate on the motion in reply to the Address from the Throne.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, will there be a night session tomorrow night?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, there will not be a night session tomorrow. I am trying to arrange things so that all those who wish to speak in the Throne debate will have an opportunity so to do. I would like to complete the Throne debate by a week from today and then bring the budget in a week from tomorrow. We agreed that we would attempt to complete this debate before the budget came in.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.05 o'clock p.m.

APPENDIX
(see page 223)

(Exchange of correspondence on Confederation conference—Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson.)

CANADA

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

Ottawa, January 26th, 1967.

My dear Prime Minister:

Since learning of the announcement in the Speech from the Throne in Toronto yesterday of the intention of your government to invite me and the Premiers of the provinces to attend a conference in Ontario later this year to discuss the future of Confederation, I have been considering some of the questions that could arise in relation to such a project. It seemed to me that it might be desirable for me to communicate to you without delay some points of concern that occur to me.

May I say at the outset that I recall quite clearly the discussion on the concluding day of the federal-provincial conference in Ottawa last October in the course of which you expressed the hope that in the next two-year period, when fiscal questions will to some extent be out of the way, the governments might discuss the workings of Confederation itself and the ways in which these could be made more effective. I had the impression that you had particularly in mind the possibility of an initial discussion among the provinces at one or another of the conferences of provincial Premiers that are now an annual affair. There was some reference by you and other Premiers to the desirability of representatives of the federal government being present at such a discussion. This would of course not be inconsistent with the practice that has developed at conferences of Premiers of inviting the federal government to send representatives to such meetings in the status of observers. I did not, I must say, understand that what you might have been thinking of at that time was a federal-provincial conference called at the initiative of Ontario.

I think I am right in saying that there is no precedent for a federal-provincial conference being called by a provincial government. I am certainly not one to argue that nothing can be done without a precedent but I cannot help wondering whether this particular precedent would be wise, especially in present circumstances. Normally, when a provincial Premier wishes to have a matter of common concern discussed at a federal-provincial conference,

he has suggested to the Prime Minister of Canada that a conference should be assembled, or that a particular item should be placed on the agenda of a conference that has been called. The holding of such conferences, or the inclusion of items on the agenda, have normally been after consultation by the federal government with all the Premiers. I think this procedure is sound. Therefore I wonder whether it would be wise, or desirable, to move to a situation in which the Premier of any province might initiate a federal-provincial conference that could be awkward or untimely for one of the other governments, or unhelpful to the country as a whole.

I would not want you to think that I have concluded that a situation of that kind, in relation to time or convenience, applies with regard to the conference you are proposing. However, if the precedent is established, I do not see what guarantee we can have in the future that situations may not be established at the instigation of a particular provincial government which might, on the whole, have the effect of adding to the strains of Confederation rather than diminishing them—an effect exactly opposite to the one I am sure you have in mind.

It seems to me that an alternative to the approach you have suggested could be developed that would be consistent with the practice hitherto. The initiative that the government of Ontario has taken in raising the subject could, if you so wished, be translated into action through having an item suggested for possible inclusion on the agenda of a federal-provincial conference that might be called in the normal way at some time in the coming months. While no conference is scheduled at present, there is no reason why we could not explore with provincial governments the desirability of having a conference and determining when this would best suit the convenience of all concerned. Alternatively, you might, of course, think it best to use the vehicle of an interprovincial conference as a first step.

As I mentioned, I thought I should raise these points for your consideration without delay. I should be glad to have your views.

Yours sincerely,
(signed)

L. B. PEARSON

THE HONOURABLE JOHN P. ROBERTS, Q.C., M.P.P.,
Prime Minister of Ontario,
Toronto, Ontario.

APPENDIX

(see page 223)

(Exchange of correspondence on Confederation conference—Hon. J. P. Robarts.)

ONTARIO
THE PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT
OF THE COUNCIL

Toronto, Ontario,
February 1, 1967.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I have received your confidential letter of January 26th which I have read with great interest.

Towards the end of the federal-provincial conference in October 1966, as you mention, I introduced the proposal for a conference on Confederation. After a short discussion, you added a brief comment to the effect: "Well, we will leave this to Mr. Robarts." On that basis I have proceeded, fortified by the earnest conviction that what every citizen of our country is anxious to achieve today, and what our people hope and intend to arrive at, is Canadian unity, the lack of which all of us must deplore.

Permit me to allay any feelings of disquiet and alarm which you might hold. My proposal does not infringe, nor was it intended to infringe, upon the jurisdictional authority of the federal government. Any such suggestion is simply not valid. As a matter of fact, I had not envisioned this initial conference as a federal-provincial conference as we have come to know them.

It is well to remind ourselves that one hundred or more years ago, only because the provinces existing came together, by conference and finally through legal union, did it become possible to bring about the establishment and creation of the dominion of Canada, now Canada as we more currently denominate our nation today.

Then there was need for unity. Today there is a swelling chorus of millions of voices expressing a similar need. Perhaps once again, in some measure at least, by appropriate discussion in a conference, unfettered by the techniques and procedures in effect at the various types of conference held over the past several years, achievements might result from representatives of the governments of Canada sitting down together: to examine Confederation and to take stock of the state of affairs after one hundred years of partnership together; to take the time to discuss and review, in an atmosphere free from rancour, areas of agreement and disagreement; and to explore through our ingenuity and kinship what can be done to ensure a strong and united Canada.

Surely no harm can result from conducting an inventory of the happenings and events of our century of progressive history since 1867. Out of it, in my opinion, can come suggestions for plans to chart our future and to shape the second century of our nation based upon a sure and firm foundation. them from asserting, the right to assume their proper

No one can justly deny the provinces, nor prevent them from asserting the right to assume their proper place and play their proper role in the involvement of the governmental process in our country. The conference proposed is not to be a forum for decision-making. Moreover, it is not the intention that the conference would set about to draft a new constitution or amendments to the present constitution. Rather, it would be a meeting of minds, in a relaxed atmosphere, where representatives of all our people could enter upon a great discussion of all the elements involved, and bring about an intelligent and fruitful approach to the points of view put forward for examination. Within this framework, it should be possible to come to certain conclusions and to endeavour to determine what can be done.

Today the problems which beset the body politic of Canada cry out for solution. We are in a new era. With the expansion and growth of Canada and its economy, the powers of the provinces, which created the Canadian federalism, have naturally increased, as have those of the federal government. There must be flexibility and understanding if this country of ours is to survive.

The one objective I have in mind for this conference is that it will serve the interests of the Canadian people and their nation which the provinces created and in whose continued existence, unity and strength, the provinces are vitally concerned.

I appreciate having had your letter of enquiry. I have endeavoured simply and sincerely to assure you on the points you raised. I hope that with your co-operation and goodwill such a conference, when convened, will achieve results to the advantage and benefit of the present and future generations of Canadian citizens.

Yours very sincerely,
(signed)

JOHN P. ROBERTS

RIGHT HONOURABLE L. B. PEARSON, P.C.,
Prime Minister of Canada,
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 7, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, in the west gallery, students from Annunciation separate school and St. Kevin's separate school.

Petitions.

Clerk of the House: The following petitions have been received:

Of the Napanee and district collegiate institute board praying that an Act may pass permitting it to reimburse parents in lieu of providing transportation for pupils from Amherst Island when transportation cannot be provided due to inclement weather.

Of the corporation of the borough of York praying that an Act may pass providing for night time parking by permit on designated highways in the municipality.

Of the corporation of the city of Ottawa praying that an Act may pass permitting the use of private residences as rooming or boarding houses to accommodate visitors or tourists in certain areas of the city.

Of the board of education of the city of London praying that an Act may pass ratifying a contract for group life insurance.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills presented the committee's first report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr1, An Act respecting the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Bill Pr6, An Act respecting The Empire Life Insurance Company.

Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers Machinery Company Limited.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for London South (Mr. White) ought to be informed that at the opening of the committee this morning, when roll call was taken there were—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

The member is out of order.

Mr. Sopha: Twenty-five Tories were absent.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South) moves first reading of bill intituled An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Were any subsidies, loans, guarantees or deposits made available to York Trust by the province of Ontario? Did the recent change in its officers' setup come about as a result of order, suggestion, or with the knowledge of the government of Ontario?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is no.

With respect to the second question, the only matter of which we have knowledge is the addition of Mr. Alexander V. Crate to the organization.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General.

Would the Attorney General comment on the complaints of Metropolitan Toronto police force that the policing of jaywalkers is ineffective because under present laws a pedestrian does not have to give a police officer his name and address?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): I note, Mr. Speaker, that I am asked to comment on this matter. It is scarcely a question,

but I accept the invitation to make a brief comment.

I am aware of the problem. It does not apply only to this area of jaywalking. The general principle is that persons are not required to give any evidence to the police in a situation which may tend to incriminate them, and the name and address comes within that area. I think it extends in many police situations; you just do not have to talk.

Now if the hon. member wants me to comment on what might be the remedy for that situation, one can think of situations such as The Highway Traffic Act, where you are required to produce your licence, giving certain information on it.

But this lies within that principle that no one has to open his mouth to give evidence to incriminate himself. I think that we would hardly want to contemplate the remedy of making jaywalking an arrestable offence. But I think the supervision, the accosting by police officers of persons jaywalking has a pretty remedial effect on the situation. Nobody likes to be bothered, accosted, or challenged by a police officer. Now while I appreciate the problem, I have not thought the matter out far enough since receiving this question to suggest legislation.

Mr. J. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General, as follows: Is there a case before the courts involving the alleged use of the prefix "doctor" by Emile Harvard of Beltone of Toronto? Are there any other charges pending against this individual?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, there are two charges against this individual. He is charged with indecent assault in both of those. These arise from the manner in which he was using a stethoscope, so I am informed.

I have a further something to say in answer to the question. I can tell the hon. member that the use of this name "Doctor Harvard", the right to use the name in passing himself off as a qualified professional man, is being investigated, particularly by the college of physicians and surgeons. The investigation is not yet complete and I am informed it is not certain that there is as yet enough evidence as to his use of this title to lay charges, but the matter is under investigation.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon Minister of Labour.

What is the Minister doing to widen the scope of jurisdiction of the Ontario athletics commission to deal with the allegation made

by the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Eagleson) that professional hockey groups are determining the conditions under which the children of this province play hockey?

Hon. D. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question from the hon. member for Essex South, the member for Lakeshore raised a number of interesting points in his speech last Friday morning. I plan to discuss the matters with him, particularly as it affects amateur hockey and then we will take a close look at the situation.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Education, notice of which was sent to him yesterday.

Would the Minister explain what provision he will make for the financial support of post-secondary institutions associated with religious orders which have been up until now receiving federal assistance?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, I notice that the wording of the question has been altered somewhat. The question I received read "going to continue financial support". I think the leader of the Opposition realizes full well that there has been no provincial support for denominational institutions, and the decision of the federal government some few months ago with respect to support to higher education is very definitely complicated as it exists in this province.

I think I could say to the House, Mr. Speaker, that we have been endeavouring to come up with some solution to the problem that has been presented to us by the decision made in Ottawa with respect to the financing of higher education. I would express a personal view, and I believe a view of the government, that in no way do we wish to see the religious or denominational colleges receiving anything less than they have received prior to the decision. I am in the process now of communicating to the federal authorities a request that the federal government continue their payments to the denominational colleges of this province at least for another year.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I believe the change was that the federal money would all be channelled through this government rather than be made directly available to the institutions.

I wonder, supplementary to my first question, if the Minister might indicate when the fiscal year associated with this decision would

be up? In other words, what would the deadline be for the change in financing if the federal government requires that the province of Ontario administer these funds?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, it may vary somewhat from institution to institution, but I believe the university's fiscal year is either the beginning or the end of June. In other words, there is sufficient time to resolve this problem prior to their having to make formal commitments.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Would the Minister advise the House how much per ton price support is paid by the Quebec government to the sugar beet growers of that province? And is the Minister contemplating introducing price supports for the sugar beet industry in Ontario to place it in an equitable position with the sugar beet growing industry in Quebec?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question I would first of all say that the nature of the sugar beet industry in the province of Quebec is such that it is very difficult to determine the degree of support that is afforded the industry by the province of Quebec.

In reply to the second question I would say that it is the policy of this government, as it has been for a great many years, to urge the establishment of a national sugar policy in Canada. We believe that if this is accomplished then I would think that the entire industry across Canada would be stabilized to a very marked degree.

I understand these matters are under consideration by the federal government and we would hope for a favourable reply.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Would the Minister inform the House whether the Ontario water resources commission is aware of the high incidence of hepatitis as reported by Dr. Workman last year in the Aylesworth subdivision of Kingston township? What steps are being taken by the commission in conjunction with the township, to arrive at an agreement to provide water services to the area?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, I am advised that at the request of the town-

ship of Kingston a special investigation of water supplies serving the Aylesworth subdivision was made by the OWRC on March 23, 1966, and copies of the report were forwarded to the township and the medical officer of health. The boil water order was issued by the local health officer and the OWRC report recommended that the consulting engineer be engaged by the township to prepare a preliminary design for a supply of water to the subdivision. A public meeting was held later, which was attended by OWRC staff, and it was agreed that the township would engage the consultant to prepare the preliminary report. It was understood that a second public meeting would be held to explain the details of the report and cost estimates to the ratepayers, when this had been received from the consulting engineer.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Education. Is the Minister aware of any medical schools in Ontario that are in danger of losing their accreditation because of deficiencies in teaching staff? And the second part of that question: Have any representations been made to the government, by medical schools within Ontario, for assistance to ensure that there will be an adequate supply of teaching staff?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I have been informed that there is no medical school in Ontario that is in danger of losing its accreditation. The committee on university affairs has very recently finished the review of the budgets from the individual universities in this province including those universities that are supporting medical faculties. I think it is clearly indicated they are planning substantial increases to their teaching personnel.

Mr. Trotter: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the report in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* of Thursday, February 2, 1967, be completely wrong?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would not presume to say what the report in the *Globe and Mail* of last Thursday said. The member asked me a question in respect to the universities in this province, and I say that I am informed that no university or medical faculty in this province is in danger of losing its accreditation.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Education, a second question, of which he has had notice. Would the Minister comment on a suggestion by Robert Macaulay that The Department of Education join forces

with the medical profession to study oxygen starvation during the birth process, a leading cause of reading difficulty and many other problems in children?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I would be quite prepared to comment on this suggestion when I have had an opportunity to study it very carefully.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, on Friday last—

Mr. Speaker: I recognize the member for Bruce.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Education. What studies has The Department of Education made regarding the standardization of designs and materials as far as the construction of educational buildings is concerned in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I could give a very lengthy answer to this. I wonder really whether it might not be more appropriate to discuss this during the estimates of The Department of Education because I think it is a matter that is of interest to all members of the House and it is very difficult to give a short answer. I would say to the member that the department has been giving very serious consideration to the whole question of construction costs. While the term "standardization of plans and material" is used from time to time as being a possible solution, the people involved feel that perhaps a more likely solution will be the development of component-type construction.

The Metropolitan Toronto school board, in cooperation with the Educational Facilities Laboratories of New York, with some support from The Department of Education of this province, is entering into an experimental project here in Toronto, in the Metro area, using component-type construction. However, it is too early, Mr. Speaker, to indicate whether this will in itself effectively reduce the cost of construction, and it is too early to determine that perhaps this is the more appropriate way of tackling this particular problem.

I think I should also point out, Mr. Speaker, that while we are all concerned about the increase in construction costs, it is doubtful that the percentage increase, with respect to school construction, has gone up any more rapidly than, say, housing, or commercial, or industrial construction. It has been related to the increase in salaries, materials, and so on.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that I should also point out that I believe we are moving into a period where there will be much greater flexibility in design and utilization of school plants, which in itself would mitigate against what perhaps might be popularly referred to as a standard plant. I could give the reasons why, in some jurisdictions where it has been tried, the standard plant has not really met the requirements of the boards or the communities they serve.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that it is an area that we could debate and discuss at some length during the estimates, because it is one I am sure that is of interest to all members of the House.

Mr. Whicher: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister name one jurisdiction that tried this and has turned it down?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, there is one jurisdiction to the south of us in the process of getting further information; I believe they introduced either policy, or even legislation I think, in 1960-61, which they are discovering now is not effectively meeting it.

In other words, when they develop what they feel may be a standard set of plans, they find that it does not apply to every geographic site, or every community. In the final analysis, part of the cost with respect to construction is related to supervision, consulting engineers, and so on. This would still have to be done even if you had a standard set of plans for a school. So the question of a saving then becomes relevant. I would be quite prepared, and anxious, to discuss this because I have quite a bit of material that might be of interest to the members of the House.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, on Friday last I asked the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs a question; it remains unanswered. I wondered if he might have the answer today?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I hope to have it tomorrow.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is a brief statement on studded tires, a subject that has become of increasing public interest.

Studded tires are not specifically covered by Ontario legislation at this time. The Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) and I have given the matter careful and thorough examination and I am now prepared to propose legislation as a result of that assessment. It is our intention to permit studded tires, but

to impose certain controls, such as limiting their use to the winter months.

It would appear from the studies to date that studded tires may have an added value to safety and it is for this reason that the government will officially permit their use.

In some cases their characteristics could reduce the frequency of accidents. However, much further testing experience is necessary before their advantages can be assessed. The incorrect use of studs can nullify their benefits. Studded tires must only be used in pairs; and if the rear tires are studded and the front tires are not an adverse effect on steering can result.

Studded tires cannot be regarded as a major safety device, but they do have a measure of safety value. While studded tires may cause some damage to roads, it is planned to minimize this by means of controls regarding their use. On the basis of present evidence, the Minister of Highways and I agree that the probability of averting even a few accidents on icy roads is sufficient to justify their use.

While the legislation now being prepared for submission to the House will take into account the correct use of studded tires, we will continue to study, and observe studies currently underway in other jurisdictions, for the fuller assessment of their safety value and possible damage to pavements.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister a question?

Mr. Speaker: It is not the practice of the House to ask questions on statements before the orders of the day. If the member has a question on this particular subject he could ask it tomorrow.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, when I adjourned the debate yesterday, I was dealing with the problems that consumers in this province have when they are literally unprotected and have no recourse—or if they do have a recourse it is so difficult to enforce, in fact, that they are really helpless against anyone who is scheming and using the law

as it is. I deplored the fact that this government has never proclaimed the two bills that would establish the consumers' protection bureau here in the province of Ontario.

As an example of how people could be misused, I emphasized the selling of hearing aids in the province of Ontario and pointed out one particular group, Beltone of Toronto.

Further to that, and as a part of it, we can show that a consumers' bureau is needed, in order to protect people against conditional sales contracts and against so-called investment companies that are set up to charge excessive rates and use very shady ways of carrying on business. In this respect it comes right back to Beltone again.

So many items that are sold by any company, and Beltone was one of them, involves an individual making a purchase who cannot afford to pay the full selling price. Beltone, in this way, would have people sign conditional sale contracts, and these conditional sale contracts would be assigned to a finance company. If it was a sale in the Toronto area, usually it was assigned to a finance company here in Toronto. But some of the sales became so questionable that even the finance companies seemed to hesitate as to whether they wanted to have anything to do with the conditional sale contracts. It just shows you how bad Beltone must have been if the finance companies were rather concerned about taking on the contracts. There were instances where the different finance companies said: "We want nothing to do with them."

So what does the number one individual who owns Beltone do? He goes out and forms an investment company. The man who owns the Beltone franchise here in Toronto is a man named Sidney Samoli. He decided he would like to get in the investment business. He incorporated a company called Utopian Investments Limited. It sounds funny I admit—Utopian—but the tragedy of it is a number of people have literally been sucked in, in paying high interest rates.

This is something which if we are going to protect consumers, the consumers' bureau would do—look into what some of these firms actually do. Admittedly, if it is under The Small Loans Act, that is loans under \$1,500, the federal government has legislation; and it can be enforced providing The Attorney General's Department is on the job. But if it is a conditional sale contract, there is really no recourse. Once the person has signed, he has been hooked.

Admittedly one man who signed a Beltone contract was determined he would not be

hooked and he took it to court. There is actually a case, *Long vs. Beltone*, where this one individual was able to fight his way out of it. But that is an expensive process, and a consumers' bureau would avoid all this.

I want to give one illustration of how this investment company, by using the name of a good bank—this is what is so unfair about these companies that operate on the fringe of the law. They misuse and abuse good firms that have carried on business over the years. Even in the hearing aid industry, we in Canada have been outstanding.

It was Alexander Graham Bell working with hearing aids that eventually led him to the discovery of the telephone. It has in many cases a historic background. But the unfortunate thing is that a man, or a group of individuals who are a bit nefarious, can misuse reputations that have been built up over the years. We here in this country take for granted a good banking system because we have excellent banks. And if we see the name of a well-known bank, we assume that everything is all right.

I have one letter here—and I admit I do not like reading letters to the Legislature. But as I said to this House yesterday, there was just no other way to bring this to the House, simply because, despite a very great deal of publicity, these cases continue. This particular letter shows how an investment company can be misused, how conditional sales can be misused, and how the name of a good bank can be misused. This letter and the information in it was enough, for the well known bank took some action; they did not admit they were getting rid of the company but certainly they cleared up certain things.

I am going to read this, and again I am not using the names of the individuals harmed, but I could produce to the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) if he so desired or now to our new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree).

This woman says this—and it really does not deal so much with the aspects of being treated for ears, it deals with the financial aspects and with conditional sales:

I had my ears tested at Beltone and was advised that I needed hearing aids. The cash price was \$718. I could not pay cash but put \$200 deposit on them.

When the instruments were ready, I went to get them and the doctor at Beltone, who checked and fitted me, had papers ready for me to sign concerning a loan that I required. He told me that the

loans were handled by the Royal Bank of Canada. Before signing the papers, I asked what interest it would cost me and was told one and a half per cent per month. I signed the papers, taking his word in good faith.

The loan was for two years and I asked if I would only have to pay interest on the length of time it took me to pay it back. I was assured that this was so. I paid back the loan within four months and the assurance was not fulfilled. About two weeks after the signing of the agreement, I received by mail a book of 24 coupons, one for each month's payment; that is, 23 at \$27 and one at \$33.50. On the front of the book was the name and address of a branch of the Royal Bank of Canada and inside were instructions to send payments to that name and address.

I reckoned up the value of the coupons and found that the rental was \$654.50. For a loan of \$518 this seemed a high percentage, so I wrote to the bank manager asking why the bank was charging so much.

The reply was that the bank did not arrange the loan, that they only handled the payments.

I phoned Beltone about this and asked who the loan was through. The answer was a firm named Utopian Investments.

I just interject, Mr. Speaker, to tell you that the same man who owns the franchise for Beltone is also the major stockholder in Utopian Investments. He has purchased over \$16,000 in preferred shares from that company, according to the records of The Provincial Secretary's Department.

I looked in the phone book for this firm's number and address and found no trace of them. After more inquiries at Beltone, I learned that Beltone, Utopian Investments and the branch of the Royal Bank of Canada all have the same address at 131 Bloor Street West.

During all this I was again assured by the doctor at Beltone—

And there again, Mr. Speaker, they are talking about a doctor—

—that I would only pay interest on the time it took me to pay back the loan. My first payment was on April 12, 1966, and my last on July 26, 1966.

I will not read all of these. It goes into the problem of where they were being excessively charged, and the person who evidently knew enough about financial paper, knew they were

being taken, and were paying instead of this, one and a half per cent per month; and with the privilege of paying off at any time, that this was far in excess, that it was coming close to a 25 per cent interest they were paying.

Again I go on:

Before I left the office I asked him, that is in Beltone, to send me a detailed copy of my account. When it finally reached me, after having to phone twice to him, I was astounded to find that the \$518 I had borrowed had somehow become \$654.50.

I had to start my payments on this figure, plus one and a half per cent. And in front of the \$654.50 was written the word 'salesman', and a copy of this record of my account is enclosed.

It still does not tell me how they arrived at the \$65 refund which I eventually got. I finished up paying \$71 interest on a loan of \$518 for four months.

And then, Mr. Speaker, this is where let us say the good guy gets involved.

I began to wonder why the Royal Bank of Canada had not dealt with all this, so I phoned the bank and talked to the manager. He said he would let me speak with — and then he named another employee who handled the Utopian Investments business.

I said that the manager was good enough for me to speak with; and the end result of our conversation was that the bank does not even open any mail for Utopian Investments, let alone do any accounting. The branch of the Royal Bank of Canada at 131 Bloor Street West is just a mailing address for Utopian Investments.

I looked in the phone book for the address of the district manager of the Royal Bank of Canada and wrote to him.

She wrote to him at the head office of the Royal Bank of Canada, and then they came back with the reply and it really tells a story in itself, it is a very simple statement. The bank says:

By coincidence, the company has concurrently advised our branch that they do not plan to continue this arrangement further and accordingly the branch will not be acting in this capacity any longer.

Well now, here again is what I have to emphasize over and over again in all these problems. It is a pity that it has to be so repetitive; but bear in mind that a programme like "This Hour Has Seven Days" two years ago put a programme all across the country regarding

this problem; and bear in mind newspaper columnists were writing in the *Toronto Telegram*, a number of columns about this problem; and when you bear in mind that we passed a year ago legislation for a consumers' bureau; and still this goes on, this continues.

It is not just with hearing aids, which I consider to be the worst case that I have ever seen since I have been in the Legislature, but it goes on with freezers, with vacuum cleaners and with the door-to-door salesmen. I cannot understand, Mr. Speaker, why this government simply will not take action.

Now other governments do! They have done so in Oregon, specifically, where hearing aids are involved. In the state of Michigan they have recently passed legislation; and again the federal government in the United States is now going to take action.

Now why in the world cannot we take the necessary action that is required to protect hundreds of our people here in this province?

To give members some idea of the individual suffering that is involved, I read to them one final letter. It is outside of Toronto. Now this has been going on not just in Toronto but it has been going on in Huntsville, in Oshawa and in Ottawa. These are where these letters come from.

I do wish that the Attorney General would sit down and talk this situation over with the Canadian hearing society. They have, over the years, done a tremendous job and they are aware of it.

They are aware that a good hearing aid costs between \$75 and \$125 and yet people are signing contracts for \$365 for one hearing aid; and sometimes they are sold two, one for each ear, and it comes to 700 and some odd dollars, plus interest charges.

This is why we have to go into the whole problem of conditional sales contracts, whether we are dealing with hearing aids or not, because the public are being rooked on interest charges, and this government knows that. They had a select committee that pointed it out, and the government seems to accept this, and yet it goes on and on.

The hearing aid companies, that is the nefarious ones, tell you these hearing aids cost so much money because they have to be moulded, they have to fit your ear. The mould that fits over the person's ear costs \$4 to make.

And again, this is something that we must remember, that our people are being rooked, and particularly our elderly people. So I

read one more letter on this subject and then I leave it with the hope that some action will be taken by this government; that the worry that our people have from this situation after signing these contracts—because again, you may have the money to fight, and the nerve and the will to fight, you may go to court and win, as has happened in the case of Long vs. Beltone; but so many people just do not know what to do and all they do is worry.

Here is my last letter. Maybe, Mr. Speaker, you will be glad to know it, but this is it.

This woman saw an account in the Action Line column in the *Telegram*, and this made her aware that her mother was not the only one that was being rooked. She says her mother had bought a Beltone hearing aid, and that she was a widow living off her pension alone—and again I emphasize this because these people are normally older.

I know of one case where a person on an old age pension had to pay Beltone \$32 a month. This is utterly ridiculous, and yet this is what they are legally signed to do.

But in this case, this woman is a widow who bought a Beltone hearing aid last February. That would be in February of 1966. This letter I am reading is dated October of 1966:

I was in the hospital—

That is the daughter—

—at the time, when a woman and a man came to the door selling hearing aids. They had got her name from someone. The hearing aid she had—

She named where she got it.

—was not working too well and so she gave these people \$100 as a deposit. The hearing aid she bought used so many batteries—one battery would hardly last two days and at times she could not turn it off or on.

Towards the end of the month another man came and demanded the balance of the money on it. She would not give him any more and she told him it was not working and for him to send someone to fix it, but no one came. Then in March he came back and when I went up in the evening to see my mother she was lying on the bed crying.

The man had just left. He had been there nearly two hours trying to get her to sign a cheque for \$50. She told him she was not feeling well and for him to come back but he would not leave. She took a weak spell and had to lie down, but he just

sat there in a chair and read the paper and then he got up and tried to force her to sign the cheque again.

I was so mad that I decided if he ever came back I would have the law on him. Soon after that the hearing aid quit working altogether so we took it to a lawyer in Collingwood to see if he could get the money back. Soon after this he came back again and was going to sue her for the balance, so I told him to go ahead and I would turn it over to my lawyer.

There is a situation which caused an elderly woman unnecessary worry.

This is a case where they have these special deals where they will sell a hearing aid with the transistor type of arrangement where you can press it with your hand. Yet there is one case where one was sold to an elderly lady for a large sum of money—this is just recently. She has arthritis and cannot use her hands, and yet these companies know that. So in rating this situation as a matter of the health of our people and as a matter of the administration of law, both price-wise and having to do with frauds and with conditional sales, I urge the Attorney General, for heaven's sake, to please bring into force the legislation that has already been passed, that we have spent hours and hours on in this House and passed. Yet the government refuses to proclaim it!

All I can say is that the Attorney General's office, of this government in particular, is either one of two things—or maybe both—just lazy or they just do not care. It is about time the government in this province started to care about the consumer in the province of Ontario.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have one more matter I would like to talk on.

Mr. Speaker, where were you on the afternoon of February 23, 1962? If you were here with the rest of us, or if maybe you were walking to this Legislature around two or two thirty o'clock, you would see great headlines of news that had been leaked to the press before we gathered here on the afternoon of February 23, 1962. Because that day, five years ago, was when we had this marvelous new housing programme that the then Minister of Economics and Development, Mr. Macaulay, brought forward. He had 12 magnificent points that were going to solve the housing problems in Ontario.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): He is gone now.

Mr. Trotter: Admittedly; yes, he is gone, and it is time the rest of them over there

went too, because the public of Ontario are being hoaxed when we have these great series of newspaper headlines of programmes that are supposed to take place and do not take place.

These 12 points consisted truly of many study groups; and then they had later on another group that was to study the study groups—as I remember the 12 points.

They had rental certificates where people were going to be able to rent housing accommodation through the province of Ontario. The government even allowed \$50,000—you can imagine how far \$50,000 goes in housing in Metro Toronto, or throughout Ontario—but they had these rental certificates that were going to be admittedly just a pilot project, but were going to be a big thing.

Well we came back here a few years later and the whole thing was wiped out; and now we have an Ontario housing corporation, and now from the Speech from the Throne we have this Madison Avenue slogan: Home Ownership Made Easy.

Just looking at the situation in Metropolitan Toronto we can see how easy home ownership has been and how much that headline programme of Mr. Macaulay did in 1962. For housing units—family housing units, just for public housing units in all of Metro for families—there is a waiting list as of the end of December of 1966, and it is getting worse, of 5,654 units. That is a tremendous number.

Admittedly, most of them are in the city of Toronto. In fact, over 3,570 are right in the city of Toronto. Again, when we look at the emergency situations here in Toronto, where people have no place to go; they are out on the street right now. They are trying right now, today, at the emergency housing division in the city of Toronto, trying to find places to live for 222 people.

This summer I went down to Seaton House. Seaton House is the place where they normally keep unemployed transient workers during the wintertime, but during the summer they had herded these people—there were between 60 and 90 of them, it varied from day to day—they herded them in there and they were in great cages covered over with blankets. There was no place for these people to go and it was a pretty grim sight. It was a shocking thing to see that here in a so-called affluent community like the city of Toronto such things can exist.

You know it is going to get at the very roots of our society, this whole situation, unless we as governments throughout Canada

and the federal government in Ottawa, take very strong action. Because you cannot have a society where literally thousands of people are waiting for public housing, where you even have a few hundred trying to live herded together in a basement, and yet within 10 minutes' drive you can find houses that are worth \$300,000.

These are extremes that will destroy a society. What is happening today with this housing situation is not just that the so-called poor are now in a desperate situation, it is the middle class, the middle class that is the backbone of our society. You and I know, if we know anything about history, it is those countries that have had a strong middle class that have always been the strongest for democracy, that have always been the strongest for freedom. Because if you have a stake in the community, if you have your own little plot of land, you are far more interested in a stable, prosperous community than someone who has just nothing to lose. But because of the extremes that are now developing, there are just too many people who have nothing to lose, despite the fact that we are in an affluent society.

We have heard figures over and over again. We know that in 1966 the production of housing units declined in Metropolitan Toronto by 40 per cent. It is not just Toronto. I admit, because of the population explosion, that Metropolitan Toronto is in the worst situation; but even throughout Ontario, in the first ten months of 1966, comparing it with 1965, we were down in the production of housing units by 25 per cent.

It is true we can blame the federal government. We might say that the federal government should have done more. But in all fairness, when we look at the background and the history of central mortgage and housing, it has done a very considerable job. I am one of those who think it has not done enough and should do more; but as you look at housing developments—the individual housing units throughout Canada, in the building of apartments throughout Canada, and in the building of homes for the aged in other provinces throughout Canada—central mortgage and housing corporation has done a rather remarkable job.

It has not done as good a job as the federal housing administration in the United States. I do not intend to spend a long time on figures, but just to give you an example, the maximum loan from CMHC is \$18,000. With the American organization, it is \$30,000. The Americans will loan money at three and a half per cent, where we now are getting in

and around seven per cent—which is too high. But still, central mortgage and housing corporation has made it possible for hundreds of thousands of people in Canada to own homes.

When we come to a crisis, the provincial government of Ontario just sort of blames it all on the federal government. They say they used the cutting off of building funds as an economic policy and they have done that in the past. I disagree with such a policy. It is wrong, because the housing situation is not so much an economic problem, it is a social problem; and it can be a disastrously social problem unless we do something about it. Despite all that, CMHC has made tremendous accomplishments and pioneered in many fields in helping the housing situation.

But this government here has literally done nothing. When you look at the problem it is shocking to think what little interest, over the years, the government has actually taken. For example, before Ontario housing corporation was formed, this Legislature voted over \$6 million a year for housing. I know it was peanuts compared with the problem involved. But, of the over \$6 million voted, which was for both ordinary expenses and for capital expenses, they usually spent between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. Even though the Legislature voted it, they did not bother to spend it.

And even last year, when the government started to wake up a bit, they were going to need some money to start Ontario housing corporation. They voted, for the carrying expenses of Ontario housing corporation, \$1,797,000. But they only spent about two-thirds of it. I am not asking the government to go out and spend money for the sake of spending it, but it is known that money is needed in the housing situation; yet, even after they voted it in the Legislature, they still do not have the initiative or the energy to use it, and it is not always Ontario housing corporation's fault.

The Ontario housing corporation is in many ways tied down by old rules and regulations. Just to give you an example, when the late Ken Soble was before the committee on aging—and I pay tribute to Ken Soble; he was certainly one of the most public-spirited men Ontario has ever had, and it has been a shocking loss that he is no longer with us to take part in this problem—but Mr. Soble was before the committee on aging, and we said, "What are you doing for the aging?" because I know that in Toronto there is a waiting list of over 3,000 people trying to get into homes for the aged. The list is so long that

some people do not bother to get onto it now. But we asked him, "What are your plans? What are the needs of Ontario as a whole? Have you got somebody working out any plans?" He said, "No, we have not." And "Why?"—"Well, it is difficult; the wages we pay to hire people who have the necessary knowledge." And they went into the problem of the civil service.

The last words that Ken Soble ever spoke to me, and it was after the meeting and we had given him a bit of a rough ride; he came up, shook hands, and said, "Thanks for giving us the needle. You can say some things that I cannot say."

Well, obviously there are things that need to be said. This housing crisis that is upon us in the province of Ontario is mainly the responsibility of an administration that has been in power since 1943. All that was needed was to read the dominion bureau of statistics data to know that the baby boom of World War II was upon us, that immigration was coming into this province, and into Metropolitan Toronto.

It is all right to blame the federal government, but do not forget that those people who came in as immigrants also brought with them great prosperity. The immigrants to Canada bring more business to Canada than all our business with Europe and the British Isles combined. So, by and large, they are a very good thing, and a necessity if this country is ever going to grow. Despite the fact of the formation of new families, that the statistics bear out because of the baby boom in World War II, this government has just sat in a lethargic state—so content because they have been able to win election after election that they think they have the divine right to rule whether or not they do anything at all.

What can any government do if they have the energy and the will to do it? They can do many things. No one approach is going to solve the housing problem; but even this matter of older houses—why in the world do they not give loans at low interest rates to rebuild older homes and fix them up?

You know, people who have money want to be in style, get older homes, and call them town houses. The average person is not going to have a town house, but if they had the money available and were kept out of the hands of the mortgage sharks, certainly they could use their money to improve the older homes. And certainly you can do a tremendous amount in the development of public housing.

It is ridiculous, the situation we have today with 974 municipalities. I think 150-some

odd have some type of planning programme, but these people cannot afford even the servicing of these new areas.

It is all right to say to some area out in Scarborough, like the Malvern area: "We have 1,700 acres out there and, after having them all these years, we have decided we are going to put up houses." But who is going to pay for the education? I admit the houses must go up, but how is Scarborough going to pay for the schools? How is it going to pay for the local waterworks and the local roads? The average homeowner who is now in these areas, that are bound to grow, simply cannot carry any more of the tax load.

When you have in the city of Toronto a situation where 31 cents of our tax dollar goes to pay for the interest that is now owing, it is obvious that any new housing development, no matter how much needed it is, cannot be properly financed until the provincial and the federal governments—and the federal after all has been offering money for some time—until these two governments get together, you are never going to have a decent housing programme in the province of Ontario. It is an overall programme that is needed, not just for Metro Toronto or the big cities.

I was in western Ontario and I took movies of the signs in Hudson, Ontario, where the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) comes from. They said "We need houses," and how they need houses! I remember being up in Red Lake, going to see an Indian housing project that the government was bragging about, and what a shambles! Every time I put my movies on, I see what a shambles this government calls a housing project.

Despite all the facts and figures, despite all the promises that we have had, and particularly those 12 points that were an absolute farce from start to finish back in 1962, we in this province have done very little for housing. The fault lies with the government because it is a need that has been obvious for ever so long.

So I say this to the government in conclusion, through you, Mr. Speaker, that we on this side of the House welcome any effort that the government will make in the housing programme; but one cannot help but be very skeptical when we see this so-called home programme. Indeed, if they are going to build public housing, make land cheap for our people in this province, all well and good, but why should I believe their promise?

I cannot believe what they told me in the past because it obviously was not the truth.

It was a deceit—the 12 points of 1962—an absolute, utter, complete deceit; and it is one of the many reasons why this administration should simply be turfed out of office. They simply do not care about the housing programme, or any other programmes for people that they talk about. And I, as a member for Toronto, am in an area that, because of the explosion in the population, is suffering. There are over 3,000 of our aged looking for rental houses. There are over 5,000 looking for public housing, and we need at least 10,000 public units. Anything the government has done to meet the problem has been picayune; it is just so small it is an embarrassment to me as a member of the Legislature to say that this is all the Ontario government can do. I do hope that before too long we will have a tremendous change in this province and have a government, a Liberal government, on that side of the House that will really give a programme for people and show that a government does care.

Mr. K. E. Butler (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in the debate on the Speech from the Throne, it certainly seems remarkable that there have been three and a half years since the last election. It must be about time for another one. On this subject, I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) on his excellent win in Kenora and his very nice speech in moving the adoption of the Speech from the Throne. I wish him every success in the future, and know he will contribute a great deal to this Legislature and its committees. I would also like to congratulate the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) on his re-election as Deputy Speaker, and chairman of the committee of the whole House. He was very fair, knowledgeable and capable in handling this exacting position last year and I know he will be the same fine chairman in this session.

The general economy in the riding of Waterloo North has made continued large strides in the past year. The new expressway is making progress and will be a fine addition, on its completion, to the area in general. Housing dropped off slightly in 1966, due to lack of mortgage funds and lack of land, which is quite a prevalent situation in most cities. The city of Kitchener is attempting to annex approximately 6,000 acres, basically for industrial expansion this year, and a hearing on this is expected in October, 1967.

The two universities in our area, the University of Waterloo and Waterloo

Lutheran University, are both bulging at the seams and are experiencing remarkable expansion. The farm population in Waterloo North is a very hard-working and industrious group but, as in every other business, more capital is required each year to have sufficient good equipment and facilities to be effective competition to the large operators, and still make a reasonable living.

I am sure the additional aid broadly outlined in the Throne Speech will be welcome indeed. We have a large number of new schools, beautiful buildings with excellent facilities. Despite the undoubted necessity for these additional facilities, somewhere along the way this giant expense will have to be pared. Two areas where expenditures could be trimmed without decreasing the facilities would be to use existing facilities on a much broader basis than they presently are, as far as night, weekend and summer use is concerned, and to get 15 or 20 standard designs as a second course for our Ontario schools.

We all admire the great amount of time our trustees and boards spend on working out new buildings with architects and contractors, but I see no reason why a group of standard plans could not be drawn up to meet various sizes of schools, lots on which they must be placed, and the required educational facilities. There is no doubt of the beauty and facilities of our new schools, but some of them are pretty expensive monuments to the hard work and dedication of various school boards. For the attention of the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), we badly need a school of applied science and technology in our area, as we are so highly industrialized that continued new training is required. I am sure other cities have the same necessity for increased technically and commercially trained personnel.

With this general survey of conditions in the finest part of the province, I would like to make a few remarks on a subject which affects all of us one way or another. This is the automobile insurance business, which appears to be a subject continually in the news media, and the subject of many political discussions. It is particularly in my mind because Kitchener, Waterloo, Guelph, and Galt have now been classified as a metro area as far as automobile insurance is concerned, with the result that we had one of the largest increases in our rates in the province. Both as a member of government, and connected with this industry, I have heard a lot of criticism naturally of these increases.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to set the record straight on a few items concerning automobile insurance. Firstly, there are approximately 10,000 agency licences in the province; there are about 5,000 independent agents who do the vast bulk of the selling and servicing of policies. These agents are not tied to any one company, and most of them represent a number of companies.

Whenever I have heard insurance discussed in the House, there is the aura of big business surrounding the thinking of the members where actually the dominant force in the selling and servicing is, as the member for Welland (Mr. Morningstar) states, "the little people". With an average of four people in an agency, this means that 20,000 people are employed by agency forces. With an average of four people per family this means that about 80,000 people are supported by agencies, forgetting all about company-employed people, and forgetting all about the adjusting profession.

It is estimated that the average income of an agency is 50 per cent from auto policies and 50 per cent from other types of insurance. I doubt if many agencies could continue in business if the auto insurance was taken over by government. This would mean that a large percentage of this 20,000 people would be thrown in the unskilled market and would require retraining at the taxpayers' expense in many cases. Most of them are unskilled workers.

In a radio panel on this problem, on January 18 of this year, the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), when asked about this blithely dismissed it with the answer:

This is the agents' commission of 12.5 per cent. That is the acquisition cost of the business.

Now not cutting the agent on the panel in this particular interview out of his livelihood, the other insurance agents will be able to find a place to earn a good living in the economy of Ontario at the present time, but it is no longer feasible for us to have to pay this high cost of insurance service.

It is very nice of the hon. member to compliment this government on the fine state of the economy in replacing this number of people, but I think it quite irresponsible to throw the financial support of 80,000 people out the window. I have always thought the New Democratic Party supported the "little man" in their theories.

Another statement made in the Fort William *Times-Journal*, which requires some

thought, was made by the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Freeman):

Private companies lose millions from dishonest padding of repair estimates. Most motorists notice a difference in cost when insurance companies foot the bill. Claim service centres would provide estimates for every accident. In Saskatchewan garages can protest these but rarely do.

First, this is a strong suggestion that, in general, car repair people are not honest.

Second, by inference, it is suggested that company and independent adjusters are either dishonest or unskilled and inept in their profession.

Third, it indicates that the companies paying the bills pay anything that comes along, which is ridiculous with an already unprofitable portfolio such as auto insurance.

I can assure the hon. member, from personal experience, an adjuster is more apt to allow a smaller amount for repairs than the car owner thinks he should get rather than more than he thinks should be paid.

As far as this statement of the hon. member for Fort William is concerned, some padding does exist in some instances. In my experience government has always been considered fair game on this type of thing. A man who would not think of cutting a corner to bilk a customer will get a great delight out of saving a few dollars on his income tax return.

Now let us have an up to date look at the picture of automobile insurance in Saskatchewan, which is one of the cornerstones of Ontario's NDP platform for government auto insurance in this fair province.

First, compulsory insurance is not the perfect answer. With unlicensed drivers, stolen cars, cars from out of the province, hit and run accidents; after 20 years the Saskatchewan government finally passed an Uninsured Motor Vehicle Act to protect them, despite their compulsory insurance. In New York state, where insurance is compulsory also, we have an estimated figure of 90 per cent of drivers in accidents being insured. In Ontario it is approximately 98 per cent without compulsory insurance.

Despite the fact, therefore, that forcing every driver to be insured by legislation is excellent in theory; practically, from experience, it is far from a complete solution.

Let us look at the coverages provided by the basic plan in Saskatchewan and its rate structure.

On the rate structure, the physical damage portion has a \$200 deductible clause on fire, theft and collision which eliminates breakage of windshields, in other words they are not insured because they are not worth \$200.

The rates are based on wheelbase rather than value, which is an odd way to charge premium on a vehicle. As an example, the package premium on a Mercedes-Benz 230 SL, valued at \$8,500, is \$53. On a Meteor valued at \$3,000 the premium is \$67.

There is little point in comparing rates between Ontario and Saskatchewan as there are half again as many cars in Metro Toronto alone as there are in the entire province of Saskatchewan; but for the information of the members in this House, to compare with their own premiums, on a 1967 Chevrolet the package costs \$59 to insure \$200 deductible collision, fire and theft and \$35,000 public liability and property damage. To increase these limits to \$200,000 inclusive, and change the deductible to \$50 from the \$200 on a separate contract, the additional cost is \$28, totalling \$87 for a '67 Chevrolet.

It should also be pointed out that this package is compulsory as basic insurance, and if the car is an old one worth less than \$200, collision insurance, with the \$200 deductible, must be purchased anyway.

The average cost of \$60 for the package today is up 1,200 per cent since its inception in 1946, when it started at \$5. The basic licence charge is \$3; but if a driver loses five points, instead of changing the insurance, as our insurers do, the licence charge is changed to \$30. If he loses six or more points, the licence cost is \$60.

The insurance fund had a surplus of \$5,000,000 in 1959, but this was due to a large extent to the fact that there was a \$200 deductible clause on the PL and PD as well as collision until public outcry had this changed; and the fund immediately went downhill despite increased rates.

In 1966 the deficit was \$991,000, reducing the fund to a surplus of only \$800,000, which in a private company would be considered very unsound indeed, with underwriting of \$12 million a year. One more year's loss on the same scale as last year would bankrupt the fund, according to Premier Thatcher.

It is interesting to note that in England, with a Labour government, the auto insurance business is in a critical state. Cut-rate firms have entered the market and are in financial trouble. About 500,000 motorists have had

to reinsure due to failures of companies. New legislation is being introduced to protect the insurer, but in a government that believes in state ownership of many large businesses the state is not for one moment considering taking over the auto insurance business. A lesson can be learned from this, as it can from every other jurisdiction which has studied the Saskatchewan plan and rejected it.

The main point the NDPs make in pressing for state auto insurance rates appear to be the certainty of a premium reduction. It is interesting to note that when the present government in Saskatchewan opened government and Crown corporations to tender by private companies instead of the government agency only, the savings to the taxpayers were substantial.

The Regina school board paid a premium of \$32,000 for years to the Saskatchewan government insurance organization, and when private tenders were received the bid was \$15,000. On a tender for insurance for the Saskatchewan government telephones the low private bid was \$56,000 and the government agency bid was \$229,000, a difference to the taxpayers of \$173,000 on one contract alone. Where is the economy here?

To summarize, Mr. Speaker, it would appear from the facts cited above that this government would be unwise to use public funds to get into the automobile insurance business. The only real argument in favour of it is a mythical premium saving. This is almost impossible to arrive at, as on the Saskatchewan costs there is no depreciation on equipment, no charge for rental of buildings or municipal taxes, no commission shown to The Department of Transport clerks who handle the renewals, and I am sure other charges which have to be shown in private company costs and not government costs.

Opposed to this, the insurer in Ontario can pick his agent and his company with no monopoly. The rates have to be competitive and are not influenced by political motives, as they are in government coverage.

The service is better under private auspices. What would happen in Ontario if an accident occurred under the Saskatchewan plan? As it is now, all the insured does is phone his agent and the wheels start turning. If there were a central agency, what a mix up it would be with 2,000,000 owners trying to get claims settled.

It would also be interesting to the members of this Legislature if the government took over, as each one would then become the chief claims adjuster in his riding, as well as the man to whom all rates were referred.

In Saskatchewan, a dissatisfied claimant has the right to sue the government, but whether he wins or loses his case he must shoulder all the expenses involved.

I freely admit that it is not all sweetness and light in our present system, but it is a better system than government control.

The companies in this country, despite doing what I consider a good job, have a very poor public image. For example, in the first bankruptcy of a federally licensed insurance company in 40 years, the North American General Insurance Company, the total deficit was approximately \$1 million. There were about 335 general insurance companies licensed in Canada, and for about \$3,000 per company they could have insured with a comparatively small contribution that the policyholders suffered no loss. This was done by the agents' association on all assigned risk plan coverages through North American. I can think of no better or less expensive public relations and advertising.

To get on a subject entirely unrelated to the first portion of this speech, I now wish to talk on the Old Order Mennonite and Amish group in Waterloo county. I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that there are no selfish motives involved in this discussion, as the Old Order of Mennonites do not vote, do not buy insurance and will not be in my riding in the next election. It is a matter of principle.

To give the hon. members of the Legislature a little background, the old order have been in Canada for approximately 165 years. Their forebears were European for the most part and they were, and are, real followers of the land. They lead a peaceful and productive life, asking no help from any governmental source, merely asking to be left alone to their way of life.

They are good farmers, dislike any type of publicity, do not like court actions, pay their school taxes, as well as supporting their own private schools, and constitutionally and by religion do not fight wars; they are granted exemption on religious grounds.

They are deeply religious, sincere people, and although they live basically to themselves, are very hospitable. They produce all their own food and after church on Sunday any one family is prepared for any number from 20 to 85 people to drop in for lunch consisting of meats, vegetables, cheeses and pies from their own cupboards and ovens.

I might point out that the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) mentioned yesterday that The Consumer Credit Act should prevent

hucksters from selling innocent purchasers items such as vacuum cleaners. One vacuum cleaner salesman in our area thought there was a market in the Mennonite area, and despite protestations from the couple on whom he called that they do not believe in modern appliances, he put his machine together for a demonstration. They peaceably permitted him to do so, to his delight, but when he went to plug in the machine, there were no outlets in the house. These people do not believe in electricity.

Now, having given a sketchy background of an independent, kindly, peaceable group of people who wish to live their own lives, we get down to the nub of the problem. Compulsory social legislation may, in my opinion, drive some of them from our area. I am not pressing any panic button on the freedom of the people of our country. I am no pacifist, but I deeply believe that anyone in this country has a right to their own way of life.

I have letters here requesting exemption from the Canada pension plan; I will just take short excerpts from them. This is a letter from the secretary of the central Mennonite committee to the Prime Minister of this country:

We, the members of the Old Order Mennonite and Old Order Amish Mennonite churches of Ontario, commonly called the Plain People, want to assure you of appreciation for the good government we have enjoyed in Canada for the approximately 165 years our churches have been here. We believe governments are ordained of God, as stated in Romans 13, and that it is a divine command to obey the laws of our land. We pray for you and your government continually.

However, if the civil issue requires obedience which is in conflict with what we believe to be God's command, we must obey God rather than men. On April 26, 1966, a delegation of our people presented to The Department of Health and Welfare and The Department of National Revenue our concerns about the compulsory aspects of the Canada pension plan. These concerns we stated in our brief, a copy of which is attached.

These people went to the departments in an attempt to be exempted from what is basically a completely social welfare plan.

Following this, they received a letter—I think that is basically enough information on the background of their request—from Mr. Pearson stating as follows:

I have discussed with my Ministers, the Honourable Allan MacEachen and the Honourable E. J. Benson, your letter of October 27, 1966, and enclosed brief expressing the concern of your order with respect to the Canada pension plan legislation. I sincerely regret that it is not considered advisable to introduce amending legislation to exempt from the plan certain classes of our society, thus endangering the basic principle on which the plan is premised; that is the participation of every working person in Canada between the ages of 18 and 70.

The inherent right of the members of your order to disagree with this legislation is respected. I am sorry, however, that I cannot accede to the wishes of the order in this particular instance.

Basically, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, the Old Order of Mennonites has no political power, no lobby; only a right to their convictions. These rights and convictions are being eroded by legislation of a comparatively innocuous type compared to the burning, pillaging and murder of centuries ago. Nevertheless, the erosion is taking place.

I bring this to the hon. members of the House that some of the social legislation, at federal level, is, I think in my own opinion, becoming very large and dangerous. I just hope that we can do something along the way to return to the days when people could live their own lives as they saw fit.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with those who have preceded me, and the others who will follow after me, in offering congratulations to all those in this House for whom congratulations are in order; and condolences to those for whom condolences may be in order. I think perhaps I can let it go at that and get on to the subject which I plan to discuss for a little while in this debate this afternoon.

That subject is actually not specifically referred to in the Speech from the Throne, but it is one which I think has now acquired a high degree of urgency. It is the question of electoral reform. We all know that an election is likely to take place in this province in the very near future—certainly before another session of the Legislature.

That is why I believe we must at long last give some serious attention to this problem. Clearly, we should not have another election in this province without substantial revision of our antiquated Election Act.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Hear, hear.

Mr. Bryden: For as long as I can remember, the Opposition groups in the House have pressed for a complete overhaul of that Act; not merely revision but a complete overhaul. Until very recently, however, the government has refused to recognize even that a problem existed.

Opposition bills and resolutions on the subject, even when there was an opportunity to debate them, and very often there was not, were never permitted to lead to any sort of decision. Indeed, Cabinet Ministers usually adopted the practice, which has become almost routine for them during private members' hour, of vacating the premises while the Opposition proposals were being debated. The government, for its part, brought forward no proposals of its own at all.

It will be recalled, I think, by all those who do not suffer from total amnesia, that last year I had occasion to read into the record of this House two letters which provided a most revealing insight into the methods of the Conservative Party in its general financial operations. A secondary consequence of that action on my part was that, at long last, the government was induced to give at least the appearance of concern about reform of The Election Act.

About a month after I made my statement on what I call the Melchers' case, the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) made what he alleged was a reply. He completely evaded the central point in my submission—and I am going to return to that a little later—but immediately after completing his reply he made another statement in which he indicated that a select committee would be set up to inquire into and make recommendations on our election law. The committee was duly constituted at the end of the session.

That appeared to be progress, Mr. Speaker. True, the Prime Minister refused to take the action which the facts clearly called for in the Melchers' case, but at least it appeared that the raising of the case had brought home to him the need for electoral reform.

At any rate, that is what I thought at the time. Since then, I have often had occasion to wonder—I have had some difficulty making up my mind—in fact the setting up of the committee was not just another way of putting electoral reform on the shelf for still another election.

The committee held its first meeting in October and since then it has proceeded at a most leisurely pace. It has had useful dis-

cussions with Mr. Nelson Castonguay and also our own chief election officer, and it has given preliminary, even though very sketchy, consideration to the report of the federal committee on election expenses.

It has also wasted considerable time investigating voting machines, which anyone who has given any thought to the subject at all will recognize as having no value in Ontario provincial politics. In fact my impression—from the reactions of the members of the committee when we had a group of high powered salesmen from the U.S. wasting an entire afternoon of our time—is that none of them could see anything at all in these gadgets that had any meaning in our type of election, which is a very simple process. One simply puts one "X" on a ballot on which one has a choice of anywhere from two to four candidates, sometimes five.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): If they are put in the right place, it is all right.

Mr. Bryden: In addition to what I just said, the committee took a trip to Quebec city—not a joy ride, it was in the middle of the winter—but since I was unable to participate in that trip, I am not in a position to assess its usefulness to the work of the committee.

Mr. Singer: There was a trip to New York to inspect voting machines.

Mr. Bryden: I thought it was to Buffalo. I did not go. There was a trip to Buffalo; I did not have the heart to mention it. I did not go on that one either. I thought I had more important things to do than have lunch at the expense of a voting machine company, which is what happened there.

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): A typically broadminded NDP.

Mr. Bryden: If we have any further trips to the U.S. to look at voting machines, I will be very happy to let the hon. member for Lakeshore do his broadminded best and accompany the committee in my place.

Mr. Singer: He can have my invitation too.

Mr. Bryden: He can go twice.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He will be interested in Australia, I think.

Mr. Bryden: I might just say, for the benefit of the hon. member for Lakeshore, who may be interested, that one of the places where voting machines have been installed is Trinidad.

At any rate, Mr. Speaker, what I have outlined is a fair summary of the total performance of the committee to date, and I would say that hardly constitutes evidence of a determined effort to deal with an urgent problem.

At the first meeting of the committee, I called attention to the fact that there would likely be only one session of the Legislature before the next election. This was back in October and I was referring to this session, of course. Under the circumstances, I suggested that the committee should aim at presenting, at this session, at least an interim report containing recommendations on matters it considered to be particularly in need of attention. At that time, the chairman took the position that since the legal term of the Legislature runs until the fall of 1968, the committee could proceed on the assumption—very unrealistic in my opinion—that it had until the 1968 session to present a report.

Last Friday, after the Prime Minister in this House seemed to indicate that he might be prepared to consider amendments to The Election Act at this session, I sent a letter by hand to the chairman asking if he would call the committee into session immediately so that it could consider an interim report. He has been good enough to advise me orally; he said as soon as he gets a chance he will—and I know he is very busy with his new responsibilities—reply to me formally. But he has already advised me orally that work is now being done on the draft report. I am not quite sure when it started, but I suspect it was quite recently. The chairman hopes that the committee will be able to consider this draft next week.

This is welcome news, Mr. Speaker, but we have reached the point where we cannot rely on the committee being able to present a report in time for legislative action to be taken. There is a real danger that the committee is moving into a no-report situation. Therefore, I am taking advantage of this opportunity to bring the matter on to the floor of the House. I am going to propose certain changes in the law which I think ought to be made at this session. Since time is running out, I have deliberately restricted my proposals to the absolute minimum I consider essential to the fair and efficient conduct of the next election.

I appeal to the government to give serious consideration to these proposals, along with any others it may have in mind, or which the committee or other members may suggest, with a view to action at this session, before the next election.

First, a system of permanent returning officers should be established. The day is long since past when this important office of returning officer can legitimately be regarded as an item of patronage to be dispensed at the last minute to those who, regardless of competence, have been particularly zealous in their support of the government party at the local level. This should not be regarded as a political plum. It is a most vital office in the operation of our democratic system.

The unsatisfactory nature of the traditional practice of appointing returning officers after the election has been called has been apparent for years, apparent to everybody except presumably the government. Take my own constituency of Woodbine as an example.

We have not for years had a rational system of polling subdivisions in that constituency. In fact our basic polling subdivisions are the municipal polling subdivisions of 1926. We have not had a rational system there for years, for the simple reason that successive returning officers—a different one for each election—have never had time for anything but the hastiest of patching jobs.

Moreover, on one notable occasion, more than a decade ago, the conduct of the election in the constituency became little more than a shambles because the returning officer had only a most imperfect understanding of his job and there was no time for anyone to instruct him. I will not go into all the gory details of that mess. I will mention one little incident, Mr. Speaker, just to give you an idea of what I have in mind.

During the course of the election campaign, after the election had been called, a letter was mailed out to every family in the constituency with voters in it, urging them to vote for the Conservative candidate to the exclusion of the others. And this letter was signed by the returning officer and returning officer's clerk. Now, when I say he had only an imperfect understanding of his job, I think you will know what I am driving at.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. E. W. Sopha: He was carefully chosen.

Mr. Singer: How many names were on the ballot?

An hon. member: Who won?

Mr. Bryden: I was licked that time, but I am not making any excuses. I do not attribute it to that letter.

A system of permanent returning officers would eliminate difficulties of this type. The

chief election officer would have time to instruct the returning officers well in advance of an election. They in turn would have time to organize the election machinery in their constituencies in a rational manner. And candidates—and I think this is also important—candidates as soon as they came into the field would be able to find out from the returning officers what their plans were in regard to polling subdivisions and other matters of immediate interest to all people contesting the election.

It may be that there is not now time to establish a full system of permanent returning officers before the forthcoming election. If so, the government should at least exercise the powers already given to it by The Election Act, to appoint returning officers for all constituencies as far as possible in advance of the election, and not leave these appointments, all of them, or certainly most of them, until after the election has been called.

Ten days or so ago, the Prime Minister said, in answer to a question of mine, that he would consider this suggestion. I would urge him to give it top priority.

The redistribution which we approved at the last session changes the boundaries of almost every constituency in the province, apart from those in the suburban portion of Metro Toronto which were dealt with at an earlier stage. Let us give the returning officers a chance to adapt themselves to the changed boundaries before the election is called. Surely it is not too much to ask the government to aim at having returning officers appointed in all constituencies before the end of this month, and earlier wherever possible?

It is certainly possible in some cases, because in Hamilton, I understand, returning officers have been designated, even though they have not been formally appointed. I guess in Hamilton they do not scramble as much for this plum as they do in some other areas. In my constituency, it is usually three or four days after the election before they get all the fights within the local Tory organization patched up and are in a position to appoint a returning officer. But apparently in Hamilton they deal with this matter in a more intelligent and civilized manner, and I am suggesting to the government that it should deal with it in a rational and civilized manner all through the province.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): A slight correction. There is a fight going on there right now.

Mr. Bryden: Well, these fights break out. You know the government would be smart if it would place these appointments exclusively in the hands of the chief election officer. It could save itself an awful lot of bickering within its own organization; and candidates for office could feel assured of both the competence and impartiality of the people who would be appointed. That is an idea I will put before the government, or whatever government may succeed it after the next election. But for the moment I would at least urge the government to exercise the power they now have, which is to appoint returning officers immediately.

My second proposal for reform of The Election Act, Mr. Speaker, is that the eligible age for voting should be reduced to 18. In two of the provinces the age now is 18, and in three others it is 19. The government of this province is forever boasting, usually with little justification, that it leads the country, indeed the entire universe, in almost everything. Well, let it at least catch up to some of the other provinces on this important point.

The selection of a particular age is admittedly arbitrary. It is a well-established fact, however, that young people are now maturing at an earlier age than previously, with the result that the arbitrary determination of 21 as the appropriate minimum voting age is out of date. My associations with young people in the 18 to 21 age group leads me to the conclusion that they are often better informed on public affairs than many of their elders, and better mannered than many members of this House. They have a great stake in the future of this country and province and they should be encouraged to develop an interest in the electoral process by being permitted to participate in it; and I have no doubt as to their competence to participate in it in a responsible manner.

This leads me to my third point. The law as it now stands requires students studying away from home to be enumerated and to vote in their home constituencies. This is quite impractical for many students and the number will be greatly increased if the voting age is reduced to 18.

Let us not enfranchise these young people, as I hope we will do, with the one hand, and then disfranchise many of them with the other hand. A student studying away from home, who is otherwise a qualified elector, should have the option of voting in either his home constituency or the constituency in

which he is residing for the purposes of his studies.

Mr. Sopha: We have a bill on the order paper, of course.

Mr. Bryden: I should add that this proposal should be acted upon, even if the voting age is not reduced. With the increasing emphasis on postgraduate studies, an increasing number of students are 21 years of age or over. These people should not be disfranchised by legal technicalities.

My fourth proposal is that the party affiliations of candidates should be shown on the ballot. Our electoral and legislative procedures have been influenced for too long by the antiquated myth that candidates for office and elected members are acting purely as individuals. We all know surely that they are representatives of parties. That is the way they go before the electorate and that is the way they present themselves in this House, with only the rarest of exceptions.

In fact, I cannot remember an independent being elected to this House in Ontario for a great many years.

Indeed this is an essential element of the functioning of the whole system and it is high time that we recognize that basic truth in our election law. What is the use of pretending people are not running as representatives of parties when that is exactly what they are doing and should be doing. Party affiliation is at least as important as address and occupation, which already appear on the ballot, to the proper identification of the candidate by the voter.

My final proposal on this subject, which is undoubtedly the most important, relates to the financing of the election campaigns of political parties and candidates and their financing generally. It is unconscionable that we should embark on yet another general election without first having taken forthright action on this vital subject.

Political parties are an integral part of the democratic process under our system of government. As such, they are quasi-public bodies whose finances ought to be subject to scrutiny by the public. The secret slush fund and pork barrel have no legitimate place in a democratic system of government.

Moreover, it is high time action was taken to prevent possession of large wealth, or access to it, from becoming a decisive factor in the electoral process. Democracy will have been replaced by plutocracy if the day ever comes when rich men or their nominees can

swamp all opposition with expensive public relations programmes. Yet this seems to be the direction in which our democracy is headed, and I would say that the recent by-election of yesterday in New Brunswick is just one more indication of that regrettable fact.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I propose that our election laws should be changed, before the forthcoming election to:

(a) require full and detailed public disclosure of political expenditures and sources of funds; and

(b) impose reasonable limits, as far as is practicable, on campaign spending.

Admittedly, this is a large subject, on which it would normally take a long time to prepare effective legislation. Because of the neglect, in fact the obdurate refusal of the government to recognize the needs of our democratic society, no preparation at all has been done in this Legislature except by members of the Opposition, who are necessarily limited in their access to technical assistance and therefore limited in the extent to which they can prepare effective legislation. Fortunately, however, all the basic spadework has already been done for us by the committee on election expenses which was appointed by the federal government in 1964 and which published an exhaustive report in October, 1966.

One does not have to agree with every single recommendation of that committee to say that it has made an invaluable contribution to the future functioning of democracy in Canada. It has made a number of recommendations on election finance, some of which are more important and/or can be acted upon more readily than others. Those I consider to be both essential and capable of implementation in this province before the next election are as follows:

(1) A central registry should be established to be presided over by a chief registrar, whose office and duties would be separate from that of the chief election officer. Whether this is done by way of a separate statute, as the committee proposed, or by inserting a new part in The Election Act is, in my opinion, immaterial. The important point is that it should be done.

(2) Every political party wishing to contest some or all of the seats in election campaigns should be required to register with the registrar, providing among other things the name of the officer in charge of its financial affairs, and responsible for those affairs.

(3) That officer should be required to file with the registrar detailed statements of contributions and expenditures, including contributions in kind relating to the party's election campaigns and its annual operations. In other words, every party would be required to file an annual statement with the registrar; in addition it would be required to file a special statement within a specified period after each election. In addition, the official agent of each candidate in an election should be required to file a similarly detailed statement of the local campaign with both the registrar and the local returning officer.

(4) The registrar should be responsible for auditing the financial statements of both parties and candidates. For that purpose, he should have free access to their books and records. His findings should be tabled in the Legislature and otherwise made available to the press and public.

(5) All financial expenditures by, or on behalf of, a party or candidate should be authorized by the recognized financial agent of the party or candidate, and any expenditures not so authorized should be prohibited. In other words, if there is going to be any control in any reporting then we have to make sure that all the spending goes through one place, that we do not have a repetition of something like the Mr. Cube episode that took place in Britain where outside interests indirectly contributed vast sums, through advertising campaigns, to one of the parties. Such expenditures should be prohibited unless they have been authorized by the duly authorized agent of the party concerned, and in that case they should be shown as part of the party's total expenditures and subject to any limitations that might be applied to total expenditures.

(6) After much inquiry, the committee came to the conclusion that an overall limitation on the expenditures of parties and candidates would be unenforceable. It decided, however, that it would be quite feasible to impose limits on expenditures on certain items where the actual amount spent can be readily verified. And I may say these items together constitute the great bulk of spending in election campaigns.

In the case of candidates, the committee recommended that:

A candidate should be prohibited from expending in excess of 10 cents per elector on the revised list of electors in his constituency, on the print and broadcasting media which include television, radio, news-

papers, periodical advertisements, direct mail, billboards, posters and brochures.

I think a provision of that type should be included in The Election Act.

I think further, although the committee did not recommend this, that it is quite feasible and desirable to impose a similar type of limitation on the media expenditures of central party organizations. I will not go into the details as to whether it should be 10 cents per voter in the province or seven and one-half cents or five cents, but the principle, I think, should be applied not only to candidates, as the committee proposed, but also to central party organizations.

The committee, I may say in passing, had somewhat different proposals with regard to central party organizations. Some of those would require legislation at the federal level, and anyway, when I looked them all over I did not think they were really as good as the much more direct method that is proposed in relation to candidates.

(7) The registrar should have full power to enforce these limitations, including bringing to court those who violate them.

Those are, as I see it, the most important of the committee's recommendations on election finances. It is quite feasible to enact them into law and set up the necessary administrative machinery in this province before the next election. I submit that, as legislators, we have a responsibility to the people to do so.

Session after session, for as long as I have been a member of this House, I have introduced a bill on disclosure and limitation of campaign finances, not nearly as adequate as the proposals—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Would the member permit a question? I am wondering if it is entirely democratic to ask a person having contributed \$10, let us say, to a party, to have that fact made known publicly? I cannot reconcile that with a secret ballot, and I would be glad to have the member's comments.

Mr. Bryden: Well, that is a typical piece of Tory obfuscation. As a matter of fact, I appeared before the committee on election expenses a couple of times at their invitation. This one was thrown at me, I may say, but there is absolutely no relationship between the two things, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. White: The member's saying so does not make that true.

Mr. Bryden: All right, I will make it clear so that even the hon. member for London South should be able to see it—whether he will permit himself to see it I do not know. As we know, the voting procedure is secret, and ought to be secret, but a democratic election campaign cannot take place unless certain people declare themselves in public. It is a necessary part of the whole procedure for people to come out in the open and either make themselves candidates for office or say that they are supporting candidates.

There is nothing to be ashamed of in that procedure; there is absolutely no reason in the world why anybody should try to conceal himself. In fact, I think if a person is going to intervene directly in the hope of influencing the outcome of the election, even in a small way, he should be prepared to declare himself. I do not believe in secret processes, apart from the ballot, in democratic elections.

If a person wants to contribute to an election campaign, then he should have the courage of his convictions and be prepared to say in public that, "I gave \$10 or \$10,000 to such and such a party, or such and such a candidate". If he is afraid to do so, he should not make the contribution. That has nothing to do with the secrecy of the ballot; there is no connection at all, Mr. Speaker.

I would point out, however—

Mr. White: The member could say the same thing about the secret ballot. Philosophically he could say the same thing about the secret ballot.

Mr. Bryden: Well, the member can go off and philosophize but I am dealing with more important questions than scholastic hair-splitting. I am suggesting to the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, that publicity with regard to campaign contributions is a vital part of a healthy democratic system and this is recognized by almost everybody in this country except the Tory party.

I might add, however, Mr. Speaker, that if the hon. member is so concerned about the fellow who wants to make a \$10 donation—and somehow I do not think his concern really is so much about the \$10 man, it is more about the man who puts three zeros or maybe four zeros after the ten—but, if he is concerned about it, sheer administrative expediency would require, that it would not be necessary to list every single contribution. Heavens, they would go on for pages and pages.

Obviously, one would provide in the law some reasonable minimum below which it

would not be necessary to itemize contributions individually. The only ones that are really significant are those that could have a significant influence on what the party might do in office, the bigger ones; and the bigger ones should be itemized in public, regardless of where they come from. If there is anybody around who does not want to or is ashamed to let it be known that he contributed \$10,000 to the Tory party, then he should not make the contribution. And furthermore, the Tory party should not accept it.

Mr. Sopha: What are the member's views on forcing union people to contribute to a party?

Mr. Bryden: I would be totally against such a proposition and I do not know of anywhere where it takes place.

Mr. Sopha: They force them now in Sudbury. They force them now.

Mr. Bryden: They force nobody! That is an old chestnut, Mr. Speaker, that has been thrashed out in this House many times. There is no validity whatsoever in the allegation. I would not waste my time trying to explain—

Mr. Sopha: The member is not wasting his time.

Mr. Bryden: —anything to the hon. member for Sudbury, because he does not listen anyway.

Mr. Sopha: I live in Sudbury, I know what goes on. They are forced to contribute.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): It would not be a waste of time to explain it.

Mr. Bryden: It has been explained to the House many times; nobody is forced to contribute to any party that I know of, unless it is the Liberal Party.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I am going to ask the members to refrain from further interjections and to let the member proceed with his speech.

Mr. Sopha: These are important matters. We would like to hear his views, if he would give them to us.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: I see that the Provincial Treasurer is getting excited; and if he is excited perhaps I should do something about it.

The hon. member for Sudbury does not bother me because he is always excited, but when even the Provincial Treasurer gets in a flap, I would hate to see him continue in that condition.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I am always excited about democracy in this province.

Mr. Bryden: But he is usually more excited about side issues that have no merit and presumably are designed to distract attention from the real issues.

As everyone knows, Mr. Speaker, the New Democratic Party is the only party in this province which treats its finances as an open book. Everybody is perfectly at liberty to find out where our money comes from, where it is spent. They can go at any reasonable time to our offices on Spadina Road and get the information.

The Toronto *Telegram* went there a few years ago and went through our books with a fine tooth comb. I gathered afterwards that what they were looking for was evidence that I was getting a salary from the party. Well I would not have been ashamed if I had, but as it happened I was not getting any remuneration at all from the party.

At any rate, anybody can go, there is no secret about where our money comes from or how it is spent.

Now then, as everyone also knows or should know, our constitution, both at the federal and provincial levels, provides that trade unions and other voluntary associations can if they wish affiliate with the party as they affiliate with many other organizations. If they affiliate with the party they pay certain specified affiliation dues, which are set forth in our constitution, out of their union treasuries.

Surely a union, as a corporate entity, acting as a body, has a perfect right to decide as a group how its union funds will be disposed of. There seem to be members in this House who want to go into these unions and tell them they cannot do this, that and the other thing with their funds.

I suppose they are upset because the only party that any union seems to want to contribute to is the New Democratic Party. I am proud of that fact, but there is nothing whatever to prevent them from contributing within the rules of their organization, to whomever they like.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: They had a Tory once, his name was Gillis. He got licked!

Mr. Bryden: You see what is worrying the hon. member for Sudbury is that this large union of which Mr. Gillis was once the president has, by a vote taken within its own—

Mr. Sopha: Yes, 300 out of 15,000.

Mr. Bryden: At a meeting, of which every member was notified that union decided to affiliate with the NDP.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, not only did the union decide at a properly constituted meeting, of which all members were notified, to affiliate to the New Democratic Party; in addition in that decision it unquestionably represented the viewpoint of the overwhelming majority of the members.

This is what the member for Sudbury is worried about.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): We will find out in the next election.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, we will find out, and I will be there.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I would ask the members to refrain once again from making so many interjections.

Mr. Sopha: Well he should not provoke us.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to ask the members to refrain once again from so many interjections while the member is making his address. I would ask the member if he would proceed with his address and refrain from getting into discussions with members on their various interjections.

Mr. Bryden: It has been my impression, Mr. Speaker, that I had been driving right ahead with my address through, shall we say considerable din of battle and several diversions. I had been under the impression, Mr. Speaker, that the Liberal Party was in favour of electoral reform, and it therefore came as something of a surprise to me that the hon. member for Sudbury should use that worn-out old chestnut as a diversion from the real issues at hand.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that our party is the only one that is ready to come out into the open. We will tell you what trade unions contribute to us and how much they contribute. Anybody can find that out. These other parties do not tell you a thing about where they get their money.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: At any rate, Mr. Speaker, I was saying that session after session, for as long as I have been a member in this House, I have introduced a bill on disclosure and limitation of campaign finances. In doing so I have acted in accordance with long-standing policy of both the NDP and the CCF before it. In the last two or three sessions the Liberals have indicated that they too think action should be taken along these lines. Notwithstanding the behaviour of the hon. member for Sudbury I think that continues to represent the considered opinion of the party as a corporate entity, if the hon. member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben), will permit me to use that expression, even though it is not technically accurate here any more than it is in relation to trade unions.

Therefore, the Conservative Party stands alone as the only opponent of this long overdue reform.

I submit that if it wants to go before the electorate with clean hands in the next election, it will change its position and cooperate with the other parties in putting on the statute books the best possible laws on disclosure and limitation that we are able to devise at this time, with the very valuable assistance that the report of the federal committee has already given us.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Can we trust the hon. member?

Mr. Bryden: The imperative necessity of turning the spotlight of publicity into the dark recesses of Tory party financing was well illustrated by the two letters I read into the record last year in connection with the Melchers' case. These letters clearly indicated a conviction on the part of two representatives of Melchers Distilleries Limited, that a leading Tory fund-raiser, Harry Price, had offered to secure preferred treatment for their company with the LCBO in return for contributions to the Tory war chest.

At the time, I argued that the question as to whether Price in fact had the influence he claimed with the LCBO and exercised it should be looked into by an independent public inquiry. I noted, however, that this was subsidiary to the main issue raised by the letters.

That issue was and continues to be whether Price in fact made the suggestion to these men that they certainly thought he made. They are intelligent men and they were reporting on face-to-face conversations shortly after they took place. It is hard to believe that they could have misunderstood Price on a matter of such significance, and

certainly their accounts of what Price said could leave little room for misunderstanding.

But there is always the possibility, remote as it might seem in this case, of some other explanation of what transpired. If Price has such an explanation he ought to be prepared to give it in public, under oath and subject to cross-examination. In fact, one would think that if he is innocent, as he claimed in a blanket denial, that he would seek an opportunity to do so and that the government would accommodate him by establishing an independent public inquiry, as I proposed.

As we all know, no such thing has happened.

The only reasonable conclusion, therefore, is that the Melchers' representatives understood and recorded only too accurately what Price was driving at. To put it bluntly, he was engaged in influence peddling on behalf of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario.

Mr. White: Shame, shame!

Mr. MacDonald: Set up an inquiry and do not try to hide the facts.

Mr. Bryden: That being so, it is reasonable to ask if this technique is widespread among Tory fund raisers in their approaches to companies which are directly dependent on the government or its agencies for benefits.

My original statement on the Melchers' case was made in this House on March 24, 1966. The Prime Minister thought about it until April 21, almost a month, before making a reply. His reply was devoted almost entirely to what I have described as the subsidiary point; namely whether improper influence was in fact exercised with the LCBO. He conducted a personal and private inquiry into an administration for which he and his government are responsible; and lo and behold, Mr. Speaker, he found that everything was in order.

Apparently, however, he just could not bring himself to conduct an inquiry, even a personal and private one, into the financial affairs of the party he leads; or if he did he could not bring himself to make his findings public.

He attempted to dismiss this central issue by a few references at the end of his statement to A, B and C, and occasionally D, in the apparent belief that a form of bastard algebra is to be accepted as a substitute for truth.

Thereupon, he peremptorily refused to answer any questions. For this one could

perhaps not blame him. His carefully contrived statement could hardly stand up under scrutiny.

One of the reasons he gave for refusing a public inquiry was that the letters in question were part of the record in a civil case pending in the Supreme Court of Ontario. He stated that the solicitor for the plaintiff had advised The Attorney General's Department that he intended to proceed with the case and that he objected to a public inquiry while it was pending before the court. The solicitor was also quoted in the daily press as saying that he hoped to bring the case to trial in the fall of last year.

It might be of interest, Mr. Speaker, to bring the House up to date on progress in this case.

When I spoke on March 24, 1966, a little less than ten months ago, the case had been stalled for a period of about 16 months. The last entry in the file at that time was for November, 1964, when a judge ordered certain paragraphs struck out of the original statement of claim and directed the plaintiff to provide particulars of certain other paragraphs.

The day after I spoke in this House—that was after a lapse of about 16 months, on March 25, 1966 to be precise—the particulars called for in November, 1964, were prepared. Three days later they were delivered. Revised particulars were provided on May 31, 1966.

On October 25, counsel for Melchers gave notice of an application to have the particulars taken off the file. I think they also wanted it expunged from the record. They wanted it taken off the file and expunged from the record both. I do not know if they wanted it expunged from the memory of man as well, as it did not say so in their application.

On December 16, as we follow along the slow and tortuous process which seems to characterize the administration of justice, notice was given of an application. No, I am sorry, this is even slower and more tortuous than I thought. On October 25, counsel for Melchers gave notice of an application to have the particulars taken off the file. This application was heard by the master on November 4. He dismissed it, and ordered Melchers to file its statement of defence within ten days.

Counsel for Melchers filed notice of appeal from this decision but he was late, and counsel for the plaintiff refused to accept service. On December 16, 1966, notice was given of an application for enlargement of the time for appeal, and for extension of the time for

delivery of the statement of defence. This is the last entry in the file, apart from the following handwritten notation:

January 27/67—appeal from master's order dismissed, having granted leave to hear the appeal. Costs to the plaintiff in the cause.

This is the distance to which the case has now advanced, as of this morning when I looked at the file in Osgoode Hall.

We in this House have no way of knowing when this case will come to trial, if indeed it will ever come to trial. Nor is it any of our business. What private citizens and their lawyers decide is best for them in pursuit of private claims is none of our concern. It is not for us to pass judgment on, or even discuss a private claim based on an allegation of wrongful dismissal.

A small portion of the record in this case, however, involves a matter of the highest public importance. And there comes a time, Mr. Speaker, when the public interest should take precedence over private claims. This is particularly true when the private suit has still not been set down for trial, much less brought to trial, even though it was initiated nearly three and a half years ago. September 6, 1963, was the date, if my memory serves me correctly.

A public inquiry is clearly necessary. The Prime Minister, however, has refused such an inquiry and I am not so naive as to think that he will not dig in his heels in his refusal. The matter is just too hot to handle, especially on the eve of an election.

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I think it should be said in fairness that the Prime Minister provided a very full explanation and proof was offered that that distiller got no special inducement or favour. What is more, their sales manager advised against it because he knew that you could not buy favours from this government. And the member must know that too.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, apparently the hon. member for London South has been far, far away—doing what, I do not know. I just demolished that evasion of the issue completely a couple of minutes ago, but he apparently completely missed it.

The chief point, as I said a few minutes ago, and as I said last year—and of course as these people over here simply will not see, because they just do not want to have to see it—the key point is: Was Price influence-peddling? And there can be no doubt about it, Mr. Speaker.

I suggested an inquiry to give him an opportunity to give an explanation of what he said to these people, if he had any reasonable explanation. Of course the government flatly refused the inquiry, because they know perfectly well that there was no reasonable explanation. He was indeed influence-peddling and this is what goes on all the time behind the scenes with Tory financing.

Mr. White: That is not true and the member knows it.

Mr. Bryden: And this is the critical point. Has the hon. member read the letters? They are unmistakable. No other interpretation is possible.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: The unfortunate thing, as far as these gentlemen are concerned, is that this little piece of information bubbled up accidentally to the surface from that great cauldron of corruption down beneath the surface—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: —which they have managed to keep from public view all these years. But now it is out in the open, and their evasions are no answer to the major issues which have been raised with regard to public life in this province.

Mr. Edwards: Better see your doctor and get a couple of pills.

Mr. Bryden: There is an example of the intellectual level of the Tory party, Mr. Speaker. This is considered a smart remark. It might pass in a grade 8 debate.

Mr. Edwards: It might do the member good.

Mr. Bryden: That is what I had in mind when I suggested that young people between the ages of 18 and 21 should be given the vote. They obviously have far greater maturity than some of the members of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Edwards: Speak for yourself!

Mr. Bryden: At any rate, the Prime Minister has flatly refused to have an inquiry and I certainly am not naive enough to think that he can be persuaded to change his mind. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, since the public is to be denied information which it is entitled to have, we should at least turn our minds to ways of preventing influence peddling in the future.

In past elections the government party has swamped the Opposition parties with torrents of money, some of which was unquestionably raised by methods which can only be described as corrupt.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: The member does not mind telling lies, does he?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: The government party may very well, in fact I would say almost certainly, sir, use the same procedure for the forthcoming election. In view of the current mood of the public, there is considerable reason to doubt if this procedure will be as successful as it has in the past, or that it will be successful at all in any meaningful sense. But that is not really important, Mr. Speaker. The important point is that this Legislature has a responsibility to the people to do everything in its power to put election financing on a rational and honest basis.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Is the member's?

Mr. Bryden: The proposal I have made for publicizing the sources of funds for political parties—and which we in our party, for the information of the hon. Minister, have observed for years even without legislative compulsion—those proposals will be a step in the direction of putting financing on a rational and honest basis. If the public knows who has contributed what to each party, it will be in a position to make its own assessment; and I am perfectly happy to let it make its own assessment. As long as it has the information, it will be in a position to make its own assessment of the significance of those contributions.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): We would win bigger than ever.

Mr. Bryden: It is at this point that I think there is a defect in the recommendations of the federal committee on election expenses. The committee recommends that, for the purposes of publicity, contributions to party organizations should be shown merely as totals for classes of contributors, individuals, corporations, trade unions and other voluntary associations and foreign sources. Those are the four categories the committee suggests.

Surely the public is entitled to have information about the contributions of individual contributors, where these are substantial. As a matter of fact, the committee recommends that in the case of contributions made to candidates. In fact, I do not think it even

suggested a minimum. It recommended that all should be itemized and made public; but it does not make such a recommendation for parties and I think that is a defect in its report.

To obviate the necessity of itemizing a large number of small contributions, some reasonable minimum could be placed on the amount of contributions that would have to be shown individually. Beyond that minimum, every party should be required by law to disclose the amount and name of the contributor of every donation it receives. Unless a party is ashamed of some or all of the sources of its funds it should have no objection to this; and if it is ashamed of any prospective contributions it should not accept them. Legal requirements for public disclosure after the election could help it to make up its mind when it is deciding whether or not to accept a contribution.

The Melchers case, however, leaves considerable doubt as to whether even legal requirements of this kind would be enough by themselves. It is clear that the old discredited system of slush fund politics is still not dead in this province. The Legislature has a responsibility to hasten its demise.

I propose an amendment to the law—this is not taken from the committee's report, I should add, in case there might be any confusion on the point. But I, in my individual capacity, am proposing an amendment to the law to prohibit contributions by firms or individuals doing a significant amount of business with the government or any of its agencies—in excess, say of \$1,000 a year. The figure does not matter, it could be worked out, but a substantial amount of business. Such firms or individuals should be prohibited by law from making contributions to any provincial party or candidate.

And I mean any party or candidate; not just those of the government.

Mr. White: And trade unions!

Mr. Bryden: If they are doing business with the government.

Mr. White: Of course they are.

Mr. Bryden: In a profit making business, of course they should.

I think people doing business with the government are in a totally different category from others, Mr. Speaker. Everybody in the province naturally wants to influence the government, and politicians generally, to its point of view as to the types of laws that are

desirable. I have already made my proposals regarding disclosure, which will make it quite clear to the public what influences may be acting on any group or individual.

But there is another group which is in an entirely different category; and that is the group such as Melchers and such as highway contractors and a great list of people that we could name, who are doing profit-making business with the government.

Mr. White: How much does the NDP get from the teamsters?

Mr. Bryden: As far as I know, they do not give them anything, but the member can always go to our office and find out. The hon. member persists in asking me details of the administration of the NDP in Ontario—I have not been on its executive in several years—when he knows perfectly well that that information is wide open to the public, anybody can get it.

I only wish I could say the same thing about his party. I wonder if he would be willing to make a deal with me. I proposed one to him last year, but I did not hear any more from him. I suggested that I would take him up to our office on Spadina Road, introduce him to the appropriate officers there and facilitate his getting any information he wanted out of our financial records and related documents, and I did not make—

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. A year ago I asked how many paid fulltime union organizers were working for the NDP in Oshawa.

Mr. MacDonald: Scott Young said they got \$300,000 from the distilleries alone. Did they or did they not?

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I said to the hon. member, and I will say to him again, that it would be much better if he would go up and inspect our records than ask me questions of detail about which I do not have the information. The information is there.

What I am suggesting to him is—and this is not a condition of the offer I have made, but I am just suggesting it to him in the spirit of friendliness which has prevailed this afternoon in this House—that he should take me over to the Tory office and do the same thing for me. I will be happy to take these men in the press gallery along with me, and I am sure they would be very happy to dig right through the books of the Tory party, which they have already done with regard to the books of the NDP. You see, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite can go through all the

diversions and childish interjections they like but they cannot escape the basic fact that they are afraid and ashamed to let the public know where their money comes from.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: A plague on both their houses, we are the only ones who are clean.

Mr. Bryden: Well, now that we hear the member for Sudbury going into his unctuous phase, perhaps I should remind this House that the Liberal Party also has persistently refused to let anybody see what goes on in its financial operations. I would suggest to it that it should clean up its own house.

I will give the Liberals credit for this much, Mr. Speaker, that they are at least prepared to see the law amended so that in future they, along with any other party, will have to open up their books. They apparently are not very proud of their past but they are willing, I think, to give some indication that they hope to reform in the future. I am willing to give them all assistance in that direction, I think it is a most worthy cause. So, at least I am happy with the support that they have recently been giving to the campaign that we have been carrying on for a long time, to get legislation of this kind on the statute books.

Mr. Speaker, I had been making a proposal which as usual provoked a great mass of irrelevancy from the other side, a proposal to prohibit those who are actually doing business with the government from making contributions to any political party or candidate.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Gee, the hon. member's wife must get fed up—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Bryden: I may say that the level of humour from the hon. Minister of Mines is getting about as low as it can get, it never has been very high, but I would even more strongly emphasize the point that people between the ages of 18 and 21 should vote, in fact I—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I wish to call the member to order again, as well as all other members in the House. There are far too many interjections and I do not like to see the decorum of the House get too much out of hand.

I would ask the member for Woodbine if he would proceed with the prepared text that he has and perhaps we could have a little better attention by other members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I can be held responsible for the fact that these

gentlemen are so easily provoked. I have the floor and I think that everything I have said has been completely in order. Frankly I do not think it should be suggested that I am responsible for the disturbance that has taken place in the House.

If these gentlemen cannot contain themselves, that is their responsibility. But after witnessing their puerile demonstrations this afternoon—I know they are caught on a very sensitive point, but even so the demonstrations were puerile—I am beginning to think that perhaps we should change the law to disqualify from voting anybody over the age of 21. I do not think some of those fellows over there show much capacity to exercise the franchise in a responsible manner.

However, I was making a proposal, I will not repeat it again, I found it necessary to repeat it twice, but I think all the members understand it, some of them a little better than they would like to. And I would suggest that violation of the prohibition that I have mentioned should result in the firm or individual concerned being cut off from government business for five years in addition to any other penalties which the law might provide.

Will the government be prepared to accept this and other proposals I have made regarding the financing of political parties? I do not really know, although I have some doubts, Mr. Speaker, but one thing I know for sure is that the degree of willingness and determination the government shows to clean up the present mess will be a good index of the sincerity with which it approaches the electorate in the next election. And I say that purely as a citizen of Ontario with no personal interest at all in the outcome of that election.

Mr. Speaker: Before the member starts his address, it has been drawn to my attention that we have some distinguished visitors in the House this afternoon and I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming the students from the Ontario agricultural school, Ridgetown.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, the first thing I would say is I would hope that the remarks I am about to make will not cause the stir that we have had in the Legislature for the past three-quarters of an hour. Anything that I say about the government will be given in a very kindly fashion, of course, because—

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): That is the new Liberal style.

Mr. Whicher: I am sure there will be no interruptions at all and I wish to assure you, Mr. Speaker, if they will just keep quiet and listen to what I have to say, that I will try to be completely gentlemanly about it, and we will finish by six o'clock.

Mr. Speaker, it has been the custom and certainly has been carried out this year—perhaps more so than any other—to congratulate you and the members who replied to the address from—the Speech from—the Throne, to congratulate all the new Cabinet Ministers, and so on. This afternoon I am going to skip all that and simply say this, that it is nice to be back again in the Legislature in this the opening session of 1967.

When a fellow has been around here quite a while, one makes many friends and in our political life it is not just in your own party you have friends. While we do a certain amount of fighting in this Legislature, and certainly before elections, nevertheless I am happy to say that since I have been here, I have made many friends in all parties and any remarks that I make this afternoon about the government, I want it known now that they are not of a personal nature at all. It is just that I do not happen to agree with you.

I wish to point out respectfully that there are many people today in the province of Ontario who do agree with what I am about to say and disagree with the government.

Not only in Ontario but in the whole of Canada today, I think there is a feeling—perhaps disgust is too hard a word—but people are apprehensive about what is happening in government here in Canada. Of course, this afternoon I am not going to talk about that apprehension the taxpayers may have about the federal government, our job is to talk about the provincial government.

I wish to assure you, in the province of Ontario today, there is a great apprehension of what is happening in this province because in spite of the fact that the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), of Ontario can stand up from his seat on various occasions and say that all is well in the province of Ontario. I wish to tell you right now, Mr. Speaker, that such is not the case, and people are very worried not only about the state of taxation but in the state of many of the services that are looked after by various departments of this particular government.

Government is getting very expensive. I am sure that all of the members have looked over the auditor's report of the past year and we see that for the year up to March,

1965, this government extracted from the people of the province of Ontario, almost \$1.5 billion.

Now, when one puts this in the proper perspective, one realizes that there are only about seven million people in Ontario, and one realizes the huge amounts of taxes that we are paying to the government in Ottawa and the taxes that we pay municipally, then there is no wonder we as taxpayers are apprehensive about some of the programmes that are being promoted by the government opposite.

When one realizes that, in the year 1939, the total budget for this government to look after all of the welfare, all of the education, all the highways, all of the services that are promoted by this provincial government, was only \$90 million, then one sees that indeed the expenses, and the services too, that have been provided, are getting very expensive indeed. So expensive are they, Mr. Speaker, that in my opinion we are one of the highest taxed people in the whole world.

I have very good authority for saying that. Some may have read, on the financial page of the *Toronto Telegram* the other night, a suggestion that a capital gains tax would be needed here. It was suggested by Mr. J. A. Coates, who is a Toronto lawyer and tax consultant—as a matter of fact he served as a supervisor of tax administration studies for the Carter Royal commission and as such he is a man who has quite a responsible position. He is very dogmatic about the fact that our taxes here are higher than they are in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind you that it was only a little while ago, only a few years ago, that a sales tax was put on the goods we sell here in the province of Ontario. This year, the year 1967, over \$300 million is going to be taken in by the sales tax. Six years ago or thereabouts we did not even get 300 cents. Now, \$300 million; and quite frankly the government is worse off financially than they were before the sales tax came into operation, because its expenses seem to be going up and up and up all the time.

Mr. Speaker, I give this question to you. Where is it going to end? How long do you think that the taxpayer of Ontario can stand this burden? On many an occasion, I have listened to other people discuss this matter about economy in government; and, quite correctly I believe, Ministers or private members of the Conservative Party have said: "Where would you cut down on our services? What would you do?" Well the answer is,

Mr. Speaker, that no one wants to cut down particularly on services. We have welfare programmes, we have educational programmes, health programmes, that must be carried through; but at the same time something is going to have to be done in government because there is a straw that will break the camel's back.

I ask you, rhetorically: What would happen to some of our big businesses if they got in the position the government is in today? Obviously they couldn't carry on. So they would, what we call "streamline" things. They would look into it and they would see where they could cut expenses and still try to give the services they wish to give. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to the government members sitting opposite, do you really think that a Cabinet of 23 members is necessary for the province of Ontario? Do you think that this is necessary?

I see the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) is saying something there; obviously he disagrees with me. I am just giving the facts. Is it necessary to have 23 members of the Cabinet? Is it necessary that, besides these 23 members of the Cabinet, there are commissioners sitting in the back seat there laughing? It seems, over a period of years, that whenever the government has a man it doesn't know what to do with—he may be a little ambitious and has to be put somewhere—it creates another Cabinet post. May I respectfully point out that, in the short term I have been a member of this Legislature, there was once no Minister of Transport—no Minister of Transport whatsoever.

I have nothing against the member whatsoever, but is it necessary to have a Minister of Transport in this province? It used to be looked after by the Minister of Highways. Once more one of my good friends is the Minister of Energy and Resources Management. But ten years ago there was no Minister of Energy and Resources Management in this province.

As a matter of fact, I point out that ten years ago there was just as much cordwood, just as much—probably more in this province than there is now—gas, there was just as much oil; the only thing we didn't have, perhaps, was atomic power. We had Hydro, electrical power, and so forth, and the government of Ontario and the people of Ontario got along very well without a Minister of Energy and Resources Management—got along very well. It wasn't necessary.

In England, during the last war, for any of you who were there, I am sure when you

went to the railway station, you would see big signs plastered all over the station: "Is your journey really necessary?" And I ask you, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): Is this speech really necessary?

Mr. Whicher: I say this: If all of the members opposite worked as cheaply as the member for Lakeshore, I wouldn't have to make this speech.

However, I only say this. I brought out about the placards in England and the sign, "Is my journey really necessary?" I think that it is high time the government of the province of Ontario asks itself this question: "Is my job really necessary?"

It isn't just the Cabinet Ministers; it is a number of people. As soon as a new Cabinet Minister is appointed, why the heat is on. Some of them are most necessary.

Civil servants, of course, are people who really do run the government; but on the other hand it seems that a little empire is set up. An empire is the first thing. Then we get a new deputy. The next thing we have are executive assistants—public relations men. They have secretaries and it just seems that there are hundreds—and yes, I wonder if there are thousands of people who work in this very building.

I wonder if there is any one person in this Legislature who could say how many people are in this building. I suggest there is not. I remember, about eight or nine years ago, when the Hon. Leslie Frost was Prime Minister—those of you who were here then may remember—all of a sudden signs came up all through the building: "If the fire alarm goes off, go here" or "You are standing here, why go there?"—or something like this. A new alarm system was put in this building.

Mr. Frost got up and explained what was happening, why the signs were there; because there had never been so many before.

In any event, all of a sudden one morning we were having a committee meeting downstairs and the fire alarm went. We all went outside—and I have never forgotten it as long as I live because the captain of the ship, of course, is the last man to leave—and there, walking out of the building, was the captain, Prime Minister of this province, Mr. Frost. As he went out, the photographers were taking pictures. He went out the door and he had a smile on his face, of course; then all of a sudden, Mr. Speaker, that smile turned to a frown because he looked out here in the yard and saw the hundreds

and thousands of people who work in this building. He did not know before just how many there were working here—only a fire alarm will enable you to see how many people are here.

It may be interesting to know, Mr. Speaker, that there has never been a practice fire alarm since, because the Tory government do not want the people of Ontario to know just how many people they have hired around here. Of course, most of the people who work here are necessary—a great number of them are—but as soon as the Cabinet is set up, as I said before, immediately it is like Topsy; it just grows and grows and you do not know what to do with the people. As a result empires are created and people are employed who probably are not necessary.

I will give you one more example. I would suggest that the next time a Cabinet Minister is appointed, and I would suggest it to the two younger Ministers without Portfolio, that here is a chance for them. One of the departments of government I give great credit to, under Lands and Forests is the parks branch. And I would suggest this: Is it not almost as necessary to have a Minister of parks as it would be to have a Minister of Energy, for example, or a Minister of Transport?

We have over 100 parks in the province of Ontario. Would it not be nice if we had a Minister to look after them? I will not be at all surprised, if this government were returned, some time or other there will be a Minister of parks; and this might be something for the two younger Ministers without Portfolio to look forward to.

Now not always, Mr. Speaker, when Cabinet Ministers are created, do we have a little empire set up. It is not just people that work for the government. They have other things that work for them; for example cars. Now I really do admire the provincial auditor this year; he has given quite a good report.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): We have heard all that before.

Mr. Whicher: The member is just jealous because he does not have a car!

But he has given a very good report, and he has pointed out—I do not know whether this paragraph was read here before, but I am going to read it anyway, in connection with the operation of government vehicles. Do you think, Mr. Speaker, that it is really necessary that at six o'clock all these black

cars drive up and take a Minister down to the Royal York hotel or over to the Hydro building or somewhere like that; or drive them home for the weekend. Of course it is not necessary!

And do you think for one minute that International Nickel or Falconbridge or Noranda Mines or the T. Eaton Company would stand for such nonsense? Of course they would not stand for it. Those big cars will hold three or four just as easily as they will hold one, and there is no reason why they cannot handle transportation in this manner.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: Now the provincial auditor has said this, and I would like to hear some member of the government answer him; I am sure that in the Budget Debate that some Minister will stand up and answer the auditor because there must be an answer. He has said simply this, on page 22:

In some cases government-owned vehicles are being used for personal transportation, as well as the government business.

Well, to the auditor I say this: We knew it long ago and there is simply no excuse for it whatsoever.

Proper records are not being kept for all vehicles, with the result that it is difficult to determine the amount of the personal portion. There also appears to be an inconsistency in the charges for personal use in that some persons make a payment and others do not.

In other words, what the auditor has said, Mr. Speaker, is that some hon. members opposite have not been paying for a car as they should have been.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): I wonder who it is!

Mr. Whicher: And I suggest that this is dishonest to the people of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Reaume: Stand up, whoever it is!

Mr. Whicher: Now then Mr. Speaker, I know perfectly well that none of the government are going to retire because of the words I have said. I have no doubt in the world that the government will get larger in size instead of smaller, particularly when you have a large number of members such as the Conservative Party have had during the last number of years.

Somebody gets ambitious and somebody wants to be a Cabinet Minister. As a matter

of fact among those of you I have talked to outside of this chamber some were rather disappointed that they were not elevated as a couple of other young fellows were in the last month or so. We hear it all over the place. They come to us and talk.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, as I said I know that the government is not going to get any smaller in spite of what I may say, and this afternoon I want to give, to you Mr. Speaker and to the government, what I regard as a concrete suggestion as to how money can be saved without taking away any services in this province of ours.

I had the opportunity the other day of speaking to Professor Kent of the University of Toronto, who is at the head of the architectural branch over there, and for the past 10 years, or maybe more, he has been very interested in the standardization or the modular construction of government buildings.

As a matter of fact, this afternoon I asked the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) what studies had been done in this province. While he gave quite a story about it, the truth is that very little has been done. In my opinion it should have been done years ago; and inasmuch as it had not been done years ago it should be started right now, because this is something that is taking place all over the world. There are examples of where millions of dollars have been saved by having what we call standardization of schools or hospitals or other government buildings. When I mention standardization of schools, Mr. Speaker, I do not mean of course that the architectural design of all schools should be the same. This is not necessary at all. What I am speaking about is the standardization, to some extent, of the interior.

For example, in this province from the year 1966 to 1969 there are going to be built about \$302 million worth of elementary schools and \$308 million worth of secondary schools; or in round figures, \$700 million worth up to and including 1969.

Now then, supposing we had the ceilings of these schools—if they should be 10 feet high, 11 feet high, 12 feet high; whatever it is; let us get the right one. If 12-foot ceilings are the right height, why could not all the schools in the province of Ontario have 12-foot ceilings?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Maybe schools will not have ceilings in the future.

Mr. Whicher: Maybe they will not.

Mr. S. Lewis: Why put them in a straight-jacket?

Mr. Whicher: That is a very good point, but the situation is that while we are building—they have ceilings now, some kind of ceilings—and as long as they are going to have them why not have them the same height all over the province?

Do you realize, Mr. Speaker, that if this were done, all of the staircases that are used for schools in this province would be the same size.

Would it not be sensible that the doors should be the same width? Not necessarily the same door, I am not suggesting that, but if the frames were the same width! There must be some reasonable width and some reasonable height for school doors. Why could this not be done?

Such a thing as the lighting in schools! Why could they not be standardized? Get the very best there is and standardize it all over the province.

What about such things as air conditioning, window frames? Now you may be interested to know that this has been done in many places in this old world of ours, and while still in its infancy here in Ontario there is research being done by the Metropolitan Toronto board of education. A Mr. Roderick Robbie, a Toronto architect, has been assigned to investigate the type of facilities required by school boards in Ontario according to academic need.

It is a massive undertaking that may well take years to complete; but once finished would undoubtedly have a tremendous impact, not only upon the planning, design and costs of school construction in this province but upon the entire construction industry.

Modular construction does not restrict architectural design. It is a system which applies industrial techniques to the construction industry.

One might say that the construction industry today is in the stage of the Model "T" Ford, which was the first of the mass produced automobiles. The advantage of the Model "T", of course, is that it was far cheaper than the hand-built automobile of the day. The goal then is to reach a point where mass production in construction, as in industry, combines with attractiveness in design to produce efficiently-made units.

The savings that could be effected through the introduction of the modular construction system or the standardization system, are simply fantastic. Unfortunately, there are no

cost studies completed in Canada, but if we turn to the California school of construction experience we find that taxpayers can be relieved of roughly ten per cent of the costs of school buildings simply by applying standardization construction in place of traditional methods.

Specifically, Californian authorities discovered that whereas the traditional method costs an average of \$8.39 per square foot, the cost of the identical school accommodation by the modular system is at the rate of \$6.88, or a saving of roughly ten per cent. That is about ten per cent of the total cost of construction, since the modular components of California schools make up about 58 per cent of the total building costs. In other words, the standardization part of the school building would be roughly 58 per cent of all the components of that building—and it gives an overall saving of ten per cent on the total cost.

Applying that to Ontario's expected expenditures for school construction, we can see a saving of millions upon millions of dollars. In primary and secondary education alone, the taxpayers of this province have to pay an estimated \$700 million for school construction in the next three years. Ten per cent of \$700 million—we do not have to go to school very long to see how much that is—it is \$70 million. I am sure members will agree that, when one adds the interest costs to this, the capital for a project at least doubles. So if we had a standardization for the school system alone, in this province in the next four or five years, there would be a saving of at least \$140 million.

Mr. Speaker, this is big money; and this is the kind of money the government of the province of Ontario is going to have to think about because sooner or later, it is going to run out of it. The taxpayer can only pay so much. I know that members agree with that but what worries me more than anything else about this government is that while it has set up departments, while, in its opinion, it has given good service to the people, never once have I heard any member of the government, in the 12 years that I have been here, stand up and say how we can economize in government. And that is going to have to be done.

One of the ways it can be done is by a standardization of the construction materials for schools in this province. The same can be done for universities or hospitals. There is no reason why it cannot be done at all. The hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) pointed out, in his opinion, that it was very hard to standardize hospitals. I would agree with him that it is hard, but on the other

hand when you have hospitals, small hospitals of maybe 30 beds, being built in the various little centres in the province of Ontario—30 beds or 35 beds—surely there are some places where standardization can be effective and where a saving can be given to the taxpayers of the province of Ontario.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): Fire all those architects, too!

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I ask you this: Why has something not been done about this in the past? I would gather from the conversations that I have had with private members that many people in this Legislature would be in favour of such a programme. Why has there been no planning to utilize the modular system as far as schools, hospitals—and we will say old people's homes—in this province are concerned? When we are building what you call a 100-bed, senior citizens' home in this province, why cannot there be some standardization?

Why does the government allow the architects to say that the terrain is different here from what it is over there and therefore you cannot have the same kind of building? It is completely ridiculous. The government is the boss! The government is paying the bills and it is about high time that it stood up in its place and for once stood up for the taxpayers of the province of Ontario and tried to save them money instead of giving it away!

Mr. Letherby: Put that on the order paper.

An hon. member: Does the member have an answer for the hon. member?

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I give this question as to why the government has not planned it? Why is it just now it is thinking of such things, if indeed it is at all? There is some justification in my question, because if a government could ever be accused honestly of lack of planning, the government of the province of Ontario today is certainly that government.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I want to be fair about this. I am not going to give idle accusations and say that the government does not plan without giving it proof; but I ask what planning was there, for example, by this government and by The Department of Highways when they put Highway 401 through the northern part of the city and, within a very few years, had to go and spend millions and millions of dollars in

widening the road? It should have been done in the first place.

An hon. member: No planning.

Mr. Whicher: It would have cost only half the amount of money if that had been done. Does the Minister mean to tell me his advisers do not know how much traffic is going to be on a certain road ten years from today? Of course they know.

Mr. Reaume: They do not ask us.

Mr. Whicher: And of course they told him, but the point is that he did not listen. As a result, there is no economy in this province as far as Highway 401 going through the city of Toronto is concerned. It is costing "X" millions of dollars; and that is being extracted from the taxpayers of this province through his inefficiency.

Mr. S. Lewis: Extorted!

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, let me give another example of what I would say was a lack of planning, and this is going on right today in the province of Ontario. None of us need be reminded that this is Centennial year and, in the Centennial year, we have a Centennial project.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Is the hon. member opposed to that Centennial project?

Mr. Whicher: But what kind of planning? How is the Minister trying to save money, or trying to run a government economically when he starts off with a Centennial project that is going to cost, maybe, \$10 million?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): \$5 million.

Mr. Whicher: \$5 million, at once. Then all of sudden the taxpayers of the province of Ontario are faced with the fact that it is not \$5 million at all, it is \$30 million. What kind of planning is this, Mr. Speaker? If the government was running a large organization and said "We are building a plant and it is going to cost \$5 million," and came in six months later, or a year later, and said the cost had gone from \$5 million to \$30 million, everyone of them would be fired—and they should be fired on that project alone!

Several hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, this is not planning; this is lack of planning. I have given you the Centennial project, Highway 401—

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Is the member opposed to it?

Mr. Whicher: I am certainly not opposed to it. And as a matter of fact, if the Minister had come and told me that it was \$30 million to start with, and had gone ahead and done the job—

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): And on time.

Mr. Whicher: And on time—all of us probably would have agreed with it. But what kind of financial wizardry is it when he decides he is going to spend \$5 million and then, six months later, it is \$30 million? He does not deserve the support of the people of Ontario.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Who told the member?

Mr. Whicher: Now, Mr. Speaker, I just want to touch on a subject, I must confess, I am not too familiar with because—

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I asked a question.

Some hon. members: Quiet, quiet!

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Whicher: In the smaller areas, or the rural areas, of the province of Ontario—

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: May I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has to ask the member if he will answer a question.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Will the member answer a question?

Mr. Whicher: Yes, I will, and I will give the correct answer.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Who told the member that Ontario's Expo project cost \$30 million—the Centennial project?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: I did not say that the Expo part cost \$30 million. I said the Centennial project here—what is it we call it?—the Centennial centre of science and technology, that cost \$30 million.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Whicher: If the Minister has any other questions he wants to know about, I would only be too glad to get the information. Here comes another Minister.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, if I might. The cost of the building for the Centennial centre for science and technology, as indicated by the low tender, which was accepted by public works, is \$21.7 million.

An hon. member: The experts!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, let us just presume that the Minister is right. This means that, instead of \$5 million to \$30 million, the government is \$5 million to \$20 million. It is 400 per cent wrong. How is that? I mean, it is the champion. Now if the Minister is going to ask a question—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: The Minister can make his speech later.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was going to make a small correction. The hon. member is talking about \$5 million. That figure was used by the federal government to the extent they said that they would—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): The government announced it right here in the House.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): What is \$9 million to the Opposition?

An hon. member: Why do you not listen?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They said that they would join us in up to 50 per cent of the cost up to \$5 million. Our first figure, as I recall, was around \$14 million.

Mr. Whicher: Well, Mr. Speaker, if they will just allow me to carry on I just want to say—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Whicher: I just want to say that the hon. members on the government benches have been giving excuses for years, and by jove we are getting some more this afternoon.

Now then, before I was so rudely interrupted, I said that I wanted to touch on another subject that I do not know too much about—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: —because of the fact that I grew up in rural area, something that members

back there would not know anything about, and housing is not in many areas of this province, in the smaller centres, a major issue. As a matter of fact, in some places we have empty houses in this province because of the lack of planning of this government.

That is another question. It really amuses me when in the Speech from the Throne they talk of the fact that there are going to be lots of houses here in the city of Toronto or in other major cities of this province. I remember so well, the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) was talking about it this afternoon, when Robert Macaulay—and he was sitting right in the seat the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information is in this afternoon—he stood up and said that we were going to have the greatest home building programme, not only that Ontario ever had, not only in Canada, not only in North America, but he said, Mr. Speaker, nothing like this has ever been done in the whole world.

And do hon. members know something: that was a true statement that he made; because it never has been done.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): He is gone out of this world now.

Mr. Whicher: Now when I speak about the lack of planning in this government, may I remind members too that in our agricultural industry of this province there are many farmers who are decidedly unhappy. There has not been too much planning, Mr. Speaker, to look after the people of the province of Ontario who provide the food that is put on our tables.

There is not too much planning in the financial world in the province of Ontario, not too much at all. Do members know that it is an absolute disgrace that more money is going from the province of Ontario and is being invested in the New York stock exchange than it is on the Toronto stock exchange by Americans.

There is only one reason for it. The members sitting over there.

There is absolutely no reason why any government should be allowed to get away with lack of financial planning as this government has done.

I am not going to quote them all, of course, it is common knowledge: Windfall, Atlantic Acceptance, British Mortgage, Prudential and so on.

We do not know where we are going. And as we do not, people who have money in

this province are not investing in Ontario any more, it is going into New York.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): That is wrong, sir.

Mr. Whicher: I am not wrong, it is absolutely right. All the Minister has to do is read the paper.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member cannot prove that statement.

Mr. Whicher: I can prove it, I certainly can. As a matter of fact I will prove it.

Well now Mr. Speaker, the hour is getting late and perhaps there will be some members here who think that I have spoken too long.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: I just wish to sum up my little speech by saying this.

I have given members the opportunity this afternoon to try at least and study such things as standardization for government buildings in this province. I have shown them that according to the California figures, and they do not have to take those because they are doing the same thing in Sweden and in England, in all of the Scandinavian countries; and in fact in housing, behind the Iron Curtain.

They do not have to take my word for it, just read!

This is an opportunity to really economize and really show the people of the province that they mean business.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Some of those countries have the greatest housing shortage in their histories.

Mr. Reaume: Why does the Minister not keep quiet once in a while?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Whicher: I have further said, Mr. Speaker, if they do not do this, they are going to get in the same mess as far as schools are concerned and hospitals are concerned, that they are in now because of lack of housing in the city of Toronto, because of lack of planning in the financial world, because of lack of planning in highways. It is an absolute disgrace, as I said before, that a beautiful highway such as 401, of real modern construction, should cost the taxpayers the millions of dollars that it did and then just a few years later have to be all torn up and buildings torn down and cost the taxpayer additional millions that we can ill afford, indeed.

Mr. J. Rocc (Wellington-Dufferin) moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we shall continue the debate on the Speech from the Throne.

Hon. Mr. Spooner moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.

ERRATUM

(Monday, February 6, 1967)

Page	Column	Line	Correction
226	1	4	<p>Statement attributed to Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary), was made by Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio). Copy should read as follows:</p> <p>Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I would like to draw to the attention of the House the fact that on Saturday afternoon in Quebec city the Dorset Park pee-wee hockey team won the grand championship in the Quebec international pee-wee hockey tournament. This tournament is conducted each year in conjunction with the Quebec winter festival and 86 teams took part—from all over this province, Quebec, the United States, and as far away as Yellowknife.</p> <p>I think the interesting thing about it, Mr. Speaker, is that the Dorset Park team, to win this grand championship, won seven straight games and more fans saw them playing this game than see the Stanley Cup winner. In the last game on Saturday afternoon, 17,000 fans were in the Quebec Coliseum to see this team win. The Dorset Park team is a team sponsored by the Dorset Park community association, which is in the riding of Scarborough North; and I am sure this House would like to extend congratulations to the 14 boys, ages 11 and 12, their coach, their trainer, and manager on this magnificent victory.</p>



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, February 8, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, St. Sebastian separate school, Toronto; and in the west gallery, Jarvis collegiate institute, Toronto, and the H. B. Beal secondary school, London.

It is my pleasure also to meet and to introduce to the House two broadcast journalism students, studying in Canada under the auspices of the Colombo plan—in the Speaker's gallery, Miss Angeline Santhanam of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and John Darni of the Cameroons in Africa.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to establish the Ontario deposit insurance corporation.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, may I explain some of the salient features of this bill? Its purpose is to provide protection by way of insurance to persons who deposit money in, or lend money to loan corporations and trust companies incorporated in Ontario.

Under the Act, every loan corporation and trust company incorporated under the laws of Ontario and registered under The Loan and Trust Companies Act will be a member institution.

The bill provides for the establishment of the Ontario deposit insurance corporation. It will be the first corporation of its type in Canada. It will have the power to acquire assets from a member institution, make loans or advances to a member institution, and take

security therefor. It may also guarantee loans to, or deposits with, a member institution for the purpose of reducing a risk to the corporation or reducing or averting a threatened loss to the corporation.

A deposit under the Act will be moneys deposited with the member institution in respect of which such institution is liable to the depositors. The term "deposit" will also include guaranteed investment certificates, debentures and like obligations issued by a loan corporation that is a member institution.

The bill also provides that each deposit with a member institution may be insured up to \$20,000. This, I might note, exceeds by \$5,000 the amount insured by any known United States scheme.

Deposits will be insured by the corporation with a member institution that is carrying on business on the day on which the Act comes into force and after that date. The insurance will cover deposits in Ontario—incorporated loan and trust corporations anywhere in Canada.

The bill further provides that the corporation will annually assess and collect from each member institution a premium of \$500, or one-thirtieth of one per cent of the total amount of such deposits as are deposited with the member institution, whichever is greater.

As you know, sir, the federal government has given second reading to Bill C-261, An Act to establish the Canada deposit insurance corporation. It has been Ontario's desire from the outset to cooperate with the federal government in its endeavours in this field. Indeed, as mentioned previously in this House, numerous discussions have been held with Ottawa in an effort to promote and coordinate our mutual interests, concern and responsibility in this field.

Ontario's main concern at the moment is to provide insurance in the area where it is required, inasmuch as the full extent of coverage to be undertaken by the federal government has not as yet been spelled out in detail. The federal bill does not, for example, define what is meant by a "deposit", nor does it state whether it will cover guaranteed investment certificates or debentures.

I first indicated the resolve of the Ontario government in this field before the session opened. On January 20 I pledged that we would "do our part to establish and to maintain confidence in our financial institutions and relationships". It was clearly outlined in the Throne Speech that the government's intention was to introduce legislation to assure that the savings of our people were adequately safeguarded. The day after the session began I discussed the federal legislation in this House and indicated the willingness of the Ontario government to take whatever action was deemed necessary to protect the savings of our people.

This bill carries forward the process of implementing these expressions of intent on behalf of the people of Ontario. It is our intention to continue to cooperate with the federal authority and to direct Ontario companies to participate in the federal scheme at such time as it is available, provided that we are satisfied that it meets the requirements needed to protect Ontario depositors.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. Minister would permit a question. Not having a copy of the text in front of me I am not sure whether I was hearing correctly but did you say "may" insure or "shall" insure? In other words will the insurance provisions be permissive or mandatory?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mandatory.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I have today approved the recommendation of the law society of Upper Canada for the appointments of the area directors under the legal aid plan. Many prominent members of the bar throughout Ontario have undertaken to act in this capacity. Many of the men appointed will find it a personal sacrifice in the time that will thus be taken from their active practices.

The only full-time appointment will be that of John M. Magwood, QC, of Toronto, who has been appointed as area director for the county of York. Mr. Magwood, who was called to the bar in 1936, has practised law in Toronto with great distinction since that time. A former treasurer of the lawyers' club of Toronto, Mr. Magwood has recently retired as president of the county of York law association. Mr. F. J. Cornish, QC, of Toronto, will be associated with Mr. Magwood as an associate area director of the county of York, and will bring to this area his experience, not only in the law, but also in his public service

as an elected representative of the municipal government of the city of Toronto.

The one area director who has not yet been appointed is for the united counties of Northumberland and Durham. A recommendation is expected regarding this appointment in the immediate future. The area directors have been recommended by their local law associations. It is recognized that they will have the support of the members of the profession with whom they will be working and carrying out the legal aid plan. They will be able to proceed immediately in making their own plans in cooperation with the director of legal aid, Mr. Andrew Lawson, in anticipation of the inception of the plan in the near future.

The regulations and the tariffs of fees relating to the scheme are now before me. Every effort is being made to provide for the enactment of the regulations and the proclamation of the legal aid plan as soon as possible. I might add, Mr. Speaker, that I have given written notice to each member of the House as to the name and address of the area director in his constituency and I have a list of the names of all who have been appointed and, as I say, it covers every area with the exception of Northumberland and Durham.

Mr. Singer: Will the hon. Attorney General permit a question on that? Are these appointments contemplated to be full-time appointments? Will they take up the full time of the lawyer involved or will they be able to carry on with their other activities?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is not expected that they will require to serve on a full-time basis. Different amounts of time will be required in different areas depending on the extent of the work, but they are not full-time except in the case of Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Speaker: The House will revert to the introduction of bills as the Minister of Highways has a bill.

THE COMMUTERS' SERVICE ACT, 1965

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Commuters' Service Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, the proposed amendment to The Commuter Service Act will authorize the making of regulations to establish commuter fares and to control parking lots used in conjunction with this

service. The amendment also provides for the enforcement of the regulations.

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Before the orders of the day, may I place on record some particulars as to an interesting and important electrical service development?

A successful test closure of eastern and western interconnected power systems has made Ontario Hydro part of a vast coast-to-coast power grid, by far the greatest in the world, linking 40 per cent of the world's total electrical capacity. At 11.49 a.m. yesterday, February 7, eastern standard time, a special task force of power system operating engineers, appointed by the North American power systems interconnection committee, joined west to east electrically through a 215-mile, 230,000-volt line, from Yellow Tail to Glendive, Montana. Three supporting lines were brought in immediately to strengthen the tie.

Because of its membership since 1962 in the Canada-United States Eastern (CANUSE) interconnected group, Ontario Hydro is part of the Atlantic-to-Pacific hookup. During the final countdown before zero hour, which was 9.30 a.m. mountain standard time, or 11.30 a.m. here, when the tie was closed, operators from the task force stationed at Watertown, South Dakota, coordinated the test, making certain that all systems in both east and west interconnected groups were holding an electrical speed of exactly 60 cycles per second.

Systems' operations personnel ensured the 60-cycles-per-second pulse-beat through the use of automatic load frequency control equipment at their respective control centres.

The continental power grid—with a capacity of nearly 245 million kilowatts and 265,000 miles of transmission line—will strengthen security not only of Ontario Hydro's system but of the 209 major suppliers within its boundaries, particularly the small utilities adjacent to the actual tie-line. With most of the major supply systems in North America pulsating in unison, a supply of energy up to the capacity of the interconnecting transmission lines will automatically be available to any individual system or area that experiences an emergency power shortage.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Public Welfare.

Was a special audit of the financial statement of the Warrendale home undertaken by the government after the government took over the responsibility for the administration of the home on September 8, 1966? If so,

were any irregularities discovered and if so, what were the nature of these irregularities?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part is yes, and I will take the second and third parts as notice.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Education arising from something brought to my attention in my own constituency.

Are the payments of the 1966 grants to the school boards of the province completed? Why was the November instalment so late as to require extra bank loans on the part of some school boards to meet grant expenditures?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, the final payments of the 1966 general legislative grants were mailed on time in November to roughly 80 per cent of the boards of the province and interim payments were mailed by the end of December to the remainder. The final payments of the 1966 grants to a few school boards have not been made to this date for the following reasons: There are some boards which have not submitted their financial report for 1965—I think there are some half a dozen—and there have been some revisions in calculations owing to changes in the original data and these have to be reprocessed. To offset the delay in the grant payments, the department had made payments on account in most of the cases by the end of 1966, and has now finally completed up to approximately 95 per cent of the 1965 grant in order to minimize the needs for boards to borrow against their current expenditures.

Mr. Nixon: If I may, Mr. Speaker, is there any provision for grant assistance in the payment of the interest that these boards have been subjected to?

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, there is not, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Has the Minister received a petition from the citizens of Pittsburgh township in connection with the council's request for the resignation of fire chief N. S. Taylor? If so, what action does the Minister intend to take?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I did receive a petition purported to have been signed by

some citizens of Pittsburgh township and forwarded to me, I believe, by the acting secretary of the ratepayers' association. I received it on February 1, or some time around that date.

The petition sets out certain opinions regarding the township council's request for the resignation of the fire chief. The petition further requests me, as Minister of Municipal Affairs, to examine the situation to ensure first, that justice is done to fire chief Mr. Taylor, an employee with a long record of service, second, that the functioning of the Pittsburgh fire department is not impeded, and third, that adequate protection for people and property within the township, and especially for children within schools, is still provided.

In the second part of the question, the action which I have taken is to reply to the petition in a letter dated February 6, which was probably mailed from my office on February 7, because I was not at the office most of February 6 after the letter would have been written. I would have signed it some time that night and it would not have been mailed until yesterday.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests.

Is the Minister in a position to indicate whether the Boise Cascade Corporation, which bought out and proposes to close down the sulphite mill at the International Falls, will build a new mill on the Canadian side of the line? If so, has the location been decided?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is "no", and this follows for the second part also. I would like to say, however, that we met the officials of this company quite recently and we are very interested in their proposals. We are hoping that they will locate in Ontario.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs a question last Friday, and I have a further question for him.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): The answer to the question from the hon. member for Riverdale is as follows:

A number of meetings relating to the affairs of the Prudential Finance Corporation

Limited were attended by the late Mr. Lennox, the former chairman of the Ontario securities commission, and by the present chairman. These meetings were primarily of three types: meetings with the staff, meetings with officials of the company, and meetings with the Attorney General and members of the Attorney General's staff. There is no exact record of the dates and times of the meetings.

The meetings in early 1963 were held to consider whether the sales programme of Prudential and other companies came within the then exemptions of The Securities Act, and were also directed toward considering amendments to the Act. These considerations led to the enactment of The Deposits Regulations Act which effectively prohibited the solicitation of any further money from the public by way of deposits by other banks and trust companies; and to amendments to The Securities Act which removed the exemption in that Act for the selling of short-term promissory notes without a prospectus, and which required the filing and delivery of a prospectus containing disclosure of the affairs of companies selling these short-term notes and debentures.

In the spring of 1963, meetings were held relating to the form and content of the prospectus, resulting in the requirement that there be a front-page disclosure that the securities sold were unsecured and the words of that notice and notification are as follows, and I quote:

The short-term promissory notes offered by this prospectus are unsecured and the holders thereof rank with other unsecured creditors of the company after all secured creditors.

The short-term promissory notes offered by this prospectus may be honoured in whole or in part by proceeds derived from the sale of additional securities.

Mr. Speaker, in the first part of 1964, meetings were held and enquiries were directed to the company to ascertain its then position insofar as the liquidity of its assets were concerned. Later in 1964, meetings were held in connection with the renewal of the prospectus when the company limited the offering of securities to its then security holders.

In 1965, discussions were held in connection with the affairs of the company generally to ascertain whether the company was restricting its sales as required.

Insofar as sales in Ontario were concerned, it appears that there was compliance with the

law, although at that time there was new capital being raised in other jurisdictions. In late 1965, there were meetings held in connection with the sale of the finance business of Prudential to Seaboard Finance Company of Canada Limited, and of the decision of the company to discontinue any sales whatsoever in the province of Ontario of new notes.

Toward the end of 1965, meetings were held in connection with the takeover of O'Brien Gold Mines Limited, and enquiries were directed toward ascertaining whether in fact Prudential was in a position to fulfill its commitments on this takeover bid, and what effect it would have on the affairs of Prudential. There was nothing in this transaction that was outside the provisions of The Securities Act.

In 1966, there were numerous occasions upon which discussions took place, relating to the then financial position of Prudential, at which meetings the commission formed the view that the company was insolvent in that its assets were not sufficient to meet all its liabilities under normal business circumstances, although some of the assets were speculative in nature and the financial position of the company might improve if those assets increased in value.

During these meetings the provisions of The Bankruptcy Act were considered and the opinion was received that The Bankruptcy Act did not make a state of insolvency an act of bankruptcy and until an act of bankruptcy was committed, the federal legislation did not provide any procedure for placing the company into bankruptcy.

Mr. Renwick: The further question which I have for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is: Has York Trust Limited filed each of the returns pursuant to section 150 of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act required to be filed on or before January 31, 1967, showing the position of that company as at December 31, 1966 and, if so, do the returns show compliance by that company with the provisions of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The answer to that question is "no." I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that it is not uncommon for companies to be a week or so late, as in this case, in filing returns. The Department of Insurance is in the process of seeing that these returns are filed at the earliest possible date and expects to have them within the next day or so.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister will permit a supplementary question: Is it intended to impose the penalty provided in the statute for failure to file the statements at the time the statute requires them to be filed?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is a matter that I will look into and take into consideration.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health.

Would the Minister tell the House, (1) in the last six months what percentage of claims from doctors has the Ontario medical insurance division had to (a) search or (b) return for revision or further information?

(2) In the last six months, what percentage of claims from policyholders has the Ontario medical insurance division had to (a) search or (b) return for revision or further information?

(3) Does OMSIP have a claims form for policyholders, and if not, how does a policyholder provide the division with the proper information for a claim?

(4) If a policyholder has problems with a policy, what recourse does he have at the present time?

(5) How many claims at present are awaiting payment or processing because of technical problems, lack of information or for other reasons and how far do they date back?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, this is a rather long and involved question. It is going to call for a great deal of research and I am not certain that we will be able to get anything that can be described as exact answers, because I have learned to my bitter sorrow it takes a great deal longer to dig something out of a computer than it does to put it in.

However, I do intend to present to the House a very complete statement on OMSIP operations within the next two or three days and we will do everything in our power to get as accurate answers to the questions of the hon. member as will be possible.

Mr. Trotter: I understand, then, this question will be answered within the next two or three days?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Yes, sir.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, on the questions, I know there may be complaints that they seem long. The great danger is if one puts them on the order paper, they are never answered until near the end of the session, the last day.

Mr. Singer: We have seen too much of that.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order. Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the Speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, since this is the first time I have taken part in the debates in this session, I want to offer to you my congratulations on the way you have presided over the proceedings of this House, and to wish you well in the days that lie ahead. I would also wish through you to convey to your staff my appreciation of the many kindnesses and courtesies they have shown to me and to the people I have the honour to represent. I would also offer my congratulations to your deputy, the chairman of the committee of the whole. I know from past experience that he will do honour to the position he holds.

At this time I take particular pleasure in congratulating the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) on his election to the House, and on the fine address he made when moving the adoption of the Speech from the Throne. The hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) is also to be congratulated. I always listen with great interest to the members from the Ottawa valley. My wife happens to come from that part of our province, and as you can expect, I have great respect for the observations people from eastern Ontario make, and as usual, the member for Renfrew South made a great contribution to the debate.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without offering my congratulations and good wishes to those who have been charged with greater responsibility, having been elevated to Cabinet rank. I am sure that everyone appreciates the responsibility that will be theirs in this high office, and they will discharge that responsibility with credit to themselves, to the people in their own riding, and to the province as a whole. At the same time, I would like to convey to members who have relinquished the heavy responsibility of administering a portfolio in the Cabinet, my personal appreciation of the cooperation I have received from these gentlemen through-

out the years, and I wish them well in whatever capacity they serve in the days that lie ahead.

As I listened to the lead-off speeches by the hon. leader of the Opposition, the member for Brant (Mr. Nixon), and by the leader of the New Democratic Party, the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald), I could not help but feel that they were out of touch with the thinking of many people in Ontario, and that is particularly true in rural Ontario.

Quite frankly, I was a little bit surprised at the speech of the leader of the Opposition who has, to some degree, a rural background. He seemed to be putting more emphasis on shaping policies that would be of benefit to certain areas in the province, and one could not say that the policies that he was talking about were of particular interest to the rural parts of the province. Now I am not saying that in a critical mood. He has the responsibility of leading the official Opposition, and no doubt he is reflecting the thinking of the party that he leads, and as my leader, the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts), said, I wish him well as leader of the Opposition.

I am not too surprised that the leader of the third party, the NDP, seems to be out of touch with the thinking of rural Ontario. We know from the record of speeches in the House that the policies he supports are not, in the main, policies that would attract support in rural Ontario.

I must say that I was interested in the results of the recent survey on voting patterns in Ontario. I note that this survey was carried out in eight major urban centres, namely, Toronto, Ottawa, Sault Ste. Marie, the Lakehead (Fort William and Port Arthur), London, Windsor, Sudbury and North Bay. This survey, conducted in urban areas, indicated that 41 per cent of the people today would support the Progressive Conservative Party, 32 per cent Liberals, and 27 per cent NDP. When we look at these trends in the urban areas and realize that rural Ontario, in the main, is strongly pro-Conservative in its thinking, I think we have a fair indication of what the results will be after the next provincial election, whenever that election may be held. When we look at these indications of public support, and then analyze the speech that was delivered by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of this session, I think we are all confident that we will have stable Conservative government following the next election, carrying out a broadly based programme that will lead

to continued expansion and development and prosperity in Ontario.

Since the Conservative Party was charged with the responsibility of office, Ontario has surged forward into an era of development and prosperity that has never been equalled at any time in the history of our province. Ontario has prospered as no other province has in Canada, a land of opportunity. We have seen different provinces try out the various political philosophies that have developed in our country. Ontario has stayed consistently with Progressive Conservative policies, and has prospered and developed more than any other province, under any other type of political philosophy.

Perhaps the best evidence I can bring to support that statement is the fact that the present Liberal government in Ottawa, under Mr. Pearson, and with Mr. Sharp as financial Minister, has turned to Ontario for approximately half of the national budget, until we have the situation where our province, with approximately a third of the population is contributing half of the national revenue. In other words, on a per-capita basis we provide \$2 in tax directly to Ottawa for every dollar of the average from the rest of the provinces who are living under different political philosophies.

We are aware that under the political policies pursued by the government in Ottawa, from the prosperity of Ontario they are giving equalizing grants to most of the provinces. I am not suggesting that we in Ontario are not good Canadians and are not willing to help the rest of Canada. We are. What I am saying is that it is pretty hard to accept statements from the leaders opposite, who suggest that Ontario would even think of changing from the sound policies we have pursued to policies of another political party. This is particularly true of the third party, the NDP, which shaped the destiny of Saskatchewan for many years, and under the dead hand of socialism we saw that province stagnate. While Ontario was growing by over two million population, many hundreds of thousands of people were leaving Saskatchewan, getting out from under a socialistic way of life. Finally Saskatchewan decided it had had enough of that dead hand of socialism, and changed its form of government, and from the latest information we have available, Saskatchewan today is prospering as it had never prospered under socialism, and is now on the borderline of becoming one of the more prosperous provinces in Canada.

I do not intend to say a great deal about all of the policies that were outlined in the Speech from the Throne. I know that many speakers will be taking part in the debate. As the debate progresses we will hear the reaction to these policies from members in all parts of Ontario.

My own riding of Wellington-Dufferin, as you know, is a rural riding, perhaps one of the few really rural ridings that are left in the province. I want to say something about the effect of the policies we have lived under and the policies that have been proposed in the Speech from the Throne, and their effect on rural Ontario. During the years that I have had the honour to represent the Progressive Conservative Party, and the riding of Wellington-Dufferin, we have seen great changes in our way of life. Power development and rural electrification have completely changed our way of life in rural Ontario. I remember the days before Prime Minister George Drew announced his policy of rural electrification and carried it through. In those days, under a Liberal government, I used to go to the barn with a lantern in one hand, and a pail of water in the other, and in the dim light of the lantern I'd probably trip over the dog in the feed passage.

All that has changed. Today, with hydro-electric power, the barns are lighted at night and the homes are lighted, and we are able to have all of the modern conveniences and appliances that we formerly looked for in the more urban communities. Before the change of government, there were only some 19 per cent of the farmers in Dufferin with hydro, and about 25 per cent in Wellington. All of that has changed. Today, in that rural part of Ontario, practically every farmer has cheap hydro-electric power.

Under the policies of the present government and preceding Conservative governments, we have seen our whole highway system brought up to a high standard, and many of the old highways rebuilt. With the development road programme that was developed by this government, many miles of main connecting municipal roads have been built to a high standard. The system of grants to municipalities has made it possible for our rural municipalities to maintain open roads 12 months in the year. While the grants under the former government were 50 per cent, or dollar for dollar, today they range as high as 75 and 80 per cent, and are tied to the assessment in the municipality as related to the miles of roads that have to be maintained by the municipality. In other

words, at 80 per cent instead of dollar for dollar, it is four to one.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not express to the government the thanks of the people in Wellington-Dufferin for the consideration they have given to our problems with regard to municipal roads, development roads, and King's highways. Several years ago, a number of miles of main connecting links were taken into the King's highway system, and I would remind the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) that representations have been made for the extension of Highway 25 north through the centre of the Wellington-Dufferin riding through the Orton-Grand Valley area, to connect with Highway 89. This extension would serve to take some of the heavy traffic off the more southerly roads, in particular, when tourists are heading north. It would make it possible for them to avoid some of the congestion that develops in the Toronto-Peel area, and at the same time, it would give stimulus to development in the Grand Valley, Shelburne and Erin areas.

I know the Minister is aware that petitions have been presented from all of the municipalities that are involved in this proposed extension of Highway 25. Another reason why there is pressure for a King's highway in this area is the fact that there is a 30-mile stretch between Highway 10 and Highway 6 between Primrose and Mount Forest. This creates a situation where all of the north-south traffic is carried in between these two highways on the municipal road system.

I should point out that in recent years, the population in some of the townships in these areas have grown by as much as 50 per cent. Many people have moved out of the heavily congested urban areas that border the Lake Ontario and the metropolitan areas, and have established homes up in the townships, where they can raise their children in an atmosphere of pure air, fresh water, and healthy, friendly communities. I might add that at this time, when we are having an increase in population and more and more people are commuting north and south, the railways have been abandoning their passenger service and are using their lines more or less for weigh freight.

Many of the people who have moved into the area commute to the southern municipalities to find employment or to attend to their business in that area. These are but a few reasons why I feel that it is not unreasonable to ask for another north-south highway

to carry these people to and from the southern part of the province, and not ask the municipalities to maintain these traffic arteries.

I might add that practically all of the farm produce moves to the markets in Toronto and in other large urban areas along the lake by truck. I think all members of the House can appreciate that it is in the interests of both the agricultural producer and the consumer to have produce reach market in the best possible condition, and this is only possible with an adequate highway system.

Mr. Speaker, there is another reason why we do appreciate the tremendous amount of support we have had from The Department of Highways in Wellington-Dufferin, and why we would appreciate even more consideration. The various towns and villages are anxious to attract industry into the areas, making it possible for more of our young people to live in the healthy atmosphere which exists in Wellington-Dufferin. Good traffic arteries can play an important part in attracting industry into the area. I might say at the present time that due to the policies of the federal government some of the towns and villages in my area are having great difficulty in attracting industry.

A meeting was held some months ago in the town of Mount Forest, in my own riding, which I attended, where representatives of many municipalities stretching from Orangeville west to Lake Huron gathered to protest the policy of the federal government whereby they designate certain areas as being depressed areas. By that very designation, they diverted industry away from the area that I have the honour to represent.

It has been pointed out to me, and I am sure it has been pointed out to others, that one of the reasons there is not a high percentage of unemployment in that area is because, with a lack of industry, young people who are not prepared to stay on the farm and who have been trained for other vocations, find little opportunity to secure employment. So they are forced to leave the community where they might like to live, and seek employment in the large metropolitan centres, or in the areas where the federal government is diverting industry by the policies it is following, designating certain areas as being depressed areas and giving industry an advantage going into these areas. I hope that the federal people will see the error of their ways, and I also hope that our Department of Economics and Development, in cooperation with the various departments of our own

government, will take any steps within their jurisdiction to assist in attracting industries into these smaller centres.

As I have just mentioned, highways into the scenic, healthy atmosphere of Wellington-Dufferin are at least one way of attracting tourist industry into the area, and will at the same time provide better traffic routes for the farmers to move their produce to market, and for industry that may establish in the area to reach other areas in the province. Any consideration the suggestions I have made receive, I know, will be greatly appreciated in Wellington-Dufferin.

I might suggest that there are many points of attraction for visitors in the Wellington-Dufferin area. The Grand River conservation authority, with assistance from The Department of Energy and Resources Management, has developed and is developing many fine park areas. A fine park is being developed at Rockwood in Eramosa township within an hour or hour-and-a-half's drive of half the population of Ontario. The Elora Gorge park is another fine park that has been developed. Up at Belwood, there are park areas on the Belwood lake that is created by the Shand dam. Over on the Conestogo, above Glen Allan, there are certain recreation facilities in connection with that conservation lake. Many people who like to shoot ducks find a lot of pleasure visiting the Luther lake north of Grand Valley.

Both Wellington and Dufferin counties have fine museums that are of interest to people who wish to study the history of the development of the province, and to find out how our ancestors lived throughout the past century as they developed that part of Ontario. Erin village boasts a fine park, and perhaps the finest agricultural fair held in the fall anywhere in the province. In fact, it has been dubbed a "preview of the Royal." Yes, Mr. Speaker, the entire area is served by good parks, schools, community centres, hospitals, municipal roads and King's highways. Wellington-Dufferin, as you know, is on the headwaters of many of the main rivers in southern Ontario. I have on previous occasions described it as the "highlands of Ontario" and indeed, it is just that. Just east of Dundalk in Melancthon township, the height of land goes up to some 1,750 or more feet, and from that area the streams start to run north, east, south and west.

Since agriculture is the main industry in Wellington-Dufferin, I think I would be remiss if, on behalf of the farm people, I did not express to the government our apprecia-

tion of the many steps that have been taken and that are forecast in the Throne Speech, which have benefited and will benefit agriculture. I have already said something about rural electrification, and I think we all know that that would have been impossible if it had not been for the policy of subsidizing the construction of rural lines. I understand that the government has expended over \$120 million subsidizing the lines into the rural parts of Ontario, and as I said before, completely changing the rural way of life.

I have mentioned something about our highway system, where highways that were nothing more than dusty gravel roads have been turned into some of the finest highways in the province, where municipal roads have been built to highway standards under the development road programme, and where the grants to municipal roads have been raised from 50 per cent to as much as 80 per cent. This is for bridges, and where assessment is low on the entire municipal road programme. These are things that make it possible to keep our roads open 12 months of the year and make it possible for the farmer to reach market with his produce at any time.

Many fine schools have been built with government assistance ranging as high as 75 per cent or more, making it possible for the young people who stay on the farm or who leave the farm to receive the training it is necessary for them to receive if they are to take their place in the modern, mechanized and technical society in which we live today. These are advantages that young people did not have until these policies were developed by the present and previous Conservative governments. Our educational grants are based on a system that provides a maximum grant up to 95 per cent in the areas where there is little assessment to support the necessary educational facilities. It is true that in some of the areas that have a great concentration of industrial and business assessment the grants are not as high as they are in rural Ontario, but I suggest that perhaps these municipalities are in a much stronger position to carry the cost of education than are the rural municipalities, which have little business or industrial assessment.

We in rural Ontario appreciate the support that has been given to our educational facilities. We appreciate the support we have received in the construction of recreation or community centres, the support we have received to build and operate the hospitals that provide services for people, that were not available just a few years ago.

Let us take a look at the farms. I have mentioned rural electrification; roads to markets; grants up to 95 per cent for schools depending on the assessment per classroom or per pupil; farm loans up to as high as \$40,000, making it possible for young farmers to acquire an economic farm unit; guaranteed bank loans that make it possible to operate the farm after it has been acquired; crop insurance; grants up to \$500 for farm ponds to provide adequate supplies of water for livestock and irrigation; more recently, grants for clearing of fence bottoms; and now as announced in the recent Throne Speech, there will be grants to assist in the construction of wells.

Those of us who farm realize that without an adequate water supply you can run into a very costly and uneconomic farm operation. The grants for drainage on farms will be in addition to the municipal drainage system of grants where up to two thirds of the cost of the drain can be financed. Other grants will be for the renovating or building of certain types of buildings. In other words, these capital grants, in addition to the farm loan policy, will make it possible for the farmer today to develop a more efficient operation.

Mr. Speaker, I think these are sound policies. If the farmer today is to have a good life, and is to be able to provide food at a reasonable cost to the consumer, his farming operation has to become more efficient. In other words, a farmer has to have more return for every dollar invested in his farm and equipment, more production per acre, more production for a foot of barn space. These capital grants that have been available, and that are now to be extended into other areas, will make it possible for the farmer to change his operation and become more efficient; make it possible for him to have a greater return per acre, for a dollar of investment, per manhour of work.

Many farmers are making these changes, renovating the stables and turning to loose feeding and to milking parlours. Many young farmers do not have sufficient capital to renovate buildings, to drill deep wells, to construct farm ponds, to erect silos, to clear up fence bottoms, but under the policies that we are pursuing and that have been announced, with the money available as capital grants for the down payment by using the farm improvement loan, many farms of today that are not sound economic units can be transformed into just that. I suggest that this is the type of assistance that will play a great part in putting agriculture on a sound basis, and at

the same time maintaining food prices at a reasonable level.

I am sure that the farm people whom I represent would want me to express to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) and to his department their appreciation of the efforts he has made on their behalf in his bargaining with the federal government, and in some cases providing subsidy to carry over a very difficult period. I personally feel that subsidies can serve a useful purpose in carrying over a difficult period, but if there is something wrong it will take more than subsidy. I feel that this system of capital grants will do much to correct some of the problems that have confronted agriculture in recent days, where farms are forced to change over to a different type of operation. This has been made necessary partly because of the changes in the labour legislation, minimum wages, labour seeking shorter hours, daylight saving time.

Many other things make it difficult for the farmer to operate in the same labour market as before. On one hand he is bidding in the same labour market for help as the manufacturer, on the other hand he is working hand in hand with the great architect of the universe, dependent on the whims of weather, rain and sun and frost and snow. He is not able to establish a uniform pattern of work that some of the other industries can establish. So, in my opinion, we are on the right track when we make it possible for him to change his operation with a system of capital grants, and make it possible for him to secure more production per manhour, and per dollar investment in space and acreage.

I could go on and talk about many other subjects. We think of the many policies this government has developed to assist people who, through no fault of their own, are unable to provide the necessities of life. We think of assistance for the aged, the blind, mothers' allowance, disabled pensions, pensions for widows, assistance to children's aid societies, and to municipalities that are providing other forms of welfare. We are aware of the benefits that have come from other provincial programmes and provincially assisted programmes, such as our health units, hospital insurance and medicare or OMSIP.

I know there are other speakers who want to take part in this debate, and they will no doubt cover things that I might like to say. Let me conclude by saying that under the years we have had Progressive Conservative government in Ontario, Ontario has grown from four million to seven million people. Ontario has prospered as no other part of Can-

ada has prospered. The federal government recognizes this when it collects half the revenue from our province, and I suggest to the members of the two Opposition parties that while they have the responsibility of criticizing legislation, they should be aware of the basic fact that three million new people who have come to live in Ontario and half of the new industries in Canada that have established in Ontario are not all wrong, and a few politicians who would like to seek power, all right.

Mr. Speaker, I think when the day comes and people pass judgment on the record of this government, they will say, "Well done—carry on."

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin tell the House how many deals—in the formation of the new economic units of farms from uneconomic units, with the \$4 million there was to spend—were consummated last year in all Ontario?

Mr. L. M. Reilly (Eglinton): Is this question in order?

Mr. Sargent: He is talking about the ARDA programme and he does not know what he is talking about.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member has put forth a very general question for the member for Wellington-Dufferin, which he may care to answer or not.

Mr. Sargent: I want to know the answer.

Mr. Root: Mr. Speaker, I am not in the habit of giving figures off the top of my head. I want to have the actual figures—

Mr. Sargent: That is par for the course.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, before proceeding further, like the other hon. members who have risen to date I want to offer my congratulations to you. It has occurred to me that while you are sitting there you must have some opinions of your own as to the wit or pseudo-wit that passes back and forth between the members, and at many times you must be tempted to interject with what you would consider a far superior rebuttal. I feel, if I were in your position, I would find it most trying to sit there and not interject, and even try to restrain, on many instances so much as a smile. So, in your forbearance, I congratulate you and I hope you have many long years in the House.

I would also like to offer my congratulations to the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). I myself came into this House in a by-election and I appreciate the difficulties that one encounters in by-elections when all parties throw their biggest guns into the fray.

Mr. Speaker, last week I rose in this House to make an announcement which to me was a most joyous occasion. The joys soon turned to sorrow and you all know the circumstances which gave rise to both the joy and the sorrow. I read in the newspaper that the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) brought to the attention of this House the sorrow that befell us, and also the kind words that were spoken by the Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts). I want to thank all the members of this House for joining Mrs. Ben and I in our joy, and sharing our sorrow with us.

It was only after I returned to the House and spoke with many members here that I found out how many of them have been touched with similar sorrows in the past. It struck me at that time, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps it was a good thing that I did get up—as it turned out to be prematurely—for too often the government is considered to be some abstract being, which in crossword puzzles is called "esse" and has no connection with the humans behind it. They say that we are supposed to be a government of laws and not of men.

The way that we join in our joys and our deep sorrows indicates that we are not simply a government of laws but that we are a government of men and women, governed by laws; and I think that the more often this is brought to the attention of the men and women of this province, then perhaps the sooner they will have more respect for the responsibilities shouldered by the people here, and an appreciation that they face the same difficulties in their lives as do they themselves. I wish, on behalf of my wife and myself, Mr. Speaker, to express to the House through you our sincere appreciation of the expressions which we received from the members in this House.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there were 44 points touched upon by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, in the Speech from the Throne. One would under normal circumstances assume that, with 44 points, they would touch on almost every facet of living in this province. That is not quite the case. I think that the items which were omitted far exceeded in number the items that were included.

Today it would be impossible for one man to enumerate all the omissions in the Speech

from the Throne unless he took upon himself to use the rest of the time allocated to the Throne Speech. I would, however, like to bring up a few of the omissions.

The hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) yesterday spoke about Beltone, and contracts, and it brought into my mind the Latin maxim *caveat emptor*. This is an expression that was used either by the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) or the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) in a speech made recently, of which I received a text. I received those two speeches almost within days of each other and I am not certain to whom I should attribute this statement. But the speaker in this text pointed out that the maxim *caveat emptor* is no longer applicable in this modern day and age. I subscribe to those words.

Approximately two years ago I had occasion to give a short talk on radio with reference to this maxim and I would just like to read that to the House, Mr. Speaker. It is only a five-minute speech:

Picketing and non-violent sitdowns seem to be the fashion these days. Perhaps it is time the Canadian consumer took unto himself this form of persuasion and demanded that the federal and provincial governments pass legislation protecting them against misleading advertisements and the sale of shoddy goods.

And, Mr. Speaker, as an aside, I should say that I was happy to see that the women have taken upon themselves the modern tool of persuasion, by picketing, and some results are coming from it.

The maxim "buyer beware" has prevailed long enough. It is time for the seller to be aware, aware of his responsibility to the consumer.

Today the buyer cannot be aware, for too frequently he is forbidden from so doing by the seller. What once came in open barrels now comes in cellophane-wrapped boxes; what came in glass jars now comes in tin cans. The buyer cannot touch, taste, see or smell what he is buying. He must rely on the accuracy and honesty of what he reads in the papers, hears on the radio, or sees on television. Too often what he reads, hears or sees, bears no resemblance to the truth.

After he discovers he has been deceived, he can only fight with the merchant for the return of his money, or take the matter to court. Either course is unpleasant, a strain on the individual, and often expensive.

The Revised Statutes of Ontario contain 438 Acts which legislate on every subject from anatomies to the warble fly. There are Acts to protect infants, children, the mentally incompetent, and widows; the producers of fruit, grains, butter, hogs, and tobacco. But there is not a single statute designed to protect the consumer from fraudulent or deceptive business practices. The consumer must rely on the criminal code or the civil courts.

In the United States, citizens are more fortunate, at least in this respect. Since 1915 there has been in existence what is called the federal trade commission. This commission was set up to safeguard the consuming public by the promotion of free and fair competition through the prevention of price-fixing, combinations in restraint of trade, the dishonest labeling of wool and fur products, the dissemination of false or deceptive advertisements and other unfair or deceptive practices.

The commission itself has no authority to punish. Its function is prevention, through the issue of cease and desist orders, and the expression of opinions of advertisements and business practices submitted to it for approval. Although it has no authority to punish, its decisions, once they become final, are enforced by the courts and an offender may be subject to a penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each violation. Fines for subsequent offences can go as high as \$10,000 and each day that an offence continues is deemed a separate violation.

Because the decisions of the commission are enforced by the courts, it is seldom necessary for the commission to go that far, and most firms sign consent orders agreeing to cease and desist from the practice complained of.

It is time that Canada had a similar system, a federal department of consumer affairs, a department that would have not only the power to investigate on a complaint of a consumer, competitor, a federal or provincial or municipal agency, but also the power to issue cease and desist orders which, when they became final, would also receive the strong support of our courts.

The province should also completely rewrite The Sale of Goods Act to cover those transactions which come solely within its jurisdiction. It should cover not only the law governing contracts for the sale of goods but also the advertisements leading up to those contracts. Surely it is time

that honesty became a common business practice.

That, as I stated, Mr. Speaker, was made approximately two years ago.

At that time, I also advocated that there should be many amendments made, not only to The Sale of Goods Act but also to The Conditional Sales Act. It seems strange to me that there has been no mention made in the Speech from the Throne touching on The Conditional Sales Act.

The injustices complained of by the member for Parkdale actually arose out of conditional sales contracts. It is because very few people can read the fine print for, if they could, frankly they would qualify to be Philadelphia lawyers. It is my submission, Mr. Speaker, that it is high time that this government took steps to correct this deplorable situation.

One of the things it could do is to bring about an amendment to The Conditional Sales Act to provide that all conditional sales contracts, or perhaps even chattel mortgages or land mortgages, in fact all contracts where in a used car dealer, itinerant salesman, or his employer, or principal, is a party, should be on a form approved as to contents by The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs. In other words all such contracts should be standardized. In fact, this could apply to all contracts where entering into such contracts is in the regular course of business of the party thereto supplying the contract form. Any deviation from the approved form would make the contract voidable at the option of the person who bought the service or the article.

I think that The Conditional Sales Act should be further amended to provide that a promissory note, given as consideration under a conditional sales contract, could not be detached from the contract itself. Such a note would have to bear on its face in bold type a statement that it was given as consideration under a conditional sales contract. This would mean, Mr. Speaker, that no one could become a holder in due course of a promissory note given as consideration under a conditional sales contract.

Mr. Speaker, I am quite aware that bills of exchange and promissory notes come within the jurisdiction of the federal government, but conditional sales contracts do come within the jurisdiction of the province, and if a promissory note is part of the consideration given under conditional contract I submit it is within the jurisdiction of this province to

provide that such a promissory note could not be detached from the conditional sales contract itself and that it would have to bear on its face in bold type a notation—one might call it a watermark—that this note was given as consideration under a conditional sales contract. Many of the contracts that the member for Parkdale complained of were initiated through an unsolicited telephone call, usually by a woman with a really smooth voice.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre):
Sexy!

Mr. Ben: Some of the old people I doubt very much would be affected by the sexiness in the conversation. The hon. member who just spoke might be, but I do not think those who are hard of hearing would be that moved.

At any rate, it is my submission, Mr. Speaker, that any contract that starts with an unsolicited telephone call should be voidable within a specified period of time, because too often the person entering into the contract enters into it not because of the representations contained on that piece of paper which he eventually signs, but the representations made by that voice on the telephone, which in many instances, especially when it applies to magazines and other such articles, could be classified as it was by the member for Scarborough Centre as sexy. I, therefore, feel that contracts which started with an unsolicited telephone call should be made voidable.

Consideration could also be given to compelling telephone solicitors to keep a tape recording of the conversation which gave rise to that contract for a specified period of time. For instance, radio stations must keep a master reel on which are recorded the broadcasts made from day to day by the radio stations.

My colleague from Parkdale also made mention of a letter sent out trying to compel payment of the moneys outstanding under these contracts. I believe that too many people lose their jobs because these collection agencies write letters to the employers of the persons whom they are dunning for money. In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, the writing of letters by creditors or collection agencies to the employer of debtors ought to be outlawed. No person should be permitted to communicate with the debtor's employer until after a judgment has been obtained and the time for filing a notice of appeal has expired. I do not believe that the employee should be subject

to the possibility of having himself dismissed from employment by a claim which he deems to be fraudulent, or perhaps imperfect. When this happens it is no longer a creditor seeking to recover that which is due to him but it becomes extortion.

I also believe that wage assignments should be outlawed. To me there is no distinction between a credit union and any other lender and here I express my own opinion. I believe that credit unions should be treated just as any other banking and lending institution.

Speaking of collection agencies, I believe that it is time that the government took steps to regulate these phony collection agencies—these house agencies—which are not in fact collection agencies but simply an arm of the lender operating out of the same premises, operated by people who are paid by the lender.

Letters mailed to a debtor by collection agencies should be of a type, I believe, or with the content approved by The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

It is my opinion that it should not be a responsibility of the law society to police those agencies which give the impression they are legal firms.

I also believe that if an alleged debtor demands in writing of a collection agency that the matter be taken to court, the collection agency must either take the matter to court or cease harassing the alleged debtor. In other words, sue or forget about it, because the debtor is denying that he owes this money.

There have been some requests for legislation at different times, and much consideration of such proposed legislation in municipal councils, to permit municipal councils to legislate or to regulate fire sales, bankruptcy sales, moving sales, liquidation sales, auction sales and so on. Many of you have experienced seeing a neon sign advertising a liquidation sale that has been going on and off at the same establishment for years and years—at least I know in Toronto there are many such instances. These are not legitimate liquidation sales; they are not legitimate bankruptcy sales; they are not legitimate fire sales; and it is time that the public was protected against being hoodwinked by these phony sales. I do not know under which department it would fall—whether it would be under The Department of the Attorney General or The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, but some action should be taken in this regard.

Into this category I think would fall what are called investment counseling services. I think it is time that they were licensed. I do not believe that investment counseling services should be permitted to tout a stock held by the owner of such services or anyone in control or in a position of authority in such a service unless such stock is currently listed at not less than \$3 bid. I picked that figure out of the air, Mr. Speaker, because obviously if we preclude people who operate these services from buying any stock whatsoever or holding any stock, we are depriving them of a right enjoyed by some citizens. But if you put on some value which would prevent them from manipulating these penny stocks it would go far towards protecting many investors.

I also believe that consideration ought to be given to the licensing of what is commonly called in the trade "skip tracers". I do not know how they can be regulated but I believe they should be prevented from making false statements over the telephone that they are seeking long-lost relatives or that they must get in touch with the debtor because some relative is exceedingly ill, and any other obviously false misrepresentation. Probably in this regard the only way they could be controlled would be to licence them and compel them to keep recordings for a specified period of time, which recordings would indicate the nature of the conversation that ensued between the skip tracer and the person from whom he was seeking information.

Mr. Speaker, there are over 500,000 motor vehicles registered to the residents of Metropolitan Toronto. These are private motor vehicles only and does not include commercial motor vehicles. I would dare say the number is well over 510,000. Over 100 citizens of Metro Toronto lose their lives annually to these motor vehicles. I think it is high time that the provincial government—this government—recognized that the automobile is a lethal weapon and passed a motor vehicle Act to control the use of this weapon.

There are more lives lost through the use of automobiles than from the use of firearms, yet the restrictions governing the use of firearms are immeasurably more stringent than those covering the use of automobiles. Before one can buy firearms, one must obtain a licence to purchase. Before one can carry a firearm, one must establish a valid reason for so doing and be qualified in its use. A record is kept of the owner and a permit must be obtained to transfer the ownership. Why

should not as stringent a regulation apply to motor vehicles? Why should not a motor vehicle Act be passed to prevent unsafe automobiles being put into equally unsafe hands?

Section 49, subsection 1, of The Highway Traffic Act provides that when a used motor vehicle is sold by a dealer of used motor vehicles, the dealer shall deliver to the purchaser at the time of sale, a certificate of mechanical fitness signed by the dealer stating that the motor vehicle is or is not in a safe condition to be operated on a highway, and such certificate shall be on a separate form from any bill of sale or other document.

To the uninitiated, Mr. Speaker, this would imply that every motor vehicle sold by a used car dealer must be in a safe mechanical state. The section, however, does not state this. The certificate may state that the motor vehicle is not in a safe condition to be operated on a highway. The person buying the motor vehicle, however, even though he has this certificate, this written statement that this motor vehicle is not safe to be driven on a highway, can get behind the wheel, start the motor vehicle and drive away. This, notwithstanding section 48 of the Act, which states and I quote:

No person shall drive or operate or permit the driving or operation upon a highway of a vehicle that is in such a dangerous or unsafe condition as to endanger the driver or operator or any occupant thereof or any person upon the highway.

I wonder if the Minister of Highways could inform this House at some later date in this session just how many persons have been prosecuted for permitting a car, which they knew to be unsafe, to be driven on a public highway. I refer specifically, Mr. Speaker, to the used car dealers who issue the certificate and permit the buyer, in many instances a minor, to drive that unsafe motor vehicle onto the highway. Those figures I think will be of interest to us.

Why, in heaven's name, is this permitted? If a motor vehicle is unsafe to be driven on the highway, then obviously it should be kept off the highway. The Act ought to be amended to provide that a motor vehicle which does not have a certificate of fitness—and not just with reference to mechanical fitness, but I suggest physical, electrical and mechanical fitness—should be kept off the road until the owner of such an automobile does obtain a certificate of roadworthiness.

I believe that an amendment should be brought in which would make it compulsory

that if a motor vehicle is not entitled, because of its condition, to be certified as roadworthy, that the registrar of motor vehicles ought to be notified. This would then permit a person to buy a motor vehicle which is not roadworthy, haul it away to make the necessary repairs or adjustments to make it roadworthy, and then obtain his permit from The Department of Highways.

At the present time, there is little use of the certificate; and it is used in a fraudulent manner, Mr. Speaker, because a minor, who has the cash in his pocket—and nowadays minors do have cash in their pockets all the time, especially up in Yorkville—can come and inspect the car that appeals to him because of its appearance; so he is prepared to buy it. But the dealer says, "Well, look, I am sorry but I cannot give you a certificate of roadworthiness." He says, "Why not?" "Well, you see that tire on the left rear there," he says. "It is bald and we are afraid of it so we cannot give you a certificate of roadworthiness."

Well the young lad looks at the car and says, "I can pick up a good second-hand tire for about five bucks. I am getting a good buy here, I think I will take it anyway." So he buys the car and gets the certificate saying that the car is not fit to be on the highway; and he thinks he is being clever, that the only defect is that bald tire. But after he has driven it for a while he finds that the transmission is completely shot. So what happens? He is stuck, because the dealer gave him a certificate saying that the car was not in good mechanical shape.

I would ask you again, Mr. Speaker: How many accidents are caused because fenders, which are held on by nothing but rust, fall off? Or because the headlights are missing or non-existent? Or the seats are loose? Or the rear view mirror is broken or completely lacking? Or there is improper alignment of headlights? Or non-functioning tail lights? Or a brake pedal missing? Or rubber on a brake pedal missing? Or a tire from which most of the rubber is missing? All these things cause accidents.

It is not sufficient that the certificate states simply that the car is mechanically, or is not mechanically, fit for the highway. The certificate should state unequivocally that the automobile is in condition physically, mechanically, and electrically to be operated safely on the highway. If such certificate has not been given by a licensed mechanic then the department should be notified. And the transfer of the ownership of that motor vehicle, in a manner that would permit it to be

operated on a highway, should be held back until such time as it is put in mechanical shape.

Anyone owning an aircraft—and two members who do own aircraft in this House have left—anyone owning an aircraft must keep a complete log showing the hours that the aircraft was airborne, listing the dates and nature of all inspections or repairs made to the aircraft. I ask myself: Why could not the same regulations apply to an automobile?

I have been informed that the Attorney General has rejected such a submission on a number of occasions. It seems strange to me that this suggestion should be rejected, that it should receive such light consideration. After all, Mr. Speaker, almost every automobile manufacturer now advertises in big bold type—the kind they should have on some of these conditional sales contracts—that there is a 50,000 mile warranty. Every new automobile that is sold in this province carries, in the glove compartment, a warranty booklet which entitles the owner of the automobile to have so many periodic inspections.

Why cannot the motor vehicle manufacturer put a log book in that same glove compartment? And why should it not be compulsory for the gasoline station operator, or the motor mechanic, or the body repair man, to make an entry into that log every time any repairs are done to that automobile, any time it receives services in the way of oil change or lubrication? I see no reason why it should not be done. After all, the motor mechanic, or the body shop operator, or the service station operator, takes time to make out the bill for these repairs; it takes time to make out the work order for them; so why should he not enter this into the book? Why shouldn't everybody be entitled to know just what kind of treatment the automobile he is being asked to purchase received, and who the previous owners were, including their ages and occupations?

Mr. Speaker, in the year 1961—now this is something else I did two years ago—there were 85,577 automobile accidents reported in Ontario; 1,268 people were killed and 37,146 injured. Property damage cost almost \$40 million. Many of these lives could have been saved and many of these injuries obviated, and much of the \$40 million could have been unpaid, if this government brought in proper legislation to govern the use and sale and operation of a motor vehicle. I saw nothing in the Speech from the Throne that would, in any way, even suggest that there would be some changes in that regard.

Mr. Speaker, sitting on this side of the House, I am a Liberal. I pride myself on being a Liberal. What distinguishes a Liberal from others is that we are prepared to acknowledge that a change is a step forward. Accordingly, I am prepared to acknowledge that this government has taken a step forward in the introduction of its home-ownership-made-easy legislation and I am prepared to applaud it as being a step forward. But another thing that distinguishes a Liberal from others is that he is always prepared to criticize that which exists; and, once the change is made, it becomes that which exists and we are prepared to criticize it.

Statements have been made in the press and in this House as to how long it will take before this programme can get on the road—or off the floor—I forget the expression which was used. In the newspapers, it was suggested that because of the red tape that prevails in the approval of new subdivisions and the introduction and installation of sewers and other services, it would be five years before this programme could get under way.

The hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) has indicated that they are so far advanced that they can have this programme under way almost immediately or, at any rate, within two years. I am not prepared to argue which of those figures is accurate. I simply accept that Rome was not built in a day and neither will homes, but it is going to take some time to get this programme rolling.

The fact remains, Mr. Speaker, that the needs are immediate, that the needs can neither wait two years nor five years to be alleviated or to be solved; action has to be taken now. We are quite aware, according to statements made in this House, that 90,000 people are coming into the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto annually. This is a greater influx than there was at any time during the last war. During the last war, we deemed the situation to be an emergency and regulations were passed which suspended for the duration of the war the operation of zoning, and restrictive by-laws.

I do believe that consideration ought to be given, in a restricted way to suspending the zoning by-laws in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. I say in a restricted way, because I am not advocating absolute and outright suspension of these by-laws. The fact remains, Mr. Speaker, that there are many in the city of Toronto who are living in R-1 areas—that, is, in single family areas

—where a home is occupied by only a man and a woman—a couple. This is either because they have no children or they have reached the age where their children have grown up and have left. They may even be the recipients of old age assistance. They desire to remain in that home.

If we were to suspend the operation of the zoning by-laws, conditionally upon the owner of that dwelling agreeing to rent his spare accommodation at not more than a predetermined and fixed maximum rental, we would have these effects:

We would bring into being to help solve the housing shortage in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto—and I am prepared to be contradicted on this figure because it is just my “guesstimate”—approximately 10,000 units. By bringing these units into immediate existence, we would be relieving a good part of this shortage. By having a fixed rental for these accommodations, we would be enabling the people who rent them to save money toward a down payment so that they could eventually buy their own home.

Many of the people who own these homes and must use them as a single family dwelling are, as I pointed out, on fixed incomes, so that this controlled rental coming in from renting their surplus accommodation would act as a subsidy to subsidize their own income from their old age assistance or other pensions that they might have.

Mr. Speaker, the other members of the House may not be as familiar with this report as you are, but recently there was what was called the Eglinton district appraisal. It was one of a number of appraisals carried out in the city of Toronto to determine what use should be made of given areas in the future. Although in the city of Toronto, as elsewhere, there is a serious shortage of schoolrooms, the Eglinton appraisal pointed out that in the area covered by this appraisal there was going to be a surplus of school space within the coming decade.

The reason for this, I think, is rather obvious: In the Eglinton appraisal area, the people are slightly more affluent than they would be in the extreme south end of the city and they have been living there longer than people in other areas have been occupying their homes. In other words, the moving van does not come up the street as often in Mr. Deputy Speaker's district or riding as it does in, say, my riding; there is more stability in his riding. But at any rate, the children of these parents have grown up and married and have moved to the suburbs to raise their own

families, leaving just the father and the mother in a six-room and sometimes in an eight-room house.

The result is that the children who would have been occupying those schoolrooms are now seeking space in the suburbs, whereas down in the core of the city, in the downtown area, space is at a premium. If we could make use of some of this surplus accommodation in these R-1 areas—say, in the Eglinton area—we would have adequate school space for the children who are brought in. At the same time, it would relieve the pressure on the schools downtown and make it unnecessary to build so many portables or to put up so many new schools. So that would be another benefit that would flow from a temporary suspension of these zoning by-laws.

One might say that this is an affair of the municipalities and they should be prepared to do it. Well, during the war when the wartime prices and trade board came into being, the federal government passed legislation which suspended the operation of these by-laws. Everybody recognizes that the municipalities are the creatures of this government and it is completely within the power of this government to do something in that regard, especially in the Metropolitan Toronto area. I would strongly suggest that the government give consideration to doing something in this regard as an interim measure. The suspension would only be for a fixed period of say, from two to four or five years, depending on the time necessary to really get this HOME programme going and off the ground.

While we are speaking on this HOME programme, I cannot help but bring Prudential into this matter, because the government likes to play with initials, so I thought I would do a little playing with initials also. Mr. Speaker, perhaps you might have a better appreciation of this than most others do, but if you take the “N” from NONG, the “A” from Atlantic, and the “P” from Prudential, you get the word “NAP.” That is what the government has been taking for the last five or ten years.

If you take the initial “R” from Racan, and the initial “A” from Atlantic and the initial “P” from Prudential, you get the word “RAP.” That is what the electors are going to give this government in the next election. Now if you take the initial “P” from Prudential and the initial “A” from Atlantic and the letter “N” from NONG, you get the word

"PAN". That is where they are right now, in a frying pan. But so, of course, are a lot of poor unfortunate investors.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): The hon. member cannot offer the word "stupid" can he?

Mr. Ben: If you take the "W" from Windfall, the "R" from Racan, the "A" from Atlantic and the "P" from Prudential, it spells "WRAP". And electors in the next election are going to wrap up this government, the way we do our refuse in Etobicoke, and are going to toss it in the garbage can of oblivion, and there is going to be a new government here next year.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East): The Speech from the Throne indicated that this government will present programmes to provide adequate housing, redevelopment, and so on. I'm certainly pleased to hear this. It is indeed needed.

I want first to speak about the progress which the Ontario housing corporation is making in Hamilton because that is the area with which I am familiar. The Ontario housing corporation was created in August, 1964. According to the reports in the *Hamilton Spectator* of January 7, 1967, the city of Hamilton, in mid-1965, requested 400 housing units and asked for 500 more on November 7. Of the 400 units first requested, only 46 had been built by the end of 1966.

Mr. Douglas Beasley, director of development for Ontario housing corporation, told the city of Hamilton's housing committee on January 6, 1967, that construction of 47 more units would begin immediately. Presumably the contract has been let on these units. Then, he said, a contract would soon be let for 14 more units and they were going to call for proposals or tenders for a further 16 units. This call was issued on January 9, 1967, with a later call on January 25, 1967, for 15 more units. He advised that Ontario housing corporation was discussing a proposal to erect 100 more units—still in the talking stage, you see.

It all boils down to 46 units available to meet the 603 requests for family units in Hamilton—actually not that, because the 46 units would have been filled on completion and the 603 requests are still on file. To give you an idea of the rapid growth in housing demands, Hamilton received 108 requests in the last month of 1966.

In one-and-a-half years, only 46 units were completed. In three years, it is expected

to have 223 units—only slightly more than half the original request for 400—and nothing in sight to meet the second request for 500 more units. In addition to these family housing needs, Hamilton has 613 requests for senior citizen accommodation. The real need is probably much greater since—because it is common knowledge that there is a long waiting list—many consider it useless to make application.

Mr. Beasley said, if plans proceeded as scheduled, 625 senior citizen units would be available in 18 months. What are these people to do in the meantime? How or when are the new requests, which come in so rapidly, to be met?

Last fall, in September 1966, the late Mr. Ken Soble, as chairman of Ontario housing corporation, told a committee, of which I was a member, that when the corporation was created it set itself a goal of 12,000 units of family and senior citizen housing over the next three years. I was rather interested in his explanation of how Ontario housing corporation arrived at this goal of 12,000 units and perhaps it will be of interest to the members here today.

I had read the study by the Ontario association of housing authorities, entitled *Good Housing for Canadians*, published in 1964, and they state that:

An appraisal of housing need has necessitated a rather complex analysis of changes in the housing stock, and of population growth and change.

They went on to break this down into three sections:

Section 1—The Theory of Housing Need.

Subsection 1—the meaning of need and demand;

2—population growth;

3—elderly persons and their housing needs;

4—changes in the housing stock;

5—the physical components of housing need;

6—the economic component of housing need.

Section 2—General Housing Need.

Subsection 1—analysis of existing housing need and production, 1951-1961;

2—general housing need forecast, 1961-1980.

Section 3—Low Income, Elderly Housing Need.

Subsection No. 1—low income housing need, 1961;

2—forecast of low income housing need, 1961-1980.

I would have naturally assumed that some similar profound study had caused Ontario housing corporation to arrive at this figure of 12,000 units, had Mr. Soble not, somewhat artlessly, volunteered the information that: "This figure was chosen", he thought, "mostly because it happened to be the number of housing units that had been created in all of Canada in the previous 15 years."

I must say it is a rather unique method for a responsible organization to use in computing the housing needs of Ontario. I have grave doubts of its accuracy and, if they don't get with it and complete their discussions and start building, I have even graver doubts that they will in fact accomplish even this dubious goal. I suppose, if Ontario housing corporation can grab a figure out of Canadian records, anyone could enter this fun game. So I did a little figuring myself, and perhaps my figures might be even more accurate since they at least start with a known factor.

According to the *Canadian Almanac* of 1967, Hamilton has a population of 273,991. Its housing needs were 900 family units, exclusive of senior citizens, in 18 months—or one-third of one per cent of its population. I don't think Hamilton needs would vary much from that of any other large city so, applying the formula of one-third of one per cent to Toronto's population of 672,407, they would need 2,241 family units; and Ottawa, with a population of 268,206, would require 894.

Hamilton's senior citizens required approximately two-thirds the number of family units needed so, if we total Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa family unit needs, we arrive at 4,035 plus two-thirds of this total for senior citizen units, which is 2,690 for a total of 6,725 units in 18 months. If we double this for 36 months' needs, these three cities alone would require 13,450 or 1,450 more units than Ontario housing corporation's guesstimate for all of Ontario.

I am not prepared to say my figures are right but at least they stand as good a chance as those arrived at by Ontario housing corporation and if you apply the one-third-of-one-per-cent formula to Metro Toronto, I would be almost dead on because the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald) stated a few days ago that on December 31, 1966, Metro Toronto had 5,654 family unit

applications and I would have named 6,081 as being needed.

That's an example of fun with figures, but people are not figures, they are human beings and their needs are very real. Mr. Beasley suggested that Hamilton's requests were not accurate and that Ontario housing corporation wanted to conduct a survey to find out if the city's second request for 500 additional units was needed. I would say that at the speed with which they are building the first 400 units requested, they will have ample time to make such a survey in depth. If their surveys proceed at the same pace as their construction, Mr. Beasley and Ontario housing corporation will find a far greater need facing them on completion of such a survey, which Hamilton's committee has apparently been persuaded to request, than the current requests from Hamilton.

I would like to move on to urban renewal, though still in the field of housing. We have started two areas of urban renewal. Buildings have been demolished and land cleared and while many houses have disappeared, not one new house has been built in these areas. However, a pilot project in one of these areas, of purchasing and renovating four older homes at an average cost of \$14,700, would seem to have merit. At least they provided shelter for four families within four months of purchase. I have no idea where or how the many other people who were uprooted from their homes in these districts have been relocated. These areas, I hasten to point out, are not in the riding which I represent or I would know. But I am really concerned about the method used when such sharp dislocation could be avoided.

I was interested in observing the solution to this problem of dislocation which Vancouver has found and which I would recommend highly. I think their method should be a condition for municipalities receiving financial aid from the province of Ontario.

Before they demolish houses, they find new accommodation in the area. In their MacLean Park redevelopment they first erected living accommodation on the park land, relocated the residents in these homes before demolishing their substandard housing. They proceeded in this manner, ending by relocating the park in the last section to be demolished. The only dislocation experienced by these people was moving a block or two away unless they voluntarily chose otherwise.

This technique could well be used in almost every area subject to renewal. If, for instance, a factory or other non-residential building

was to be torn down they could do that first and relocate people there without uprooting them from their familiar surroundings. How much more sensible this method is.

Then there are those who own homes in areas slated for redevelopment at a later date or who are in the path of proposed new access roads. I know of several such cases personally and I can understand their concern. These are homes in every sense of the word. Their owners had planned to live their lives out here. Their financial future was based on these plans. Now what do they have to look forward to? There is no doubt that they will have their homes expropriated. Will they receive sufficient compensation to permit them to purchase the same size of dwelling without facing extra costs and probably being forced to take on mortgage payments when they are about to reach retirement age? What alternative do they have but to wait in fearful anticipation of economic hardship at some indefinite time in the future?

Certainly they cannot sell and receive current prices. True, they might dispose of their property for a low price to land speculators but how would this help them to relocate without added cost? They are caught in the wheels of progress. There is no way out for them unless expropriation payments are made on the basis of replacement value at current rates. It does no good to say they can get a newer house and it's worth facing a mortgage. They just will not be able to meet this extra cost. In many cases these homes represent a couple's life savings. If the house was larger than their present needs they could gain additional income by duplexing or renting a room or two. They can see their plans for their old age going down the drain. Many of these homes are well-built, attractive buildings in good repair, although located in areas of substandard dwellings, but perhaps they will not fit into the redevelopment picture and they will come down along with the substandard houses.

Then we have the other side of the coin in Hamilton in the downtown core where substandard would be a flattering description. A fire in one of these buildings, which fortunately was contained, kicked off an investigation by the Hamilton fire department of the stores and the apartments and rooms rented above them. Their investigations revealed fire hazards so great that it was almost a miracle that this fire had not swept the whole block of stores and apartments, causing a tragic loss of life and much property damage.

Because the apartments and housekeeping rooms over these stores have very low rents—something like \$30 to \$60 a month, although in terms of conditions and danger they are extremely dear—they are occupied mainly by low-income families and aged and disabled persons trying to live on their pensions. They are afraid to complain in many cases, lest they be given notice to vacate even these poor shelters. I would guess that perhaps 75 to 100 adults and children are housed here. A more extensive investigation of the downtown area indicates that 500 to 1,000 people dwell in similar conditions.

Should a fire break out, imagine these people trying to escape by means of narrow old outside fire escapes with drop ladders ending perhaps five feet above the ground. The aged and infirm occupants would never be able to leave the buildings by these means. They would be trapped till firemen could evacuate them with their equipment.

There is no central heating system in these buildings and each tenant heats his own dwelling by methods ranging from gas space heaters, cooking stoves and ovens, portable electric heaters, Quebec stoves and so on. The wiring is the outdated knob and tube type; a lack of wall plugs results in the multiple use of extension cords, and the use of oversize fuses is common. Rooms have been divided and cracked plaster walls repaired with wall board that is not fireproof. In many cases, entrance to basements is not possible outside of store hours, except by breaking in.

Owners have been served notice to correct these dangerous conditions or to evict their tenants. How is it that even an owner would permit his property to fall into this state of disrepair? One instance I heard of returns an annual income of \$4,800, with taxes of \$800, and I guess it was more desirable to make \$4,000 a year profit than to spend anything in upkeep and repair.

In many cases, the properties are managed by trust companies and some of these, I learn, are having difficulty contacting the owners who are wintering in sunny southern climates. I do not object to making a bit of money myself and I would certainly enjoy spending some of the cold winter months in a nice warm climate but I don't want to do it by endangering the lives of other human beings.

Although it was made in a slightly different connection, I draw your attention to a statement made in the study: Good Housing for Canadians:

No private property can persist in a condition that constitutes a threat to the public health, safety and general welfare.

The fire department is to be congratulated for following this principle.

If the owners refuse to bring these buildings up to proper standards, the city of Hamilton will have no difficulty proving to the Ontario housing corporation that it has not only need of the units already requested but must now find shelter for up to 1,000 more people. Hamilton's welfare department has expressed grave concern and it was pointed out that money allowed for groceries was having to be used in many cases to meet the rents for even this type of shelter.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I have gone into this situation at some length because I am sure it exists in other cities and towns. These people would probably not have registered for public housing because even these subsidized rentals might be beyond their means. Their plight dramatically demonstrates the urgent need for low-rent housing that exists in Ontario today.

I do not think that Ontario housing corporation or this government can rejoice in their accomplishments in the field of public housing. This is not a time for complacency—it is a time for action.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. L. M. Hodgson (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, this is the third occasion, I believe, when I have taken part in the Throne Debate in the Legislature of Ontario, and I thank the hon. members for a courteous hearing in the past and hope that I can make a contribution to the life of Ontario and the work of the Legislature at this time.

I would like now, as is traditional in this debate, to congratulate you on the conduct of the House from your office. Also I would like, on behalf of members, to thank you for the courtesy and availability of your office at any time we have a problem we want to bring to you, or to get an opinion from you; for this we are certainly grateful, sir.

I would also, at this time, like to welcome my seatmate on my left, the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), and thank him for his accomplishments in the past year in his contribution to the Conservative Party and to the government. We certainly like to have additions of this nature and I am sure that he is welcomed by all members of the House.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: Of course, since we were here in the previous session, there have been some changes in the Cabinet. As private members, we are pleased to see the new people coming into the administration of the province of Ontario. We look forward to their work in the next number of years, and the contributions they will make to the growth and to the life of this province.

The Throne Speech—the subject we are now discussing—has been recognized as a “programme for people.” I might point out to the House that the Progressive Conservative Party in Ontario has been known for some years as the people's party, and I would say that is only traditional and right that the present government would bring forward a programme of this type.

During the past few years, the Robarts government has provided a programme for our cities' progress—an opportunity unmatched, I believe, in any jurisdiction in North America.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: As we read the foreign press, and learn of the problems of United States cities the central core versus the suburban districts—the deterioration of one and the proliferation of growth in the other, and the resulting problems—I would like to point out that our government has continually carried forward an enlightened approach to the administration of our large cities.

In my own borough of the metropolitan area, the borough of Scarborough, I would say that there have been more provincial services and facilities provided in the past four years than in the whole history of that area. I might point out that the people of Scarborough are grateful for this.

In Scarborough, from 1963 to 1966, provincial grants and loans for hospital construction have been in the order of \$11 million. These grants were for the construction of a new hospital—the Scarborough Centenary—and the expansion of the Scarborough General.

In 1967, Scarborough will have available 1,100 hospital beds. In the main, this was brought about by increased provincial grants and assistance provided by a government that is alert and aware of our local needs.

In 1967, the area from Dunbarton west to Hamilton will be served by Canada's newest experiment in mass transportation. GO

transit will provide convenient rail transportation for our people into and out of the downtown core of Metro.

Industry in suburban areas will now be able to attract employees from a much wider area than previously because of the convenient transportation.

I might say, sir, that in the development of GO transit we quite frequently think just of getting downtown in a hurry; but I think that when the industries of the suburban areas are trying to attract skilled people the broadening of their areas to attract these people will be a great thing. We in Scarborough look forward to this new service and it is our hope that reasonable rates will be established to allow the greatest possible use.

Again, to document some of the benefits to our area, from this government, one has only to look at the assistance provided to mass transportation. A few years ago, when it was recognized that rapid transit was essential to take our people across Metro to work, this government provided a grant for the laying of roadbed for subway lines. These grants make it possible to have the east-west subway terminate in Scarborough at an early date.

Along the same lines, 50 per cent provincial grants for expressway construction and Metro roads have advanced convenient motor transport in Metro. In past years, the province of Ontario has provided Metro with Highway 401, now under the process of being widened. In a general sense, 401 is Main Street, Metro, and not just a through highway by-pass.

Mr. Speaker, a few days ago, I had the privilege of attending the official opening of the Scarborough Centennial college of applied arts and technology. This college makes available to the people of eastern Metro a new scope in education. Our young people entering the labour force will have greater skills and competence when they enter the mainstream of Ontario life. Their contribution to Ontario will be much enhanced by the experience gained at Scarborough Centennial college. I might also point out that this is a 100 per cent provincial institution.

I would like to point out further, that in a recent issue of *Time* magazine, a pictorial feature set out the wonderful new Scarborough college of the University of Toronto. This college, established in the historic Highland Creek region, adds much to the academic and social life of our borough. It is interesting to note that the provincial capital contribution to this college is certainly substantial.

Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to make comment on each of the 44 points of progress for the people as set out in the Speech from the Throne on January 25—

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): There is not much to comment about.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: It is an amazing thing that a guideline such as the Speech from the Throne can be prepared, and members will consistently say, "nothing there; nothing there!" I would ask them to look at the legislative programme of this government for the last four years. I would say that the programme for people has been well reported by our press gallery, and the editorial comment has been favourable, and I am quite sure that the people of Ontario are aware of the area into which we intend to go in the future.

It is obvious that the programme for this session of Parliament will take Ontario to a new plateau in progress. I might say in my opinion, that the highlight of the Throne Speech is HOME—Home Ownership Made Easy. I have been aware of the housing problem throughout Ontario for some time and I am sure that, under the leadership of our hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), this programme will provide more housing at a reasonable cost.

I would like to have made a fairly long contribution on the HOME programme at this time, and its results in terms of how our people will benefit, but I think in view of the various meetings that are taking place we would probably be better to wait until a later date.

A provision in the Throne Speech for assistance for those expropriated from their homes, for the good of the community as a whole, deserves special attention. It is my hope that this assistance goes much beyond the provision of relocation of the expropriated. The Expropriations Act has been revised in this province many times but I do not believe that it answers all the needs of the people of Ontario. I would like, and I would suggest, that the government look into this Act and once and for all come up with a method of expropriation that is more satisfactory to our people.

Along these lines, sir, I would like to suggest that the basis of compensation should be set down by statute or regulations, so that anyone expropriated from their home or land will not be worse off because of such expropriation. I think that the Legislature has a responsibility here, because what is happen-

ing is that we are expropriating rather modest homes—this has happened in my riding—and probably the market value of these homes is only \$8,000 or \$9,000.

When these people get paid, they then have to look for new accommodation—and, sir, the availability of getting a house in the \$8,000, \$9,000 and \$10,000 range in this area is next to impossible. So we find people, in their later years, being expropriated for the good of the whole community and being relocated and having to take on a mortgage, probably at the time in life when these obligations should be covered.

I would suggest further, sir, that assistance should be provided to the expropriated party to cover any reasonable legal costs in arriving at a just settlement. I would suggest further that financial assistance be given with a view to having a professional appraisal made of the property that is being expropriated. These are costs that an expropriated person has to assume and they are not being compensated for them.

I would suggest that a hearing of necessity be held before the municipal board, or some other appropriate body, on the application of any three property owners expropriated under one order, or if there are fewer than three properties being expropriated, then any one could request a hearing. The present legislation indicates that we set down who can have the hearing. I think that people should have this choice.

I would suggest further that where an expropriating body has conducted an appraisal by a licensed appraiser, the initial offer not be less than the amount of this appraisal. What is happening is that we will have expropriating bodies take an appraisal of a property by a licensed appraiser, they will accept his value as being realistic in their terms and then they will go to the people and try to enter into negotiations. But they will start off at ten or 15 per cent less than the appraiser said—in other words, what their experts tell them the property is worth. Then they say they are negotiating. What are they negotiating with? They are negotiating with the property owner's own money.

I would suggest also that when negotiations are under way between an expropriating authority and an expropriated property owner, that the expropriating authority's appraisal should be available to the expropriated party. What happens here is that we have people trying to enter into serious negotiations about recognized compensation, but the expropriated

cannot find out from the expropriating body on what basis they are trying to make an assessment.

I would like to carry forward in a broad sense a recommendation that was contained in the select committee report on The Expropriation Act in 1959. It is that in the case of non-elected bodies expropriating properties, bodies that are not directly responsible to the people, the expropriation be carried out by a provincial government agency and I would suggest that this agency be set up under The Department of the Attorney General. This would bring a uniform approach to expropriation across the province. At the present time we have hundreds of bodies expropriating, using various methods and various people and sometimes causing great confusion.

Finally, sir, I would like to suggest that when possession is demanded by an expropriating body, 100 per cent of the appraised value be given to the expropriated person. At the present time under section 18 of The Expropriations Act, they are only required to give over 50 per cent. But when we are talking about homes where a standard mortgage is two thirds, they are not even clearing off the mortgage, and yet they are displacing a person from their home.

To move on to another point, I would like to spend a moment and talk about the Ontario heritage foundation. I think that anything we can do to preserve and reflect the historical, architectural, aesthetic and cultural accomplishments of our people will be of great benefit to those who come after us. Along these lines I would say that more should be done to encourage citizens of Ontario to write their biographies and contribute to the history of this province.

Recently I had the privilege of reading *Farmer Premier* by E. C. Drury, a former Prime Minister of Ontario. It was very enlightening to have the chance to look at that period of Ontario history from 1919 to 1923. One of the great messages, I think, in his book was his explanation of the difficulty of third parties in gaining political power and after having gained power, in maintaining it. One of his problems when elected was that he had a narrow-based political party and its members came primarily from the agricultural community. This was his strength, but it also was his great weakness.

In his speech accepting the office of Prime Minister, he pointed out to the people assembled there that his government came from a narrow base, with approximately 22 per cent of the popular vote, and that they

would have to broaden out to attract a cross-section of the people of the province. In other words, they would have to develop a programme for all people. This, sir, was the beginning of his problems. The United Farmers immediately attacked him for his broadening-out policy and eventually this led to his downfall and his lack of confidence and rapport with his own people.

I would say, sir, that we have a narrow-based third party in the House today, which through manipulation of the polls feels confident that it is on the verge of political power.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): We do not manipulate the polls.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: I did not say anything was wrong with the polls. I would appreciate it if the member would listen to what I said.

Mr. Bryden: Well the facts are there.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: I would point out that traditionally the people of Ontario have always given their support to the broad-based party that formulates programmes for people in all walks of life—that is the party that is maintained over a reasonable period of time.

So as we enter into this time of testing, which I assume will be in 1967, I can only say to that third party: Watch out; programmes for the total society will weaken your base.

In conclusion, sir, I would say that is the question that the people of Ontario will be asking themselves and I think they will be answering it in the affirmative and supporting a party of progress—the people's party.

Mr. G. T. Gordon (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, there being only four minutes left for this debate today, is it your wish that I carry on for four minutes or that we go to the private members' hour or shall I call it five o'clock?

Mr. Speaker: I would think perhaps the member should adjourn the debate if he has a fairly lengthy address.

Mr. Gordon: I certainly could not say very much in five minutes.

Mr. Speaker: No. I would suggest that the member adjourn the debate.

Mr. Gordon moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury) moves second reading of Bill 9, An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, in embarking upon my remarks this late part of a Wednesday afternoon, I reflect that sometimes it is difficult to get a crowd to discuss a matter that is of very keen importance to the land area that approximates four-fifths of the geographic area of this province. I am delighted, however, to see, and I say hastily, that the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), who is most intimately concerned with this bill, is in his seat. Indeed, the new and fresh young face of the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) is in his place, and he has in the past played an important part in the matters that I am about to discuss. The hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) has come to his place and he, too, is very deeply concerned about these very anxious and grievous problems with which I am going to deal.

My bill seeks to repeal subsection 5 of section 35 of The Assessment Act, and if I may rapidly read it, that subsection says:

The bill means plans and machinery in, on, or under mineral land and used mainly for obtaining minerals from the ground, or storing the same in concentrators, and sampling plant, and subject to subsection 10, the minerals in, on, or under such land are not assessable.

In short, sir, as I have expounded many times in this House to the patient ears of members who have listened to me since 1959, at least twice a year I have drawn the attention of the House to the very grievous and distressing financial problems of the city of Sudbury, which I have the honour to represent here, has to face continuously from year to year because of its deprivation of ability to tax the large mining industry that exists within the Sudbury basin. Indeed, sir, there is no area in the world I would venture to say, other than northeastern Ontario, where the digging of riches out of the ground is so lucrative as in that part of this province. That is to say, no other people are blessed by a bountiful providence with the store of mineral riches that we have in northern Ontario. The issue is, of course, so far as obtains to the 750,000 or more people who live in that part of Ontario, that the benefits and the wealth and the profits that accrue from the development of these resources go out of the area and fall into the hands of others.

My case, sir, in asking for the repeal of this subsection, is a plea for simple justice, and there is nothing more or less or short of that in the proposition I put forward in this House as a matter of principle. The section sought to be repealed was first enacted in the Ontario statutes in 1910. It exempted mining companies from paying their share of municipal taxes. After 57 years it is, in my respectful opinion, I say through you to the Minister of Municipal Affairs—after almost 60 years it is outmoded and archaic and violates a basic principle that every person, including the human person and the body corporate, should pay his or its share of municipal taxation.

This section might have been suitable in an era when mining exploration and development was a hazardous and risky adventure, such as in Cobalt when that camp, which I found the place of my birth—or my mother found the place of my birth—was in its early stages, at the time that the northland railway was being put through and the store of silver wealth was discovered in the area. At that time mining was hazardous and risky. The geological nature of the Laurentian shield is such that it takes a great deal of expense, energy and exploration to determine the presence of a large and economically profitable ore body.

But, sir, I suggest to you that that situation is no longer applicable in northern Ontario, where the mining industry is now established in many areas in a very sophisticated state. That is true of Sudbury, which is really not a mining community at all, in the old and accepted sense that Cobalt and Teck township, the “golden mile” at Teck township, the township of Tisdale, South Porcupine, and some other areas were 60 years ago.

It is industrialized to the extent that Hamilton or Sault Ste. Marie are industrial communities. It is only really incidental that the people, who find their employment and their sustenance in that community, go under the ground to moil in the ground in that very large ore body and then prepare the ores for their eventual processing in the refineries and the concentrators, and eventually through the smelter to the state where they can be used in an industrial way.

The same is true about Texas Gulf—the Texas Gulf ore body will be developed eventually to that highly sophisticated state that is now applicable in Sudbury; the same applies to the Sherman Mine deposits at Timagami, and the Griffiths Mine deposit in the riding of the hon. member for Kenora

(Mr. Bernier), along the Red Lake road. So the basic point I make is that, looking from the office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs where he can see things—and I think he is fairly high up in the Whitney Block, and he can get a panoramic view looking from his office—I suggest that he visualize over the horizon the vast expanse of northern Ontario he sees up there now, these industrialized communities where activity takes place, as being not fundamentally dissimilar from the activities of other people and workers in industries or industrial plants in the southern part of the province.

Therefore that leads me to make the very basic proposition that there is no reason, in good sense and logic in 1967, why this government ought to continue to treat the mining industry in this specialized way. Of course, I am not unique in holding these views. In fact, I can say, I cannot recall, at any time in the past, in the environment of the city of Sudbury, where there has been a greater unanimity of view about the injustice that we continue to undergo as a result of this archaic legislation on the statute books of the province.

Surely Air Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway, and other forms of transportation, have had their profits increased by the steady flow of delegations that have come from the city of Sudbury to the office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, perhaps to the chamber of the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrobe), and indeed to the highest precincts of the whole administration here, the outer rooms of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) himself—in order to make their plea and make their case. The Sudbury branch of the chamber of commerce has been worried for many years; and year after year they have made representations to the responsible members of the executive council about this continued injustice.

We had the advantage a few years ago—it has not been repeated unhappily because I enjoyed it—but we had the unequalled pleasure of having a visit of the executive council themselves; most of them came to our community. I believe that was in 1965. It might have been the year previous, but I think it was two years ago, when they came there. At that time the city of Sudbury, having created a committee to look into this, presented an official brief of the city to the Ministry pointing out the inequities and the burdens upon individual homeowners in that community.

One of the things—and I am not going to dwell upon the many things in that brief—but one of the things they said was that if you live in Sudbury you pay 20 per cent more taxes than in 29 other municipalities in the province. That is to say you pay a fifth more. Well, the Minister of Municipal Affairs quarreled with that proposition and I thought he quarreled with it very cavalierly. I thought he adopted a very high and mighty attitude about it, and I can recall his reaction in the House to it. He made some scathing comment which I took home, and I feel entitled to take home the comments from here that are made by the Ministry. He made some scathing comments about the—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): It is the member's duty.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, the member for Downsview says it is my duty and I will try to carry it out.

He made what I thought was a very cavalier comment—I am not going to get into an atmosphere of humour about this, it is too serious, it is too painfully serious. But he made some reflection on the calibre of the accountants—the same accountants who had been hired by the government, as my friend the member for Downsview will recall some years ago, to look into the affairs of another municipality—the firm of Demera, Demera and Parisiene. That is the way he passed it off. Then there was some difficulty about what was to be done with the brief, and some dispute arose between the city and the Prime Minister about what the Prime Minister had said about it. I am not going to dwell upon that. But the point is that responsible people in the community have brought this issue home to the government on many an occasion and the reflection in real terms is this, that the ordinary worker in Sudbury, making something less than \$6,000 a year at the very strenuous and arduous and risky work of working underground, has to pay up to 10 per cent of his income in municipal taxes.

I know this for a fact from having talked to many of these people who live in these five-room bungalows and they have told me about their taxes. I asked them what their tax bill is and the reply is that it is somewhere between \$450 and \$500. Bear in mind that these people have to pay income tax upon that impost. On the balance of the money, of course, they have to struggle as best they can to support their families and

give them the rudiments of a decent standard of living.

These are good people that I speak for, these are the law-abiding people who make up the warp and woof of this nation, these are the people who work hard, obey the law, pay their taxes, send their children to brownies or girl guides, their sons to boy scouts, go to church, play a bit and generally are the very basis of their society of which we are proud. And it is for these people that I exercise my energies this afternoon in this House.

The other thing is that if one lives in Sudbury, situations and disabilities are allowed to persist from year to year as a perennial anxiety that would not be tolerated in other parts of the province. They would not be tolerated if they existed in the city of Toronto. The hue and cry of three major newspapers in this community would lead to their immediate eradication.

We have a fine university in which a good deal of public money has been expended. We have not got a decent road. The road that goes to that university, I say to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, is worse than the Ferguson rabbit track that he will recall as the first Highway 11. The Minister of Lands and Forests will remember it too, the first highway built into northern Ontario. It is worse; it is shameful. At least the Minister of Municipal Affairs has been over that road. It is a disgrace, a beautiful university sitting on the Laurentian shield, after which it is named, with a road that you have to put aside caution to risk your vehicle to get to it. That is one example.

I cite another example: the killer crossing on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Sault Ste. Marie. Several streets converge on that crossing. That is the junction of two provincial highways, two King's highways, Highway 17 and Highway 69. People are maimed and killed year after year at that crossing, and yet that risk cannot be eliminated because the city of Sudbury has not got the money to pay for it.

And so it goes. In everything we want to do in that community the answer is always the same: Where are we going to get the money; we have not got the money. We are beholden to the Treasury board of this province, the recently expanded Treasury board—and I say to the hon. member for Grey South (Mr. Oliver) that now it is expanded I hope there will be more enlightenment, that more numbers will bring more enlightenment to its councils. We have to be beholden to it.

Those are the situations that exist and this section, sitting as it does on the statute books of the province after 57 years, is one of the inequities created by the granting of an exemption to the mining industry when it does not either deserve it or merit it. Now let me say at that point: I have come to the conclusion after much reflection, and I say through you, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, that there is no justification in logic in this day and age for treating the taxes levied under The Mining Tax Act as being a substitute for municipal assessment. I have heard Hon. Leslie Frost standing in his place over there referring to the taxes under The Mining Tax Act to be a device whereby all of the people of Ontario, throughout its length and breadth, recapture to themselves a portion of the resources that belong to all of them, part of that tax.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): A few crumbs.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, the member for Woodbine says a few crumbs, and he is right. But this government has always treated the mining taxes as being a substitute for municipal assessment and taxation. And that has put these mining municipalities, 59 of them in the province of Ontario, at the mercy of the Treasury board, where they have had to come and beg and plead and cajole and coerce in order to attempt to get more money.

I can say to the Minister—and I am not trying to give him an education, I do not want to seem to be patronizing, because he knows all this—that I get the feeling sometimes, Mr. Speaker, that in his heart of hearts he agrees with everything I say. Members will recall at Atlantic City when they put up the sign, “In your heart you know he is right” and I think that is the attitude. I am not going to wreck my argument by identifying whom that was about. The point is valid, that the Minister of Municipal Affairs knows in his heart of hearts that I am right about this.

I am going to seek to enlighten the House—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Is that not a coincidence? I received a message by carrier pigeon that today is the birthday of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and he is 57 years old.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): What a birthday present the hon. member is giving him!

Mr. Sopha: I was saying a moment ago that there is a high degree of unanimity in

the city of Sudbury about this problem and I want to go on rapidly because there are a number of points that I want to make.

As recently as last Saturday the *Sudbury Star*, an organ of opinion which normally supports this government, carried these two paragraphs which I want to put into the record:

Certainly, the Queen's Park government did no favour to Sudbury by imposing an amalgamation order that brought the entire township of McKim and the west half of Neelon township into the new city of Sudbury seven years ago. It only compounded the financial troubles of the municipality to bring about a soaring tax rate that still cannot finance the essential services of the city.

Resource wealth of the north is being channeled into southern Ontario municipalities for projects that would be almost in the luxury class if northern Ontario municipalities could afford to have them. We fight for decent roads and road assistance while cities like Toronto can lace their communities with super roads and road structures—largely financed out of the provincial Treasury. Southern Ontario municipalities enjoy industrial assessment and taxation not found in cities like Sudbury, and a number of these industries were directed to southern Ontario sites by the agencies of the Ontario government.

That is an editorial the *Sudbury Star* has printed in different versions on many occasions.

And here is another one. I think that this should go on the record. It will immediately remind itself to some present. Listen to this person speaking:

Some people accuse me of being a renegade Conservative. Let me make it clear I believe what counts is the truth—the truth that the people of the north, particularly the people here in Sudbury, are being and have been exploited.

We haven't received the just benefits for what we have been pioneering. Our financial problems are largely not of our own making, but due to the absurd mining grant system resulting from 19th century thinking that doesn't allow the people to assess what is rightfully theirs in this 20th century.

The Minister of Lands and Forests must have winced when he heard this speaker speaking those words. I would not call him a renegade Conservative; I would call him an honest and frank one—that is the Conservative

candidate, the person nominated as Conservative candidate.

I will quote again from the *Sudbury Star*:

All of these projects are needed, and you can't afford to pay any higher taxes than you pay already. In fact, you are paying 20.7 per cent more taxes than the average for 29 Ontario cities, and receive less in municipal services.

The natural question—"If I don't have it in my own pocket can I borrow it?" The answer? "We're sorry baby, but your credit's run out!"

The language is rather inelegant for a politician, but that is what the man said, and he said it in the presence of the Minister of Lands and Forests.

It is going to be a weird election campaign, I must say, where candidates of all political parties find their platforms in criticizing the government, including the government's own candidate!

Mr. Bryden: It is his only chance!

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed. My friend the hon. member for Woodbine is right. The only possible chance that the man has of being elected.

Can the mining companies afford to pay? Well, let us get some figures on the record—and I might say to the member for Woodbine that these figures were provided for me by the united steel workers of America, with whom I have always had the most friendly relations. In the 16 years between 1950 and 1965, I calculate that the International Nickel Company gleaned net profits, after taxes, out of their operations of something approaching \$1.5 billion.

In 1950, their profit was 48,765,849 of the Queen's dollars; in 1965, \$143,794,000; and, of course, it was in 1963 that they crossed the \$100 million mark.

I stop, and I say again to those who do me the favour of listening to me:

Where is the justice? Where is the fairness and equity that a company can rip profits out of the ground of that magnitude and walk away at the same time from its ordinary obligations for municipal taxation?

Indeed, in walking away from it, it shoulders it on people, ratepayers, homeowners, decent people who live in the dormitory municipality of Sudbury—the people who are part of the work force created by that company itself.

The International Nickel Company, of course, insulates itself behind captive municipalities—cocoons, which themselves are archaic and outmoded, and are a violation of ordinary democratic principles.

They have company towns—Lively, Levack, Copper Cliff—there has not been an election for municipal council in the town of Copper Cliff since the mind of man runneth not to the contrary. No one can recall when there was ever an election. The council and the mayor are elected by acclamation year after year. It makes a mockery of democracy in this enlightened age of the year of our Lord, 1967.

So it is in Lively and Levack. This is the protective device that is tolerated, that continues to be tolerated by the Treasury benches over there. It means, of course, the reneging of the responsibility of being a fair, just and equitable share of municipal taxation.

According to the *Financial Post*, in that area that comprises 107,000 square miles in northeastern Ontario, by the year 1962—and all of those years in the 20th century only—but by 1962 that area of northeastern Ontario had poured out \$11 billion in mineral production.

In ten years, 1953 to 1963—I say to the hon. Minister of Mines—the value of production rose by 75 per cent, so there was a remarkable hiatus and pickup in activity in mineral development in northeastern Ontario in very recent years. Of course, that is Texas Gulf and the Sherman mine, the Adams mine, and the Griffiths mine are all new developments of major proportions. I want to except the Griffiths mine—it is not in that area, it is much further to the west. And the others are developments of major proportion.

The Minister of Mines himself—and I hope that I do not hurt his feelings too greatly—whose capacity for the inane is only exceeded by that of the hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Stewart), who is the North American champion in the inane and the absurd, in his full chamber of commerce oratory, one time said:

There appears to be little room for doubt that northeastern Ontario is set for a boom in the mining industry that has been its principal economic factor right from the beginning of the century.

He did not inform anybody of anything when he said that. He did not enlighten anyone. He was merely stating what is factual and well-known, at least to the residents of northeastern Ontario; but I have never heard

the Minister of Mines—and I depart from the Minister of Municipal Affairs to focus on the Minister of Mines. I say that I have never heard him utter a syllable to forward the case of the hard-pressed home owner who lives in northern Ontario and works in these mines under his jurisdiction.

That is in contrast, of course, to the Minister of Lands and Forests, himself a northerner. I do not know at this point—and I want to express my reservation about the Sudbury basin and I will say this, of course, on the hustings—that it is of much advantage to the capital of the north, the great industrial complex of Sudbury, its most highly developed economic area. Is it of much advantage that two hon. Ministers of the Crown come from adjoining ridings in the farthest reaches of the province—the Minister of Municipal Affairs from Timmins, and the Minister of Lands and Forests from that wilderness to the north?

When I speak factually, I do not want to downgrade anybody, but he is all the way to Hudson Bay and halfway to the Arctic circle, and a long way from the capital of the north. I do not know that it is much advantage as far as forwarding our case to the Treasury board is concerned; I am not advocating at this point that any mistake was made, but the member for Nickel Belt should have got that post. I am not his champion here. He will have to look out for himself and find his avenue of progress. But I wanted to make that point and put it on the record.

I was referring to the Minister of Lands and Forests and of course he chaired the mining committee, of which my friend from Nickel Belt and I were members. In our report we made the recommendation that the principle of revenue grants to mining municipalities be maintained, that immediate consideration be given to the provision of such increase in these grants as will serve to provide for mining municipalities—a financial position comparable to that of like sized non-mining municipalities. So the mining committee was aware of the problem, because it was brought home to them every place they went; and that led to this recommendation.

We tabled that here in May of last year, and of course that led to the appointment of another committee. What else do you expect from the Prime Minister, and he is the North American champion in appointing committees?

I, for one here, want to say that I have a warm admiration and a profound respect for the Prime Minister of this province, and I

want to say that. That is true. But that does not inhibit me from my duty of criticizing him, of bringing home these things to him on behalf of the people I represent. He has developed, to a very high and sophisticated degree, the art of appointing committees. You get the impression that nobody knows anything, is capable of any solution or any proposal by way of palliative, or alleviation, or of panacea. No, the Prime Minister has to appoint a committee to look into anything that comes to his doorstep and must of necessity be dealt with.

So on September 8 he appointed another committee, and the Minister of Lands and Forests and the member for Nickel Belt were put on the committee. They were called *ex officio*. They gave them a Latin title. Everybody else was legitimate on the committee, but these two were *ex officio*, whatever that means, and since that the committee has disappeared. No one has heard of it.

The problem remains to worry us. We have to take that to bed with us at night and worry about that, and people have to worry about paying their municipal taxes and have to put up with all the other irritations and inconveniences that fall from living in a municipality that has not got enough money to afford them. But the committee has disappeared. I only had the advantage, really, of meeting the chairman of the committee today. I had forgotten his name until the Minister of Municipal Affairs informed me in a letter, but I only had the advantage of meeting him today in the company of the member for Nickel Belt; and as I say, we have not heard from them. We do not know.

The Prime Minister came back—from his October meeting was it, with the federal authorities to discuss the fiscal problems of this nation—and he came back with a tremendous zeal for economy. Hon. members recall that. Like a white knight, he arrived back in his boudoir at Queen's Park here with a crusader's zeal for economy. He is going to cut the costs of government.

Well no sooner did I read that in the Metro press, than I wrote to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. And I said I had hoped that as a result of the appointment of all his committees that some relief would be given to the city of Sudbury, but I am worried now about the Prime Minister's new zeal for economy. I pointed out to him in that letter, and I have not got time to put it on the record, I pointed out to him that the real issue to be faced, the real issue that must be faced, is that these mining companies must have taken away from

them this exemption that exists in The Assessment Act, which this bill seeks to do. Like everyone else, Joe Smith or John Doe or Richard Roe or anyone else, they have to pay their fair, just and equitable share of municipal services. It is not right, it is morally wrong, that a company that has the wealth of Croesus is able to walk away from its responsibility and say to the ordinary homeowner, ratepayer, decent citizen, you pick up that tab.

My friend from Welland, in his community, would not tolerate that for a moment. That would not be tolerated with Atlas Steel in Welland. It would not be tolerated in Hamilton with Stelco.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Niagara Falls!

Mr. Sopha: It is not tolerated in Sault Ste. Marie with Algoma Steel, and all these other vast plants. Why should it be tolerated in the Sudbury basin insofar as the city of Sudbury and the municipalities, the other satellite municipalities, are concerned? Blezard, Rayside, Hanmer, Capreol, Chelmsford, Dowling, Balfour! Why should they have to suffer the disability of being deprived of this assessment?

Well the last thing that I would want to refer to, and I must refer to, is the inconsistency of the attitude of this government, its inconsistent adherence to principles.

The town of Copper Cliff is the place where the International Nickel Company resides, and yet this government goes into the town of Copper Cliff; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and his predecessor, they went into the town of Copper Cliff; and said to the assessor under The Homes for the Aged Act and under the district welfare unit legislation, they said: Put the smelter on the roll. \$47 million. They required the assessor to put the smelter on the roll for the purposes of those two specific municipal purposes, at \$47 million.

Why not have an extension of the principle? Is not the principle as valid for other municipal services; roads, streets, police, fire, sewage, water and all the rest of them? Is not the same principle valid? If the International Nickel Company has to pick up part of the cost to cover the elderly and those who suffer economic dislocation and have to draw welfare, then is it not just as valid that this government should say to the International Nickel Company that for other municipal purposes, they are liable for taxation.

Principle, you know Mr. Speaker, principle is not a thing that you can pick out of your

pocket, wave it around, say I am going to be dedicated to that for a time and then put it in your pocket and forget it. Principle exists and continues to exist; and either a person adheres to it all the time or his wavering and deviation from principle marks him as a person about whom one must have some doubt.

So it is with governments!

I have tried to cover the whole area. I have come to the end of my remarks. I would like to hear someone get up in this House, and preferably the Minister of Municipal Affairs, get up and defend this archaic and outmoded situation where these mining companies—and let me say in that regard that I would be the first to agree that perhaps the gold mining industry, that has had to suffer the same price for their product since the '30's and even before, perhaps the gold mining industry is entitled to some special consideration.

I am here to speak for the Sudbury basin. Special consideration does not apply to the base metal industries, which are highly profitable. The Minister of Municipal Affairs represents a gold mining community. It is for him to put forward the qualifications and the special consideration that the gold mining industry should have. I do not make his case for him, but I know something of the disabilities that his community has had to suffer because of the existence of this section, and how his own municipality has been in the courts, in the highest courts of the land, trying to do away with it, trying to get some relief and has been rebuked.

So let him make his own case. I try to make the case for Sudbury and it ought to commend itself as a matter of principle to every corner of the House, and every member that sits in it, that in 1967 every company, every person, no matter what he does, what activity he is engaged in, how he makes his living or his profit, that he must share equally, fairly, justly and equitably the burden of municipal taxation.

That is what this bill seeks to do, Mr. Speaker, and my closing words are that I commend its adoption to this government. If not, then perhaps, and probably, northern Ontario, where people are incensed about this injustice, will commend its adoption to another government of different political air. As Mr. Frost used to say, we will let the jury of the people decide that, but this will be an issue in any forthcoming election campaign.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, an election is imminent and no doubt getting more imminent every day. It is therefore not

unnatural that the hon. member for Sudbury should engage in some feverish, even if belated, fence mending.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): He has spoken on this often.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, we in this group have argued time after time in this House that the mining industry, which consists of a great many well established and very profitable operations, has not been pulling its weight in relation to the financing of government, either at the municipal or the provincial level.

We have argued that many times, we still believe it. We have many times put forward propositions as to what can be done to remedy the situation; and invariably the reaction of the Liberal group was to join with the Tories in trying to shout us down, with the hon. member for Sudbury leading the pack.

Mr. Sopha: Nonsense!

Mr. Bryden: He told us last year that that session might well be his penultimate session, from which I took it to be that he considered that this one would be his ultimate session.

Mr. Sopha: Well, get on with it.

Mr. Bryden: I have no doubt that he was correct in his forecast. However, it must be conceded that he is struggling hard, and just to show how hard he is struggling it is very interesting to note the change in the position and the attitude he has now adopted with regard to the mining industry in general, but more particularly the International Nickel Company. I have occasionally suggested that that company, in common with the industry, was not pulling its weight in participating in the cost of financing government in this province. The attitude of the member for Sudbury always was to come to the defence of that noble company—I did not think it really needed any defenders, but that was usually his approach. In fact I can remember him on one occasion standing up in the House and singing paeans of praise to the International Nickel Company for having contributed the sum of \$2 million to Laurentian University. Two millions dollars I would say, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I would suggest to the member that I think he is straying somewhat from the bill that is before the House. I note that it is An Act to amend the Assessment Act and I would rather that he would get

along with the content and the principle put forth in this bill rather than perhaps take too much time with an attack on the member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: He is an embolism of distortion—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, in view of the very large amount of straying that was permitted in the speech which preceded me, which I may say went ten minutes overtime, I had thought that perhaps the rules were being relaxed a little bit for this particular debate. However, I will accept your injunction, sir. I do not think the position of the International Nickel Company is by any means unrelated to the principle of this bill but I will deal with it in a way which will clearly show the relationship.

The situation is now, and has been, as the member for Sudbury has pointed out, for a long time, that we have a mining tax Act under which a revenue of about \$15 million a year is paid into the Treasury of the province. Of this \$15 million a year, approximately \$6 million more or less is paid to certain mining municipalities in substitution for taxation revenue of which they are being unjustly deprived. Mr. Speaker, the International Nickel Company, to which I referred, by itself last year made net profits after taxes of \$150 million. Indeed, its net profits before taxes, and this is actually the figure that is more relevant in the situation, were \$260 million. That is what it had as a surplus before it paid its corporation income tax and out of which it could have paid municipal taxes and royalties or other similar charges to this province—\$260 million available from one company.

I see the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrobe) writing down some figures and I have no doubt he will say that the International Nickel Company does not make all its money in Ontario. That is correct—but it makes a very large proportion of it here in Ontario out of Ontario's resources. Yet, from the entire industry with a great many other profitable operations in it too, we in this province got a miserable \$15 million including a miserable \$6 million to municipalities in substitution for municipal taxes out of which they have been cheated. That is why I was not impressed by the fact that the International Nickel Company contributed \$2 million to Laurentian University. That would represent, I would say, its net profit for about three days of operation.

This, of course, was a typical gesture. The overlords in New York brushed a few crumbs

off the table for us natives of Ontario, and more particularly for Sudbury. At the time the impulse of the member for Sudbury was to salaam. Apparently he has changed his position and I am happy to see that. We will certainly support him in his changed position, but it is not a matter of any particular company. We are not attacking the International Nickel Company or any other company but the principle that they should not give us, the people of Ontario, and more particularly the people of the area in which they operate, a fair return for what they are getting from us. The position of the government has been a rather characteristic one as my friend from Sudbury pointed out.

Mr. Sopha: Friend, now!

Mr. Bryden: Oh, he is always my friend, as my kindly comments of a few moments ago undoubtedly demonstrated to everyone in the House.

Mr. Sopha: Who needs enemies?

Mr. Bryden: The reaction of the government has been a characteristic one. It set up a committee to study the matter. Mr. Speaker, in my observation study committees are usually set up for either one or other of two purposes: either to get information on which action can be based at a subsequent time, or alternatively, to cover up a problem in the hope that it will go away and disappear off the face of the earth. The government opposite, as we all know, and as they frequently boast, lead the entire universe in using committees for the second purpose, and unquestionably this is what is happening here.

Where has this committee got to? It appears to have been lost in one of those old mine shafts up there. It made some noise, a flurry, and now it has disappeared. The hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers), who I think will be following me in this debate, was quoted in the press as saying:

I will eat my proverbial shirt on the steps of the town hall in Coniston if some concrete recommendations are not made from the committee to the government before the next session opens.

I was surprised, Mr. Speaker, to see him come in here this afternoon with his shirt intact, after that firm commitment.

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That is not his proverbial shirt the hon. member is wearing!

Mr. Bryden: Well, I would like to hear more about his proverbial shirt and how it tasted when he ate it on the steps of the town hall of Coniston—if, indeed, he ate it—but it will no doubt be a lesson to him never again to place any reliance in anything that this government says or promises. He has certainly been left a long way out on the limb. Of course, he is relatively new in political life and he has not, up until now, seen how empty are the promises of Tory governments. He, I am sure, quite sincerely thought he was safe when he made that promise; but that is where they left him, on the steps of the town hall in Coniston, eating his shirt.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, would the member permit a comment in connection with that matter? I think that the member for Nickel Belt made this statement, but with certain qualifications. I think that it is only right that the hon. member should state what those qualifications were. A certain number of meetings of the special committee would have to have been held prior to January 25. I understand that that number of meetings was not held. Therefore, he is not going to eat his shirt—irrespective of what kind of shirt it is.

Mr. Bryden: I do not know whose responsibility it was that the meetings were not held, but all I can make out, Mr. Speaker, is that the hon. member has not only lost his shirt, but the hon. Minister has also pulled the rug out from under him.

Mr. Sopha: To mix the metaphor!

Mr. Bryden: However, Mr. Speaker, my friend, the hon. member for Sudbury, was suggesting that I should leave time for the hon. member for Nickel Belt to explain the situation. I think that is fair and reasonable so I will conclude merely by saying that this is a problem that should have been acted on long ago. I am not technically qualified to say whether or not the bill now before us is adequate to achieve the purpose which the hon. member for Sudbury has in mind, but that is not really the point. The point is the principle of the bill; the principle is sound. I have never heard anyone stand up in this House and oppose the principle; they simply oppose it behind the scenes. All the Tories say they are for it, but they do nothing about it. They leave the old, unsupportable principle in force.

It is time that we provided the mining municipalities of this province with an adequate source of municipal taxation from mining properties of all kinds. In addition, Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate that it is high time that we got proper royalties out of these companies. I do not care if they are taken in the form of what in effect is a profits tax, or any other form, but the tax is totally inadequate at the present time.

First of all, there should be a proper provision for municipal taxation, which should be quite separate and apart from the royalties on the minerals. Then there should be an adequate system of taxation to ensure that the people of Ontario as a whole should be adequately compensated for irreplaceable minerals, which these companies are taking out of the ground and out of which they are making huge profits.

I have not studied the matter—at least I have studied it, but it is hard to get information—and I could not make an estimate of how much we should be getting from these companies in royalties, but I do not doubt that it runs into tens of millions of dollars. I have no doubt that the International Nickel Company by itself could easily pay the entire \$15 million that we are now getting from all the mining industry in the province. There is no question of supporting the principle in the bill, Mr. Speaker; there is no possibility of arguing against it; and my only regret is that it was not acted on a great many years ago.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. J. C. G. Demers (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, not knowing how the debate on the bill of the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) is going to be recorded in the annals of this province, I should really preface my remarks by saying that I am in full agreement with my colleague from Sudbury on the question of financial assistance for the municipalities of the north.

The member for Sudbury and I agree that mining municipalities—in northern Ontario especially—are facing a rather serious crisis, and that the problems of the city of Sudbury are just as serious; perhaps today we differ on the methods a government should use to solve this problem.

I described in this House last year the lack of certain essential services in several communities in my constituency, and I attempted to prove at that time that most of our problems are indeed related to the lack of adequate industrial assessment.

In my opinion, the government has two alternatives in its search for a solution, and the hon. member for Sudbury presented one to us this afternoon. I think that it has a lot of merit. In my humble opinion, it is not a complete solution, because to amend The Assessment Act allowing municipalities to assess the plants, the equipment, the concentrators and the smelters, would assist very few municipalities in the north; because in fact, with the exception of a few smaller flotation plants used by the gold mining industry, there are only three large concentrators that would produce a significant revenue for the municipalities where these plants are located.

The member for Sudbury has, of course, made reference to Copper Cliff. There is another one in the township of Falconbridge and, of course, there is the iron ore plant in the township of Waters. The great smelter at Coniston for some reason has always been assessed and has always been taxed, and I suppose it would be rather difficult to place this smelter in the category the member referred to this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, there are 24 municipalities in my constituency and most of them, I suppose, are designated mining municipalities, but I fail to see how the repeal of subsection 5 of section 35 of The Assessment Act would help them, with the exception, of course, of Falconbridge. When the member for Sudbury speaks of the assessment of smelters he always promotes, at the same time, the annexation of Copper Cliff to the city of Sudbury. This is another story and it would presumably solve the problems of the city of Sudbury, but how would it help the 16 or 18 other suburban municipalities of the area?

The Sudbury chamber of commerce suggested about a year ago that all smelters and all assessment of the mining industry in the Sudbury basin be pooled and shared on a population or on an assessment basis, that this be shared by all municipalities of the great Sudbury economic unit. This suggestion has merit, but in my opinion it could only be effective if some form of metropolitan government was adopted for the whole area.

I have made this suggestion publicly before and, frankly, I must admit that it has been received with mixed feelings from the municipal people of the Sudbury area. I must confess that the government has never discussed this proposal on an official basis with the people of Sudbury and district.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the bill of the member for Sudbury really solves nothing. It would give Copper Cliff and Falconbridge enough tax revenue, I suppose, to build solid gold libraries, but I fail to see what it would do for Sudbury and for the suburban municipalities.

The provisions of this bill, of course, are not in accordance with the recommendations of the association of northern Ontario mining municipalities and I should like to quote from their first submission to the Ontario committee on taxation, a submission which was later made to the Ontario select committee on mining. I think that the member for Sudbury will find on page eight the following quotation:

There is no suggestion therefore, that mine buildings and machinery, or ore, or ore in place, should be made directly subject to municipal taxes as this would tend to discourage development of new mines.

I just quoted from the association's own submission. I also find it strange this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, when I hear the hon. member for Sudbury, who endorsed the final report of the select committee on mining—and if I remember correctly, there was absolutely no reference made in this report to the assessment of smelters, concentrators, and so on. But as I mentioned earlier, there is a second possible solution. We all deplore the present structure of the formula used to distribute mining revenue payments. This formula, as we know, is called the McBain formula.

I hope that the Prime Minister's special committee, of which I am a member, will succeed in drafting a more equitable formula. Mr. Speaker, I would very much like to tell you when the committee will make its recommendations.

Mr. Bryden: Be careful now!

Mr. Demers: I would also like to speculate and tell you when the government will take action, and accept, or reject our recommendations. But in recent days, as the member for Woodbine has mentioned, I have tried to stick to my own deadlines; and as long as I can live up to my own deadlines—deadlines which I have set for myself—I will not try to set deadlines for others. However, I am very grateful to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and, frankly, I would like to say to the member for Woodbine that I will eat my shirt every day of the week when the welfare of my constituents is at stake.

But Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that the solution lies in a better formula. Finding the right formula, our committee has found, is almost as difficult as arriving at a perfect solution for tax-sharing between the government at Ottawa and the provinces. But I continue to live in hope. However, Mr. Speaker, for me to vote with my hon. friend from Sudbury would really jeopardize the whole question of mining revenue payments. I am not prepared to risk the financial security, or whatever degree of security or insecurity they now have, of the 16- or 20-odd municipalities in my riding, to provide for two of them what they already have.

Perhaps the member for Sudbury and I should sit down some quiet evening in the King Edward hotel and draft a new bill which would provide assistance to all. At that time I will rise and support him and, I will try to continue to serve with him the interests of the fair city we represent in this House. Because, without the safeguards I have mentioned, the member for Sudbury's bill accomplishes very little. The solution I have to offer is much simpler. It would not disturb the existing boundaries of municipalities and I hope that, before too long, that solution will be placed before this House.

Mr. Sopha: Not much time for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will deal with and consider the bill with respect to depositors' insurance. There will be a night session tomorrow evening and the Throne Debate will be on the agenda.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, before the motion is carried, could the Minister tell us what his intention is insofar as this bill goes? Is it his intention to put it through the House as quickly as possible? Is there going to be a committee hearing, where the public will have an opportunity to discuss it? Or does the Minister have in mind a specific time schedule, say third reading three or four days from now?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think that, in the interest of all of the matters that are involved in the bill, we should proceed with second reading, have a thorough debate in the House, and enact the legislation at as convenient a date as possible.

Mr. Singer: Will there be committee hearings?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I anticipate that we will deal with the matter in the House.

Mr. Bryden: Well Mr. Speaker, perhaps this should be raised tomorrow, but I might as well give notice of what I am thinking to the Minister.

The Minister is asking us to consider this bill for second reading tomorrow. My recollection is that it received first reading today. The rules, I believe, are quite specific that there must be an interval of two days between the first and second reading.

Mr. Speaker: It must be printed and distributed.

Mr. Bryden: Well, they have really come along pretty fast in getting this one printed and distributed. Apparently the Minister has in mind some urgency in the matter. I know

the subject is urgent, but it has not been dealt with previously. We are given very little opportunity, I would point out to the Minister, to consider the principle of the bill. And I am not so sure that there is a necessity for this undue haste in putting a complicated, involved bill like this before us and giving us 24 hours, in effect, along with our other duties, to consider it. I would suggest to the Minister that he should be a little more specific in the answers he is giving to the member for Downsview, so as to explain to us why there is this great urgency.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I do not think that anything else that I could say would add anything more to the subject matter.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 9, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature. Today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Emery collegiate institute, Weston, St. Anselm's separate school, Toronto, Our Lady of Perpetual Help separate school, Toronto; and in the west gallery, Bramalea high school, Bramalea.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills presented the committee's second report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane.

Bill Pr19, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Your committee would recommend that the following bill be not reported:

Bill Pr12, An Act respecting Canadian power squadrons.

Your committee would recommend that the fees less the penalties and the actual cost of printing be remitted on Bill Pr12, An Act respecting Canadian power squadrons.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I should like to announce the appointment of Dr. Harold E. Elborn as chairman of the department's training schools advisory board. Dr. Elborn was in the civil service for over 35 years and served as assistant Deputy Minister of Education before his retirement.

He assumes the position held since September 1965 by Mr. James Felstiner, who recently

moved from my department to the newly created post of registrar court clerk of the juvenile and family court of Metropolitan Toronto. Mr. Felstiner's understanding and knowledge concerning juveniles were most valuable to the department and will serve him well in his new post, in which we wish him every success.

Dr. Elborn was born in 1903 and received his early education in the schools of Stratford, Ontario, graduating from Stratford normal school, and beginning his teaching career in a one-room rural school in Huron county. He later taught in the public schools of London, Ontario. He holds an honours degree in history and English, a master of arts degree from Queen's University, and a bachelor of pedagogy degree from the University of Toronto. He joined the staff of the Ontario public service in 1930 as public school inspector. Later he held the positions of editor of textbooks and principal of Toronto normal school. He was appointed inspector of professional training in The Ontario Department of Education in 1948. He became superintendent of teacher education in 1956.

With Dr. Elborn's qualifications and experience, he will make a fine chairman of the training schools advisory board, which plays an important role in reviewing the progress of students, not only in our schools but also on placement in the community. The board makes recommendations to the Minister on the termination of wardship at an appropriate time and in the best interests of the youngster. We are happy to have a man of Dr. Elborn's distinguished background join our staff and help us in our work in the interests of the juveniles.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to draw the attention of this House to the fact that on Tuesday last the Mrs. June Shaw rink of Kenora won the Ontario women's curling championship at Copper Cliff. This is the second successive year that Mrs. Shaw of Kenora has brought such distinction to that community.

This team from Kenora will represent Ontario in the Canadian women's Diamond D

championship at Montreal on February 27 to March 3. I am sure that all hon. members will join with me in wishing them every success at Montreal.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. How many children can be accommodated at Warrendale and how many children are there at the present time? Second, how many children are being treated in Ontario by Brown Camps Limited?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, Warrendale has accommodation for 56 children. At the present time there are 18 in residence receiving treatment. The greatly accelerated course of training child-care workers is going to make it possible for us in the very near future to expand our intake at this institution to its limit.

Since Brown Camps does not come within the purview of my departmental activities, I cannot answer the second part of the hon. member's question.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to that, I would assume then that it comes in the purview of The Department of Public Welfare. I would request that Minister to take note of this question and answer it for me if he would be so kind.

Second, supplementary to the first answer that was given, are we to assume then that it is shortage of staff that has reduced the number of children at Warrendale to 18?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Shortage of trained staff, Mr. Speaker, yes.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Does the Minister intend to bring before the House, during this session, legislation licensing hearing aid salesmen and regulating the sale and advertising of hearing aids?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the recent publicity in connection with this matter and I shall give it my attention in relation to the operations of our consumer protection branch.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have several questions for the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), who is not in his seat, but which questions I would like to put on the record today for his answers at a subsequent opportunity.

(1) What concrete proposals were made with regard to the Malvern project at the meeting held on September 21, 1965, November 23, 1966, and December 7, 1966, referred to in the Minister's reply to my question on February 3, 1967?

(2) Does the Minister ever intend to discuss the Malvern project directly with elected representatives of the borough of Scarborough; and if so, when?

(3) Is the mayor of Scarborough correct when he asserts that there is no possibility of starting work on the project in the spring of 1968 because the needed services cannot possibly be provided by then?

Might I also ask questions of the Minister of Health, Mr. Speaker? In view of Dr. Morton Shulman's observations of the last 24 hours, will the Minister consider the establishment of emergency suicide prevention centres in appropriate places in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that I have no knowledge of Mr. Shulman's observations in the last 24 hours or of any specific one to which the hon. member makes reference.

Mr. S. Lewis: Would the Minister care to review Dr. Shulman's observations, which obviously were to the effect that such were required, and take it under advisement?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: I do not know what the member is talking about. I have not seen or heard anything about Dr. Shulman.

Mr. S. Lewis: Has the Minister read anything?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Read anything about Dr. Shulman? No.

Mr. S. Lewis: He stands alone on that, as in other things.

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have two questions, the first to the Prime Minister:

Has the government of Ontario taken any preparatory action to support, in the event of need, depositors of York Trust, either through a guarantee of deposits or through a transfer of provincial funds from general revenue or transfer of revenue from any government board or agency to York Trust?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would say that the preparatory action the government has taken is embodied

in Bill 24, which is before this House. It applies to all provincially incorporated trust companies, of which York Trust is one.

As to the specific point the member makes in the question, no we have not.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs.

In the spring of 1963, when Messrs. Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binnington, the solicitors for Prudential Finance Corporation, were processing the prospectus offering short term promissory notes of that company through the Ontario securities commission, was there a meeting at the request of that company, or its advisors, attended by the chairman of the Ontario securities commission and members of the staff of the commission, including: the chief auditor, Mr. Brown, and the registrar, Mr. Knox-Leet, with Mr. J. B. Brien, the president of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited, Mr. Stein, the auditor of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited, Mr. DesLauriers of the solicitors and Mr. Betts of the law firm of Messrs. Carrothers, Fox, Robarts and Betts; at which the wording of the front page of the draft prospectus offering the short term promissory notes of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited were discussed?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have referred the question to the securities commission for information and a reply.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a second question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Is York Trust and Savings Corporation in default in complying with the provisions of section 84 of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act which requires it to maintain cash and specified securities of at least 20 per cent of the amount of deposits and funds represented by guaranteed investment certificates falling due in less than 100 days?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I am informed that this company is maintaining its liquidity in excess of the requirements of the Act.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would permit a supplementary question: Would he advise the House as to what the percentage is at the present time, of the securities and cash in relation to the deposits of that company?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: My answer is simply that its liquidity position is in excess of the requirement of the Act.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Transport, a copy of which has been supplied to him.

Why are there no restrictions, controls or regulations over the increase in use of snowmobiles or similar vehicles in Ontario? And second, does the Minister plan on introducing legislation at this session controlling the use of this type of vehicle?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, mechanized vehicles of a class commonly called snowmobiles are not specifically defined in The Highway Traffic Act or dealt with in the regulations under the Act.

Snowmobiles that are not used on the highways do not come under the jurisdiction of the Act. But snowmobiles that do operate on the highways, there can be no doubt, fall within the requirements of the Act in the definition of a motor vehicle and must comply in all respects as a motor vehicle as regards registration, equipment, insurance coverage and the licensing of the operator.

We are giving consideration to the question as to whether or not snowmobiles should be specifically defined in the Act.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General.

On June 6, 1966, Mr. John Woods of Victoria, B.C. wrote to the director of public prosecutions in Ontario with regard to misleading advertising by an Ontario company, Johnson Motors (Outboard Marine). Why has the correspondence not even been acknowledged; what action, if any, does the government intend to take in this case?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the government does not intend to take any action in this particular case.

Mr. John H. Wood, who is the administrative assistant to Mr. R. M. Strachan, leader of the Opposition in the legislative assembly in British Columbia and who, I believe, is an associate of the hon. member's party in that province, wrote to the director of public prosecutions on June 6, 1966, registering a complaint about a nine and a half horsepower Johnson outboard motor. He alleged that the performance of the motor did not comply with the national advertising of that company. He

requested that we institute criminal proceedings against that company under section 306 of The Criminal Code of Canada.

Mr. Wood, who wrote to us on the official letterhead of the leader of the Opposition of the province of British Columbia, also sent copies of that letter to the company involved; and, of course, to the hon. member for York South.

I will say at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that I have no intention whatsoever of instituting any form of criminal proceedings against the company in this case, because the circumstances do not warrant any such action. The subsequent correspondence which passed between the company and Mr. Wood—there was correspondence all through the month of June of 1966—and the alacrity with which Mr. Wood took advantage of the company's proffered assistance all demonstrate that this is a simple dispute between the purchaser of the product and the company supplying the product, which was ultimately resolved by the company not only modifying the product at its own expense, but even providing the complainant, Mr. Wood, with an alternative outboard motor for his vacation, which was then pending.

Mr. Wood, although he has accepted all the assistance given by the company, is still insistent that the company should be prosecuted under The Criminal Code of Canada; and if he wishes to do so, he may lay his own information before the appropriate justice of the peace. The government will not be doing so.

Mr. Speaker, I might say that our file showed, after the letter of June 6, correspondence between Mr. Wood and Outboard Marine on June 9, 1966, June 13, June 15 and the last letter was from Mr. Wood on June 27, 1966. And I would read the last paragraph. Mr. Wood says:

I would like to take advantage of your offer to lend me a motor for my vacation. And although, as I indicated, I will be away June 30, I will be back in Victoria July 7 or 8.

Yours very truly,

Now one would naturally assume that this matter had been settled between Mr. Wood and the company. He sent copies of all his letters, apparently, to the director of public prosecutions for British Columbia; to Mrs. MacInnis, MP; to Donald MacDonald, leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party; and to the *Consumer Bulletin* and *Consumer Report*.

Then we took it for granted that the matter had been settled. He had accepted the kit, the modification of his motor, a loan of a motor to go on his vacation, so naturally we put the file aside.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: But on December 6 of last year—we received it on December 8—Mr. Wood wrote us again, to Mr. Bowman of my department, and wanted to know why we did not act against this company.

Mr. MacDonald: Did the Minister answer that letter?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And that letter was answered on February 7, after this whole file had been reviewed. I will read a paragraph from that letter. That was before. The member's question was perhaps in the mill.

Mr. MacDonald: Two months after they got the letter.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: To continue:

After thoroughly examining all the material which you sent to Mr. Bowman I have concluded that the facts would not support a successful prosecution under section 306.

It must be remembered that Outboard Marine is a very reputable firm which has been manufacturing quality motors for years. It is a very serious charge. There have been very few prosecutions under section 306 of The Criminal Code in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada. Having regard to our department's experience in relation to prosecutions under section 306 and to the facts of the present situation I would not recommend a prosecution.

I hope that I have been of some assistance to you. I can only suggest you consult your own solicitor for advice in this matter.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Attorney General would permit a supplementary question?

The Attorney General did not inform the House that the request was put to him as a result of the Attorney General's office in B.C., saying that this is how it should be handled. That is in the correspondence if he cares to read it carefully.

But my question to the Attorney General is this: How many other people who were misled by this misleading information and did not get the right kind of motor and were not in a position to make representations and get an alternative, have protested? Any at all?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, of course I do not know how many other people, but I do know that this file indicates, and the hon. member knows, that the Johnson Motor Company, Outboard Marine, furnishes with every motor a warranty on which Mr. Wood acted and got redress and got the loan of a motor while his own motor was being corrected; and they admit it.

Mr. MacDonald: The company has conceded that the advertising was deceiving.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The company admitted that in this model there appeared, after some use, a defect in certain of the items which they were correcting.

Mr. MacDonald: And only the man that was in a position to act was able to get redress.

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: The member is scraping the bottom of the barrel.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Prime Minister.

How much of the \$200 million promised in the Speech from the Throne, on November 27, 1962, for the acquisition of Great Lakes shoreline has been used?

Second, where has this been spent?

Third, what are the government's plans for the spending of the remainder?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, in the first place the member has only quoted part of the Speech from the Throne, because it said, as I recall, "Great Lakes shoreline and other properties". This question is going to require a great deal of research in the various departments of government in order to supply figures. I propose to take this as notice and we will submit a reply in due course.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education.

Has the Minister advised local school boards as to what grant formula they can expect in 1967 for vocational training schools, now that the federal government is vacating that field? If not, when will he do so?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, the local boards have not been advised as to the future of the former technical-vocational training agreement which was terminated after the federal-provincial discussions of last fall on March 31, 1967.

I should point out to the House, Mr. Speaker, that the termination of this agreement, I think one can state in fairness, came as a surprise to all provinces and it has necessitated a very careful reassessment of the whole technical-vocational training agreement and the building programme, particularly at the secondary level.

The new arrangements with the federal authorities, which I anticipate we will discuss at some length during the estimates, refer only to operating costs, so that any reimbursement with respect to capital no longer exists after March 31.

This has necessitated, as I say, Mr. Speaker, a very detailed consideration as to exactly where we are going with technical-vocational accommodation at the secondary level, but we hope to be in a position to inform the boards as to what the policy will be in the fairly near future.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I might inform the House that the general legislative grant regulations have been mailed out and are now in the hands of the boards. I would point out two or three rather significant changes in the grant regulations for this year.

The corporation tax adjustment grant formerly apportioned among elementary school boards and the municipality in the ratio which their residential and farm assessment bore to each other, will be apportioned in the ratio of their enrolments. The effect of this change is to increase the corporation tax adjustment grant to eligible elementary school boards.

Average daily enrolment will replace average daily attendance in the calculation of the grant. This means that a board will receive grants in respect of all pupils enrolled rather than in respect of the days on which the pupils attended school. This procedure makes allowance for the cost in respect of the accommodation and teaching staff, which must be available even when a pupil is absent.

The foundation level for each elementary school pupil will be increased from \$220 to \$260 and the equalization portion of the grant will be reduced by the equivalent of a 3.5 mill levy, up from three mills in 1966.

For high school boards, the foundation level will be increased by \$10 per pupil for both vocational and non-vocational pupils.

Grants for the purchase of library books will be increased for elementary school boards and will be extended to secondary school boards permitting them to receive

some assistance on expenditures, up to \$9 annually per pupil.

Grants on the purchase of television sets, formerly available to elementary school boards, will also be available now to secondary boards as well.

The amount available for technical grants for all grades, from kindergarten to grade 12, will be raised in recognition of the increased cost of books.

It is also proposed, Mr. Speaker, to continue the attendance growth grant which was introduced in 1966 to assist boards in rapidly expanding areas.

The Ontario foundation tax plan assumes that an elementary school board, to provide a satisfactory level of education, requires a levy of not less than 3.5 mills on its provincial equalized assessment for operating purposes. An elementary school board that does not levy at least three mills for all purposes will not receive the maximum grant assistance that is available under the plan. The corresponding mill rates for secondary school boards are two and 1.7 respectively.

The anticipated increase or the estimated increase in grants because of these changes for the next fiscal year, Mr. Speaker, will total some \$60 million.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have certain questions for the Minister of Health, notice of which has been given.

1. What is the state of contract negotiations between the Stormont-Dundas and Glengarry public health nurses and the county health units?

2. What is the state of contract negotiations between the Peel county public health nurses and the county health unit?

3. Can the Minister inform the House why contract negotiations broke down between the Halton county public health nurses and the health unit?

4. Does the Minister concur that it is desirable for these various public health nursing associations to seek voluntary recognition where possible?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, since these matters are actually presently within the purview of The Department of Labour, and I believe negotiations are going on, I cannot answer the question in the first instance. I think the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) would be better prepared to answer it.

But I would feel from our standpoint, other than to say that the offices of The Depart-

ment of Health have been put at the disposal of any nurse group which wants to use them to help in any way we can, that we are not involved in the negotiations.

Mr. S. Lewis: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker? The question was directed to the Minister because leading members of his department in the public health administration field had visited local boards and asserted a position on behalf of the board, as opposed to that of the nurses. Therefore, it would seem to me that health is involved and the Minister should in fact be accountable.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: I have already stated the position of the department.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves second reading of Bill 24, An Act to establish the Ontario Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, this bill, which is before us, is an Act entitled An Act to establish the Ontario Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Yesterday one of the releases, I believe, said the corporation may provide for insurance. The bill itself is mandatory in that respect, and once the bill is enacted, then the insurance scheme will be in force along the lines which we have already discussed.

To put it briefly, the essential elements of this bill are as follows: It provides for some \$20,000 of insurance; it provides the right on the part of the corporation to collect a premium, and it provides the right also to assist loan and trust companies in certain circumstances, looking to the stabilization of the financial community.

This bill provides for deposit insurance with respect to depositors in loan corporations or loan companies which are chartered under the laws of Ontario, and in trust companies which are chartered under the laws of Ontario. It does not purport to cover any other corporations except those I have described.

Some reference has been made elsewhere about the area of finance companies. It would seem to me there is a misconception about the bill and I would like to speak to this point for just a moment.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that with the complexities of the financial world as they exist

in a modern society, any remedial steps that might be taken by government could never be reflected in a single bill, in a single step or in a single proposal to this Legislature. This bill, as I have said, purports to deal with loan and trust corporation deposits, purely and simply.

Now the inference has been that nothing has been done with respect to so-called finance companies. I suggest that nothing could be further from the truth.

I would like to just summarize, Mr. Speaker, five specific steps which have been taken by this government. First, The Deposit Regulations Act was proclaimed on July 1, 1963, and the provisions of that bill have effectively discontinued solicitation of deposits by other than trust companies.

Second, the financial disclosure requirements of The Securities Act and The Corporations Amendment Act of 1966 will enable the public to better assess the position of financial institutions.

Third, proxy disclosure rules will disclose the questionable activities of management in connection with the company.

Fourth, the Hughes commission has under study money market transactions. Mention should also be made of the select committee which is considering the responsibilities of directors.

Fifth, special rules going beyond disclosure may be desirable for financial institutions; no rules will eliminate thievery, but vigorous enforcement may deter it.

Mr. Speaker, on the order paper—and I draw your attention to it—standing in my name on page 7 under date of January 25, there is notice of the government's intention to introduce legislation as follows: An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act; an intention to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act; an Act to amend The Insurance Act; an Act to amend The Securities Act.

Mr. Speaker, I should just tell you that this government has not been idle nor is it.

Now with respect to the bill itself, I would suggest and submit to you that this is good legislation. It is the first legislation of its kind in Canada and the coverage afforded by it is neither equalled nor exceeded, or conversely is not exceeded, nor is it equalled, by any similar legislation elsewhere on this continent.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is right, just raised it to \$15,000.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): They had it 30 years ago.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It was only \$10,000, we are coming in at \$20,000.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That does not allow for inflation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The members of the House are aware of the federal bill—and I made reference to it yesterday. Quite intentionally, Bill 24 has been drafted in a parallel manner to contain in a similar way the same provisions which the federal government is proposing. This is why, among other reasons, the premium rate is the same as in the federal bill, and it is why also the \$20,000 limit is the same. Therefore, when the federal bill becomes effective there will be an orderly transition available from this legislation to the federal Act itself.

I have no hesitation in telling members that I think this type of protection is more properly—let me put it this way—is more effectively done on a national basis, having in mind the operation of companies and branch offices.

There are some three types of companies, probably well known to members. There are federally chartered companies, there are Ontario chartered companies and those incorporated under the laws of other provinces. Then there are companies which may operate in a province other than that in which they were incorporated under an extra-provincial licence.

Having in mind the whole situation, I think this legislation should be welcome. And I think it should receive the endorsement of the members of this House. I have no hesitation in expressing the hope that other provinces will follow in the same way so that all of the people of Canada will receive this type of protection. And I hope that when the federal legislation is effective the other provinces will also, after negotiations and discussion with the federal authorities, follow the lead which we are providing and go into the federal scheme.

To those who are familiar with these matters, I do not think there will be very much difficulty in following its provisions, and I would simply say that a similar bill has been approved in principle in the House of Commons. I can, with enthusiasm, commend this bill to the members of the Legislature and I would hope and expect that there would be unanimous support for second reading.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal Party supports the principle of deposit insurance, and for that reason will support the bill that is before the House today.

I would like to say to you, sir, that when the hon. Minister who has just spoken indicated that it is parallel to federal legislation, it is herein that we find the serious criticism of the matter as it is presented to us in this Legislature today.

The federal legislation has already received approval in principle. It will be examined carefully by committee and will, in due course be enacted and be available for the protection of depositors across this country. I firmly believe it would then be the responsibility of Ontario to pass legislation which would require companies under our jurisdiction to put themselves under the jurisdiction of this federal legislation.

The Minister himself has indicated that this would be the procedure eventually followed in this province. Therefore there is only one reason why the bill is before us at this time. It is the reason that was written in red headlines in the Toronto *Star* this afternoon. The government, through this Minister, has simply saved another company, the York Trust Company that is chartered in this province, from failure—and the loss to the depositors on a personal basis that this would involve.

Mr. Speaker, I would say, without any equivocation, that no further losses of this nature can even be contemplated in the province of Ontario. It is for this reason that we not only support the principle of deposit insurance, but we are forced to the position where we must also support the late and equivocal action that this government has finally taken under these circumstances of crisis and pressure.

I would say to you, sir, that the government has found itself in the last two weeks in a position of mounting pressure. We on this side have endeavoured to find out, by carefully worded questions and by circumstances that were put to the government, the information that was behind the crisis that has come into being—and has simply come before us in this bill that is being steam-rolled through the House yesterday, today, and perhaps tomorrow. It appears, then, that the government has not been honest with the people's representatives here in this House.

I would say that although the questions were answered with truth, there was evasion. There was the holding back of the facts, which probably in the Minister's mind would have led to the run on this particular trust

company which has occurred, in his words—although this has been denied by the company—and which is being obviated and moved into the realm where it is not going to hurt any individuals by this particular bill. So it is very difficult to restrain our position in this House to a discussion of the bill in principle only.

It is necessary for us to talk about the position of this government, which has come to a head in the presentation of the bill and under these particularly bad circumstances. We know that deposit insurance is before the federal Parliament. We know that all the provinces of Canada are concerned with the provision of this sort of protection for the investors and depositors in their own provinces; but only Ontario — no other province — has had to take the emergency action that we now find placed before us on the order paper, and which we are discussing this afternoon.

The government has muddled and misgoverned itself into the situation where even a few days delay would spell disaster. I have referred to the questions that have been put to the administration over the past few days by the Liberal Opposition and the NDP. I am not saying that they were incorrectly answered but there was evasion, and there was not the full flow of information that would and might have restored public confidence. It is in this particular concern that we as the representatives of the people are in horror at what has happened and at the direction of this particular administration in the days just gone by, the months just gone by, leading to Prudential, and the years that have passed since the accession of this administration, with the number of financial downfalls and bankruptcies and personal losses that can be directed—certainly to the new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, but far beyond him, of course, since his responsibility is only of recent date—to the administration itself and certainly to the Prime Minister of Ontario (Mr. Robarts).

The Minister himself has admitted that this piece of legislation is designed to save one particular company. I would predict to you, sir, that although the Conservative majority will pass it, and we are concurring in the bill in principle, it will never have much effect other than to reassure the depositors of York Trust. I would presume that federal legislation will come into force after proper consideration, in such a time that this legislation, in fact, will not be applied and that we will be asked to approve further legislation which will bring our corporations under the federal deposit insurance provisions.

It appears, then, that the legislation is designed to protect depositors; but we know that for the few days that it will be effective it is designed to save one company, York Trust, which has got into these difficulties because of the general loss of confidence of depositors and investors in the financial community of Ontario.

I regret to say that at this late date it appears that there is no other vehicle for the financial recovery of York Trust other than this. It is necessary that the government of Ontario step in after having contributed and, in fact, created the chaos that leads to this situation, with emergency legislation.

We have some very specific objections. I have pointed out to you, sir, and the *Toronto Daily Star* has pointed out to the people of Ontario, that the bill is designed as an emergency measure to save one company; but the Minister, of course, has never said this to the representatives of the people of Ontario who are gathered here. He has presented this as carefully considered legislation which will have jurisdiction and application in Ontario for many years and which, in fact, once again leads the world in a situation of such importance.

We know that the federal legislation came in before his; that it was approved in principle; and he has admitted himself that this legislation parallels it. As a matter of fact we can throw out the one and take in the other as soon as this particular emergency passes. I would say to you, sir, that if we admit that under the circumstances that this government has brought this province to, it is the only recovery vehicle available—short of simply the crash transference of some funds under the jurisdiction of the province of Ontario as, let us say, deposits in the York Trust itself.

It seems a shame that the circumstances that are present in Ontario today are reflecting on the company York Trust itself. I suppose its greatest difficulty is the fear of the man on the street who has a few dollars deposited there; he has gone in and put his money down and picked up his free prize—his electric knife or his toaster. He has been in receipt of the special rates of interest some of these trust companies seem to be able to offer, under the rules and regulations that are under the jurisdiction of this government. This company has been able to expand; it has been an interesting expansion over the years; it has been an expansion, I would say, that has been uncontrolled, ungoverned by this government.

But it does find itself in this position of crisis, simply because of the loss of confidence of the people of Ontario, and the depositors particularly, that can be traced directly to the Ministry that is presently in control of the affairs in this province.

Mr. Speaker, very specifically the Minister has said that this is general legislation and leading legislation but he has not admitted that it is crisis legislation. Yet this is something of which we in this chamber are very well aware. I would object very strenuously to the fact that the government has not revealed the facts to us over the past few days. Even in his speech, introducing the bill on first and second readings, he has not faced the position that the government must have been facing and sweating over in the days gone by.

Second, the Minister himself has pointed out that the bill does not provide the over-riding protection that the people of Ontario are looking for. It is designed to provide protection and salvation for one company only. The Minister has tried to answer this attack before it was even made; but I would say to you, sir, that the people of Ontario, and we as members of this House, are deeply concerned as to the general approach the government is going to take to restore confidence in the investment community of Ontario. We have not had a look at the whole programme; we have no confidence that there is a whole programme. I would say to you, sir, that the people of Ontario have no confidence in this either.

I would say that the bill before us provides no protection for the depositors in companies that are registered outside of the province of Ontario—categories 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the Minister's early remarks. It seems to me that if this bill were carefully considered by a committee, which would have access to constitutional legal advice, we may very well come to the conclusion that we could require any company accepting deposits in the province of Ontario, no matter where they are registered, to come under the jurisdiction of this bill.

The hasty provision which is before us, and which will not have access to the committee, at least in the words of the Minister himself, will mean that we cannot examine it more carefully—that we cannot have expert advice on possible amendments that would make this more viable and useful in the circumstances that we find today. I believe it is true that more than half of the companies that accept deposits of this nature in

the province of Ontario are not registered here.

So once again it is evident that this particular bill is providing patchwork protection, emergency protection, for only one situation. Once again it appears that this bill is a massive band-aid for one group of companies, or one company because this government did not have the sense, after repeated warnings, to take appropriate action.

These warnings came in the House. They have come in years gone by. But more than that, they came from the financial failures which have been listed for us in speeches in this chamber in just recent days—a list of infamy that is associated with the personal losses of a good many of the citizens of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I referred a moment ago to the fact that this bill will not go before the committee which would meet outside this House. It is important, I believe, not only that before the bill is properly enacted we have access to professional opinion on the constitutional matter that I brought to your attention, but also that we will have no opportunity to hear experts in the field—except as they are reported in the press—who may very well want to have something specific to say to us as legislators and to the government in circumstances other than the closed doors of the Cabinet Ministers' rooms, about deposit insurance and how seriously this has affected the money markets of Ontario in the years and months that we have just come through.

I believe the premium rate itself, although it is exactly parallel to that set out in federal legislation, should have more careful consideration. It seems strange that the same rate will apply to the company that this bill is expressly designed to protect and also to the many other companies who have been in stable business in the province of Ontario for many years. It is not for me to say whether there should be a variable premium in this regard, but it does seem strange that those companies who have acted responsibly, even though there was not responsible government direction in this matter, should be penalized at this time and under these circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has said, as reported in the press, that he has lost sleep over this matter or that he has burned the midnight oil in developing this legislation. It appears really that the bill was written elsewhere and is thrown into the legislative hopper in this

House as a stopgap measure. But I would say that he must carry the responsibility today for piloting the bill through this chamber and in rush circumstances.

He has indicated publicly that he wants it to have Royal assent before the end of the week. But he is not the man responsible. The man sitting in some boredom beside him is the one responsible, the representative in this chamber from London North, the man who has had the responsibility for ordering the affairs of this province for some years. He has not heeded the warnings that have come from the financial community and from the members of this House, and he now finds himself in a position where he instructs his newest Minister in this connection to bring in patchwork legislation, get it through the House in two days, and save one of the companies downtown which has got itself into this position, because of no confidence in the financial community—and which has been brought about by his own policies.

I would say then the responsibility for the continuing and deepening financial chaos rests on the shoulders of the Prime Minister. He will tell us he is prepared to accept that responsibility and I am glad of that, because it appears that the people of Ontario are going to have to make the judgment in this matter; and this is the thing that I want to deal with now.

In the early days of the present session of this Legislature, by my resolution, we urged the government and the membership of this House to put this whole matter dealing with the financial affairs of the province of Ontario before the appropriate standing committee of this Legislature. The Conservative majority, under the leadership of the Prime Minister naturally turned this down. We have now asked that this particular bill go before the appropriate standing committee of the Legislature and it has been indicated that this will not be granted; that it will be bulldozed by the Tory majority through this House without the consideration that, I say to you, sir, is an important part of the developing legislative programme that may restore confidence in the years that lie ahead.

I would say, sir, that this being the case, and since we are not going to have an opportunity to examine this in detail, and with all of the ramifications associated with other financial failures that have taken place in months gone by, it becomes more and more apparent that the real examination will be on the hustings. I hesitate, sir, to put it on this

level because we are concerned with saving York Trust; and I would say that ahead of that we are concerned with saving the depositors who are lining up, Mr. Speaker, at the offices of York Trust—according to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs—desperately waiting their withdrawal slips. And the only way we can get them back in the subway cars is simply by passing this emergency legislation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I think this would be a proper time for me to just make one statement with respect to that newspaper report, because I know the leader of the Opposition—

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to yield the floor on this point unless you direct me.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I am only trying to give the facts, that is all.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member has the right to rise on a point of order if something has been said that is out of order and he wishes to correct a wrong impression. I am of the opinion he is free to quite properly rise on a point of order in that respect.

Mr. Nixon: Speaking to the point of order, sir, my impression is that the Minister is going to have some remarks to make with regard to the headlines in the *Toronto Star* this afternoon, which quoted him as saying that he has saved York Trust. Surely his opportunity to speak on that was in his earlier remarks.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I simply say this, and report through you to the leader of the Opposition, that on Tuesday of this week there were some withdrawals from that company. There was nothing noticeable by way of unusual business done yesterday, and I have no information today as to what the position is, but I think the inference and the reference to a run of the proportion described by the leader of the Opposition is not a desirable thing to leave unreplyed to at this moment.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would say that my references to the people waiting for withdrawal slips may have been an exaggeration, but I would say, sir—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is the very point.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: But I would draw to the Minister's attention the headline in this after-

noon's paper, which says: Rowntree Says Province Stopped Run on York Trust.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Now, if I may continue my remarks.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The legislation is effective.

Mr. Nixon: If I may continue my remarks, sir, I was drawing to your attention that although the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is responsible for this bill, and we are interested in his views, the responsibility for the necessity for the bill lies with the Prime Minister and his administration. I would say that by permitting slipshod financial operations, misleading advertising, the policing of the investing company, he has brought the integrity of the Toronto financial community into disrespect in Ontario and the world.

I would say further, Mr. Speaker, that this has resulted in the ruination of the financial reputation of Ontario, and particularly Toronto, which up until the events of the past few months, has been considered, and rightly so, as the financial capital of this country.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: We would say, as Liberals, and all of you agree with this, that this is a period of time when all of us as Canadians are deeply concerned with the investment of our own people in buying back our natural resource industry and our manufacturing industry. Under these circumstances the Prime Minister of Ontario has, as I have said, destroyed the confidence that is needed if we are going to progress in this programme in the years that lie ahead.

This is an emergency bill. It is needed to stave off another financial collapse of disastrous proportions, as far as depositors are concerned.

I would say to you again, sir, that my reference to Ontario specifically is based on the obvious fact that although federal legislation is presently before the House in Ottawa, Ontario is the only province that has had to take these emergency steps in order to stave off another in an incredibly long list of financial failures.

So it is here, sir, it is here in Ontario that the rot of government irresponsibility has permitted these things to come about.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): That is a very harmful remark.

Mr. Nixon: I would say that the only parallel to the situation that is before us in the pressure that is being exerted by the majority backing the government, is in the year 1962 when the Toronto Hydro bill was passed through this House; introduced one day and had second and third reading the next.

There was a real emergency at that time as well. It was generally accepted by responsible people on all sides that the legislation, if treated that way, would at least keep the lights on in Toronto. Now I suppose there is a comparison.

Here is a point where, if the legislation is not crammed through the House there is a chance of a company which, really through some fault of its own but mostly through the fault of the government in not maintaining financial responsibility and confidence, is in this particular emergency situation.

I would say that we have had a resolution calling for full examination. We do request that this bill go before the committee, but surely the bill itself is the proof of the dangerous ineptitude of the Prime Minister and his government. They have refused a full public investigation that is surely needed for the restoration of confidence.

I would say to you again, sir, that only an election and a change of government can clean up the financial mess in this province.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on the principle of the bill which the government has brought in with such unseemly haste, I would like to refer briefly to the comments of the Minister, in moving second reading of the bill, about what this government has done about the basic vacuum in legislation in the province of Ontario relating to finance and acceptance companies.

I think we must remember that on a Friday afternoon, late in the afternoon before civic holiday in 1965, British Mortgage and Trust Company was bailed out by this government by a standby credit, because it was at that late hour of that day that the government suddenly realized that British Mortgage and Trust Company would not be able to open its doors on the Tuesday morning following civic holiday. It provided, at that time, a standby credit.

That is about 18 months ago. Eighteen months later we find ourselves faced with an identical situation and the government this

time is attempting to provide something which they consider to be a permanent solution; but is not going to give this House the ample opportunity which it requires, because it has to be rushed through to cover a crisis which has developed in York Trust Company.

The crisis is there, and I am not speaking about whether there have been queues of people to draw out their money or otherwise. The crisis is there and the crisis is parallel with what happened in Atlantic Acceptance Corporation and what has happened in the last few days in connection with the group of companies associated with British International Finance Canada Limited.

This is where the crucial problem lies. British Mortgage and Trust Company, which was in existence and a flourishing company in 1965, disappeared from sight the same year. It disappeared from sight because of its association and connection with a finance and acceptance company, Atlantic Acceptance Corporation.

York Trust and Savings Corporation, Mr. Speaker, is in the identical trouble today because it is associated, owned and controlled as one of the subsidiary operations of British International Finance Company, which is engaged in the money market.

This is the root cause of the troubles which appear in the legislative vacuum in the province of Ontario; not companies which are dealing in the capital market in the traditional sense of the word, it is the companies which are dealing in the money market.

There are the banks which are, because of the collapse of the Home Bank, now properly regulated. The loan and trust corporations, which dealt in the money market in the province of Ontario, were in the good wisdom of this Legislature over many years subject to stringent regulatory provisions of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

I will come back to those provisions in a little while. But the finance and acceptance companies which have dealt in the money market, are totally subject to no specific regulations dealing with them as companies operating in the money market. They are completely distinguishable from other types of companies, and it is the vacuum in that kind of legislation—which does not exist in any sophisticated jurisdiction elsewhere in North America—which is at the root and cause of the trouble in this province.

It is not sufficient for the Minister to get up and list five matters which he has dealt

with, or which the government of which he is a member has dealt with in the field of finance and acceptance companies. He referred to one piece of legislation which was passed again in a crisis situation in 1963 to preclude Prudential Finance Corporation and companies similar to that from taking deposits under the guise of carrying on business as finance companies. They passed one piece of legislation and made one amendment to The Securities Act at that time.

Having done that, the Minister then refers to four other things, and I believe I made an accurate list of them. He referred to the financial disclosure provisions of The Securities Act of 1966 and of the amending provisions of The Corporations Act. He referred to the proxy provisions of those Acts. He referred to the Hughes commission and he referred to the select committee and he made some reference to some special rules.

I would simply point out to this House, and through this House I hope to the public, that the Minister has not carried out any of his responsibilities related to finance and acceptance companies.

The financial disclosure provisions of The Corporations Act, unless I am totally incorrect, have not yet been proclaimed in force. The rules with relation to proxies have not yet been proclaimed in force. The Hughes commission has been sitting for a long period of time, and if the Minister will hark back, one of the matters that we asked specifically was that a separate commission be established for British Mortgage and Trust Company so that we would be able to bring The Loan and Trust Corporations Act up to date in view of the findings of a commission which would look specifically into the collapse of that company.

So far, after all these months, the Hughes commission has not even gotten around to discussing the question of British Mortgage and Trust, and for this reason we are faced today with a panic piece of legislation to fill a gap which would not have been necessary had a commission been appointed in 1965 to deal with British Mortgage and Trust Company. The select committee on company law is of course sitting, but it is dealing with the general fields of corporation law in the province of Ontario. It is not directing its attention to the questions related to the securities markets or to the money markets. We are dealing with some very fundamental questions in that committee, but that committee is not touching any area dealing with finance

and acceptance companies in the time which it has been sitting.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, and I leave this part of the topic, nothing that this government has done is dealing with the root cause of the loss of confidence in the financial markets of the province of Ontario, because it is centred in Atlantic Acceptance Corporation, it is centred in Prudential Finance Corporation Limited and it is centred now in the group of companies surrounding York Trust, of which the senior company, so far as we know, is British International Finance Company—this is the area.

The Minister has not given notice of any intention to bring in a bill dealing with finance and acceptance companies, just as in the list of bills of which he has given notice he did not include any notice of his intention on January 25 to bring in this bill. I am suggesting that the government is under an immediate responsibility to produce at this session of the Legislature—and there are ample examples of the kind of legislation we are talking about—legislation to deal with finance and acceptance companies as a separate and distinct category.

Those companies have to be dealt with by way of legislation in this province at this session. We cannot afford another Prudential Finance Corporation, we cannot afford the shaky sensation which goes through the community of the province of Ontario as a result of the open dispute between Mr. Coyne and Mr. Stevens. We cannot afford to wait upon the findings of the Hughes commission. It is not as if the Hughes commission findings are the sole reservoir of knowledge in this area.

I would simply point out what the Minister may very well know; that in the state of New York, which I assume is a sophisticated financial community, you cannot incorporate a company with the words "finance" or "acceptance" under any general corporate law. You come under separate and distinct provisions and they have the knowledge and they have the kind of legislation which this government must introduce at this session.

I leave that point, Mr. Speaker, and I would like now to turn to the principle of the bill which requires, even in this hurried atmosphere, substantial consideration. I make this point, Mr. Speaker, to the House; that this party is prepared to sit this afternoon and this evening to facilitate the passage of this bill today, not tomorrow or the day afterwards. We are not interested in this bill going to another committee at this point, because it has to be passed today. We would ask the

government to accede to this proposition and to pass the bill through all the stages.

I am quite certain that we in this Legislature are capable of giving, in a few hours, the attention required for the provisions of this bill so that the crisis of confidence which the government has moved to halt and to abate will in fact climax today, so that there will be no question about the operation of this bill by the time midnight comes tonight.

Now the principle of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is found in section 25 of the Act and provides that with the limitation of the \$20,000 per deposit every member institution that is carrying on business on the day on which the Act comes into force, namely today I trust, are insured by the corporation from and after that date in accordance with this Act. A member institution, and I would like to draw this to the Minister's attention, the member institutions as I understand it, and I would like him specifically so to state, covers only those companies which are both incorporated in the province of Ontario and registered.

Mr. Singer: That is what section 22 says.

Mr. Renwick: Now I am just referring to the fact that in a number of newspaper reports there were indications that it covered both types of companies, the companies which are registered here from elsewhere and those which are provincially incorporated companies.

Mr. Singer: Section 22 says so.

Mr. Renwick: I understand, sir.

Mr. Speaker, I would simply, for the sake of the record, indicate that so far as I am aware there are 11 provincially incorporated loan corporations in the province of Ontario which will be subject to this Act, two of which were incorporated in the last century and have been in operation since that time, nine of which have been incorporated since 1959 and are all relatively new operations.

There are other loan corporations operating in Ontario which are not covered by this bill, three of which, as I understand it, are extra-provincial corporations from the province of Quebec and nine of which are federally incorporated companies.

The other group of companies which, I understand, are covered by this bill are the 17 provincially incorporated trust companies in the province of Ontario, of which six were incorporated many years ago and the balance were incorporated within the last few years.

So we have 10 or 11 of the trust companies and nine of the loan corporations, as creatures

which came into existence by special act of this Legislature within the last 10 years; and herein lies the problem, herein lies one of the basic problems that this Legislature is now faced with, as it was with British Mortgage and Trust Company. That is, in spite of the elaborate provisions of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, the responsibilities of the registrar of loan and trust corporations have grown to such an extent in a relatively short period of time that he has not been provided with the staff which would permit him to do the job which was required under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that had he been provided with that staff and had he been provided with the expert knowledge and advice which such a staff would have provided, we would not have been in the position with British Mortgage and Trust which the government was in two years ago and which we are now in today because of the York Trust Company.

I would like to turn now to the depositors who are covered, and my understanding of the bill, and I assume the Minister will say so, is that if it is a provincially incorporated loan corporation or a provincially incorporated trust company, then I assume that regardless of where the deposit is made across Canada, in any office of such a provincially incorporated trust company that depositor will be protected.

For example, if a deposit is made in Vancouver in a branch of the National Trust Company, this legislation protects that depositor. I think this does raise a question as to where the cost should be borne of such deposit legislation, because there is a premium which is, as I calculate it, \$333 per \$1 million of deposits which are to be covered by this insurance. The premium will obviously be an expense of the companies to do the business which they are carrying on, and to that extent 50 per cent of it will be borne by the federal and provincial governments because of loss of revenue in the reduction of the income of those companies which is subject to tax. The other one-half of the premium in each case, I assume, in the ordinary course of accounting will in fact be passed through the savings and deposit branches of the loan and trust corporations and will be reflected in the cost to the person who is making the deposit. So the cost of this kind of insurance, insofar as it is to be defrayed by premiums, is to be paid by the public of the province of Ontario, one way or another.

The other source of funds, Mr. Speaker, appears to be capital which will be subscribed

by the government of the province of Ontario. In these circumstances I do not know why it is necessary for the government of the province of Ontario to put up any money by way of capital. The bill provides for some \$5 million to be subscribed by the government of the province of Ontario and presumably to be payable over a period of time. I would certainly think that there is no need for this kind of share capital in this kind of Crown corporation.

The bill contains elaborate provisions permitting the corporation to obtain funds from almost any source, including the government of the province of Ontario and including the guarantee of the government of the province of Ontario for any funds which it raises from other sources. So I do not think that there is any need for this government to subscribe money, other than a very nominal amount for the purposes of the formal necessities of such a corporation as a corporation. The funds which it is going to get, whether by way of premium or from the government of the province of Ontario or from the public, is all going to come from the public.

Let me speak a moment about the form of the corporation. The Minister has set up a corporation which consists of a chairman, three or four senior civil servants and a number of other people, the total number of which has not been disclosed. This corporation is, from that time on, going to report to this House through the Minister. The Minister by this bill will escape any responsibility because his only obligation, once this bill is passed, is to report the affairs of this corporation to the House. He will not, in the traditional sense of Ministerial responsibility, be responsible for that corporation, which leaves us exactly in the position that this corporation, as so many others of these bodies are, is subject only to the standing committee on government commissions. We all know and it has been gone over many times in this House, Mr. Speaker, that that committee has not the staff, has not the capacity, has not the time at its disposal to do the kind of job which is a necessary part of democratic accountability.

I refer only briefly to the efforts which are being made by some people who are interested in the securities commission, to have it established as some kind of a body out there in limbo accountable to nobody—accountable only to the standing committee on government commissions which, for practical purposes, is not an effective body. I say that the fundamental idea that this corporation should only be accountable to the standing

committee on government commissions, and that the hon. Minister's responsibility is to lay before this House a report of its activities, is inadequate to say the least. I, for one, do not like this effort by this government in this kind of a situation to shift its responsibility off to such a body as that.

Mr. Speaker, for a moment, let me turn to the question of loan and trust corporations and the different philosophy which is involved in that statute. The philosophy which is gaining credence as the only basic philosophy to deal with corporate matters in the overall view, is the philosophy of public disclosure—full, free and public disclosure. The fact of the matter is that, under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, the government has substituted the old traditional method of not providing for public disclosure, but for having the information furnished to the registrar of loan and trust corporations.

The result is that the information, so far as the public is concerned, as required by this statute, from each of the loan and trust corporations, is not available to the public. The only provision in that statute is a provision for a report to be made by the registrar of loan and trust corporations to the hon. Minister. The last report that is available is the 1965 report of the registrar of loan and trust corporations for the business in 1964. So we are sitting here today debating a bill which relates to the loan and trust corporations and there is no report of the registrar of loan and trust corporations for the year 1965, or for the year 1966.

It could quite well be possible that the 1966 report would not yet be available, but certainly it is inexcusable that a statutory requirement for a report to be prepared forthwith should not be available in this Legislature for this debate, for the business of the loan and trust corporations for the year 1965.

The bill goes on to provide elaborate provisions by which, if the registrar reports to the corporation and the corporation reports to the Minister and the Minister reports to the government, the government can carry out something which it delightfully calls the rehabilitation of an unsound loan or trust corporation. But this is not the kind of procedure that is necessary to have incorporated in this bill. Indeed that provision of the bill need not occur, nor have a place in this bill at all.

There are ample provisions in sections 113, or 114-to-124 of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act for the registrar of loan and trust corporations, if he had the adequate staff to

do the job, to make every investigation which he wishes to make—either on his own initiative or by way of examination, by way of audit, by way of questions, by way of examination of returns, by way if necessary of appointing an examiner with all the powers under The Public Inquiries Act. To bring into this statute such a block-busting provision, for the government to saddle itself with the responsibility of taking over the operations of an unsound financial operation, is not at all consistent with the total failure of the government to fulfill its obligations as they presently exist under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

It may well be that at some time such a power would be necessary, but before there is any indication that that power was necessary, I think it is absolutely essential that the government satisfy this Legislature that at some time the registrar of loan and trust corporations will be able to fulfil the obligations that have been imposed upon him for many years under that statute.

There is not very much more that needs to be said about the principle of this bill but there is a great deal which needs to be said about the way in which this bill focuses attention, not on the crisis in loan and trust corporations but the crisis in the York Trust Company, or the crisis in housing, or the crisis in the labour-management relations field, or the crisis in agriculture, or the crisis of confidence in many areas of the affairs of this province.

What this bill does in its technical, limited way is to focus attention on the crisis of confidence which is existing and growing up in the government of the province of Ontario. We, in this Legislature, cannot tolerate any longer the method by which this government, in its laborious way, refuses to face up to and deal with any problem until it has reached a point of crisis proportions and then to be asked in this Legislature to speed through legislation which is ill-conceived, in many respects badly drafted, in order to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for this government.

This legislation should have been introduced last session, or the session before. It should have been subject to real examination. It should not be something which is stolen and copied from another bill which is presented in another Legislature or another Parliament in Canada; it should have been available if this government had been on top of its obligations to the people of the province of Ontario.

I do not know how many times we in this party, and in the Liberal Party, and other people in the province of Ontario, are going to say to the government: "You have got to provide the kind of expert knowledge which will produce the kind of legislation in the province of Ontario which will make certain that the financial markets of this country are soundly protected."

The problem is not that this government has to be a pathfinder in this area. There may well be areas where, in particular legislation, some new ideas may be incorporated. But there is not one particle of legislation in the field of financial and commercial affairs, relating to financial markets in the province of Ontario, where the work, the research, and the legislation is not available, in other jurisdictions operating under substantially comparable conditions.

It is no answer to say that conditions there are different. Of course there will have to be adaptive measures to make the law applicable to the province of Ontario, but in the whole field of securities legislation, in the United States of America, in the state of New York, and in certain areas in the United Kingdom, models for every bill that should be passed in this Legislature are available. This new Minister, with his new department, with the obvious intention of the government to shift the burden away from the Attorney General, where this whole field has been neglected and not brought up to date over many years, has an obligation and a responsibility—not next year, not the year afterwards, but this year—to bring in legislation dealing with finance and acceptance companies, dealing with the bringing up to date of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, dealing with the requirements that trustees under bond issues or note issues are to have some specific affirmative obligations to the security holders and in many other fields. This Minister must bring in that legislation, and we in this House will give it the best consideration that we can. But it is not possible for us to continue to support a government in the eyes of the people of the province of Ontario, when they leave this constant vacuum, the constant and continuing vacuum, which is causing all the trouble.

I leave my remarks, Mr. Speaker, where I began, in the field of finance and acceptance companies.

Now Mr. Speaker, as I said at the beginning we will support the bill. We will urge its passage through this Legislature today. We will have some criticisms and comments about it. We think that there are many things

fundamentally wrong with the procedure the government has chosen to follow, but the crucial point must be passed, and it must be passed today, so that the depositors in the loan and trust corporations incorporated in the province of Ontario must be assured before nightfall that their investment and their deposits are fully protected.

We are prepared to assist the government to overcome the crisis of confidence for which it in a large measure is responsible. They will have our support and we will support the bill on second reading.

Mr. Singer: Is there no government speaker, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Bryden: No, they never have one.

Mr. Singer: I had rather hoped that we would have heard, Mr. Speaker, from the Prime Minister on this important subject, because as my leader said just a few moments ago we really cannot level too much of the fault and opprobrium on the shoulders of this new Minister. After all, he complains, he plaintively says, "I have only been in this portfolio since November 14 and how can you expect me to have changed anything in that short period of time?"

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: When did I say that?

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I have it here and in the press releases; the Minister knows it and it is there. So if that is the excuse of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, Mr. Speaker, there is only one person in the province of Ontario to blame and that is the Prime Minister of the province of Ontario; and I am sorry that he has not taken part in this debate.

Mr. Speaker, in listening to the recent remarks of the member for Riverdale, I think he made one serious mistake. I think that he has neglected to point out that up until now the only knowledge that we have of a crisis comes from the Minister's remarks, not in this Legislature but to the newspapers.

Apparently there seems to be a case for this unusual procedure. This procedure has taken place only on two occasions in the time I have been in the Legislature. One was the incident referred to by my leader and dealt with the compulsory arbitration in the Toronto Hydro strike, and the other is on this occasion.

On this occasion, for a reason that has not as yet been explained to us, as the Minister was delivering his opening remarks on the first reading of this bill the printed bill was

being distributed through the House. That, sir, would indicate to me some feeling of urgency.

I have examined carefully his press release, and listened to his remarks that he gave in the form of a press release yesterday. There is not one word, one phrase, one sentence, that indicates any feeling of urgency in relation to this matter. It is a matter that has to be considered, carefully considered and let us get on with the job.

He did not mention York Trust. It is a routine matter, new Minister, new plans, new care and attention to the commercial community; and so we have a bill that is going to apply to all these people and do all these wonderful things. This afternoon, sir, he said again not one word about urgency. Why then, does my friend from Riverdale say we are going to support this bill going through and we will sit all night if necessary because there is a great urgency?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): That is right.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if there is a feeling of urgency that demands this unusual and unique procedure, let the government this afternoon make the case for it. Let the Prime Minister make a case. Let him tell us. Let him at long last be frank with the people in this Legislature, be frank with the people of Ontario and tell us what has been going on in this province over the last two weeks, while they rushed in with emergency legislation, while they held meetings behind closed doors, while they made continuing and renewed audits.

Let the government speak up. Let them be honest and frank with the members of this Legislature; let them be honest and frank with the people of the province of Ontario.

That, sir, is the case that has to be made and has not as yet been made in this Legislature. Until that case is made, I would say, sir, that there has to be a real explanation as to why the government is not prepared to let this bill take its normal course. Why are they not prepared to let it go to the standing committee where we can have brought before us the constitutional advisers to this government, where we can ask them why it was not possible to include in this bill all of the loan and trust companies that carry on business in Ontario?

In the province of British Columbia, sir, and I am sure my friend the Minister knows

this well, they have had a statute on their books for a number of years wherein they do regulate loan and trust corporations, federally incorporated, doing business in that province. I would suspect, but I do not know, the Minister has not bothered to tell us, this could be done in this bill for federally incorporated companies carrying on business in the province of Ontario.

But surely, sir, the least we can expect when we see a bill so incomplete as this is an opportunity to examine those people who advise the Minister, and we cannot do that in this House.

My friend from Riverdale made the point that apparently the bill is going to protect a Vancouver investor in an Ontario company which carries on business in Vancouver, and that is the way I read the bill as well.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Not an investor!

Mr. Singer: A depositor! Fascinatingly, sir, while we are anxious to look after that man in Vancouver, an Ontario investor in Ottawa who would deposit in Credit Foncier, a Quebec company in Ottawa, would not be protected. Is this not ludicrous?

Mr. J. H. White (London South): The member should speak to his friends in Ottawa.

Mr. Singer: The member for London South—the Whip—says, “Speak to the federal people about this.”

Well, I say this, sir. He is part of this overwhelming majority that is apparently going to bulldoze this bill through the House in a limited period of time, without any opportunity to properly examine these questions. What sense does it make when we have before us this bill that is going to protect less than 50 per cent of the depositors who deposit in loan and trust corporations in the province of Ontario?

Mr. White: Speak to Mr. Sharp!

Mr. Singer: I am sorry that my friend has such a limited knowledge of the problems involved, and I am sure he and I would enjoy going before the standing committee and putting these questions to the constitutional experts who perhaps can answer them. Certainly there is no opportunity given here to explore whether or not this Act can be expanded or should be expanded, whether or not the Act that now pertains in British Columbia, that controls loan and trust corporations in many aspects, cannot be used in the same manner in this jurisdiction.

But I say, sir, what sense does it make when we would protect a depositor in Vancouver if he deposits in an Ontario company of Vancouver, and we cannot by this bill protect an Ontario depositor who deposits money, say in the Royal Trust Company, which is a Quebec incorporated company or in one of the federal companies? Does that make any sense?

If it does, let the Minister tell us, let the Prime Minister tell us. That is the sort of discussion that has to take place.

I say, sir, that in this city, that once was the financial capital of Canada, in this city we have a great wealth of talented knowledge in this field in the minds and in the experiences of the gentlemen who run these various corporations. Surely, sir, they should have not only the opportunity, but they should be asked, to come before the standing committee on legal bills, to advise wherein this statute might be faulty, not about the decision. With my leader, with all of us, we agree that you need deposit insurance, but surely these gentlemen with their wealth of successful business experience can have some pertinent advice as to how this can best be done. It may well be, sir, that all of the answers are not in here. I am sure as this day goes on, or this day-and-a-half goes on, we are going to find that all the answers are not in this bill.

I would like to know, sir, and there has been no explanation brought to us at all, as to whether we are able to do this constitutionally. The Minister gives us no opinion. The whole constitutional position on this is left completely blank. Have we the power to take any steps at all? We do not know. What is the real meaning of the word “banking,” as in section 91 of The British North America Act? We do not know. Can we go this far and no further? We do not know. Can we go far enough to cover all the loan and trust corporations? We do not know. And we are being denied the opportunity to conduct that logical and sensible sort of inquiry which would make this bill meaningful, if it is needed immediately in the province of Ontario.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That would be another two years.

Mr. Singer: Another two years. Fine. The Minister of Reform Institutions talks about another two years. Perhaps he will stand up and tell us, because we cannot get it from the responsible Minister, we cannot get it

from the Prime Minister: What is the crisis? Why does it exist and why does this Act have to go through in this unusual way? I would like any one of these people to stand up and tell us.

It is not because of something we read in the newspapers. If there is not a responsibility on either the part of the Prime Minister or the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs to explain the urgency, where then does the responsibility lie? In the rumour mills? In the headlines of the newspaper? In the editorials? Yesterday's newspaper, one of the prominent daily papers in this city, had an editorial headed, *A Sound Move*, patting the Minister on the back, saying what a grand fellow he was because he was going to clean up this whole situation by this new bill that he brought in.

If the Minister had been able, successfully, to draw a smokescreen in front of the eyes of those intelligent gentlemen who write these editorials in these afternoon papers, then I am sure, sir, that he has been successful in being able to draw the same smoke-screen across the eyes of the people in Opposition, and the rest of the people in Ontario. Listen for a moment to a paragraph or two of this editorial:

Mr. Rowntree's speed in assessing the present circumstances surrounding some of our near-banks, and his ability to get legislation thought out and to the point of enactment, suggests the positive direction which Ontario's present government is still capable of giving the people of this province.

Regrettably, Mr. Rowntree's new Act cannot be made retroactive to compensate those individual investors who lost life savings in the crash of Prudential Finance last year.

But apparently this new Act is going to do it. And then I thought the best illustration really of how this Minister has misled the able editorial writers of this newspaper is contained in the last paragraph:

The echoes in the distance are from the Opposition parties who will be hard pressed now to demand in a loud voice that the Robarts regime do something to protect the little investor who could be hard hit now or in the near future by the collapse of yet another financial institution.

Well, Mr. Speaker, there it is. There it is in all its ridiculous prose. There it is in all its ludicrousness. This Act does not apply at all to finance companies. There could be

another Prudential tomorrow and this Act would not stop it. This Act does not apply even to a majority of the companies doing business in the trust and loan field in the province of Ontario, either in number, or in dollars, or by way of depositors.

It is a stop-gap, a makeshift manoeuvre apparently designed to save one specific company. Surely, sir, if there can be anything more obvious, it must be that before this debate is over someone on the government benches has to stand in his place and tell us what this emergency is, tell us honestly and frankly, not parry, not evade, not prevaricate, as they have done in the answers to these questions that we put forward in the last weeks, tell us frankly and honestly—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, prevarication? The member's own leader said he thought the questions had been answered truthfully. Does the member think they have not been answered truthfully?

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the word "prevaricate"; I meant to say "equivocate".

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Thank you very much. There is a vast difference. I am glad I picked it up.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I will repeat that list of adjectives. The word "prevaricate" which I used was wrongly used and I withdraw that word. We want to know why there have not been complete, frank, all-revealing and open answers to the questions that were put forward, why there has been equivocation, why there has been evasion, and why up to this time, at 4.25 p.m. in the middle of the debate on the second reading of this bill, there has as yet been no answer at all from the government as to what the crisis is.

If we can get that answer, sir, perhaps we will have this whole show partly on the road. Then perhaps we can understand why this bill demands such urgency with all its imperfections, why we cannot wait a week or two or three, until the Ottawa people have finished their deliberations and passed their bill, so we will have a bill applying over the whole country—or why just the introduction of this bill is not sufficient and why it has to be passed within a 24-hour period?

I would think, sir, common courtesy would indicate that the Minister or his leader could tell the House as much as they tell the newspapers. Is that not the least that is owed to

the democratic process in the province of Ontario? Not this game of ducks and drakes, not the constant smoke screen, delusions, evasions. The people of Ontario are mature enough to accept the sad answers about bad government. The hon. members of the Legislature are entitled to frank and open disclosures and we are not getting them, sir.

Finally I want to say this. To be worthy of anything remotely approaching the wording of this editorial, I would think that the time is long overdue that we should have laid before us, sir, a whole programme of what the government intends to do insofar as the whole investment field is concerned.

The hon. Minister—I heard this on television, I did not hear it in the House last night—the Minister on television last night said: “Oh, yes, we are investigating the Prudential situation.” He did not add: Behind closed doors! He did not add that the files have not been made available to the hon. members of the Opposition, as requested. He did not add that we did not even get the courtesy of an answer to our letters.

About March 1, when we get a report from the securities commission—which is in fact conducting this closed door investigation, an investigation of itself and government—we will then be in a position to tell you, later on, what we are going to do about finance companies.

Surely, sir, in keeping with the plea made by my leader, the time has come when this has to be brought out into the open. We have to know what is going on. The people have to know what is going on. And this evasion, delay and smokescreen has to stop.

In all these points, sir, the government stands condemned. They do not have the courage—and that is the only word for it—to bring all the facts before the people of Ontario. They do not have the courage to allow an open investigation of their conduct. They are investigating their own conduct by their own commission, behind closed doors, and they hope the people will forget about what is happening. For these reasons, sir, they do stand condemned.

Deposit insurance is important. It should have been a part of the law of the province of Ontario a long time ago.

Mr. White: It should have been federal legislation a long time ago.

An hon. member: Go on back to King Lear. What about Henry VIII?

Another hon. member: What about John Roberts?

Mr. White: What about Mackenzie King—

An hon. member: It is King White over there—Prince White.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that any government that has been in power for 24 years and whose only recourse to escape blame is to blame another jurisdiction for action it could have taken—if this bill has any validity at all this afternoon it would have been as valid in 1943, the year in which the Tories took power in the province of Ontario.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Singer: And if it has no validity this afternoon, then we are all wasting our time. It is a record of 24 years of neglect of the financial climate in the province of Ontario and no other words can explain it.

Now, in summary, sir let me say just this. We believe—

Mr. White: The federal government will fool around with this for another four years—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

An hon. member: Close the barn door over there.

An hon. member: They might give the member a Cabinet post next.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): I do not think we can afford it.

Mr. Singer: Finally, in conclusion, let me say only this: Because we believe that deposit insurance is a necessary part of the laws that will provide financial protection, we are going to support it. We object—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Oh, no! We have said this right from the beginning, and if my friend would bother to look at Bill 6 standing in my name, the hon. member will see that it is there. He need not laugh or chortle, he should hang his head in shame and embarrassment every time he looks in the mirror because he has the cheek to sit there and form part of this useless, wasteful government.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Let him go and count committee members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, hopefully the hon. Prime Minister will take the opportunity

now—and I ask him to do this on behalf of all the people of Ontario—to stand up and tell us what is going on.

An hon. member: Does he know?

Mr. Singer: And bring the people of Ontario into his confidence at long last.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am always entertained and amused by the histrionics of the hon. member for Downsview. If the member speaks before me, he wants to make it appear that I only speak because he asked me to. The member seems to think that he has an inalienable right in this House to always speak last, and to hear what everybody else has to say. He gets quite annoyed if he has to speak before he has heard the argument produced by every other member of the House.

We have an orderly form of debate in this House and I think the average member of this assembly speaks whenever he chooses to speak. He picks his position in the debate and he speaks at that time. So I can assure you I am not on my feet at this moment, Mr. Speaker, because of the rantings of the hon. member for Downsview. I have heard all this before, over a period of years in various other debates.

I would like to deal with several aspects of this bill which really pertain to the debate we are having on the principle of the bill. In the first place a great effort is being made to paint this as emergency legislation and I would suggest that it is not.

Mr. Bryden: Why the rush?

Mr. Singer: Why is the hon. Prime Minister doing it?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If the members will just be quiet for a moment I will tell them. I do not mind their interjections but it will just mean they will have to wait a little longer for the information.

The hon. Minister, in his opening remarks, has pointed out in the various statements he has made over a period of time, in relation to his dealing with this matter, that as far as the legislation is concerned it has been studied for a considerable period of time. It has been examined very carefully by the best brains we can marshal in order to ensure that it will accomplish what we want it to accomplish.

From a constitutional point of view, I think every member of this House is aware—and I do not say this in any partisan political way, nor do I say it by way of directing any

criticism at the federal government—but every man in this House, and every member of the financial community of Canada, is well aware that our commercial and banking affairs at the moment are in a great state of muss. I cannot put it any more succinctly or clearly than that.

Members can go back and read the Porter Royal commission and the recommendations made, but I am not going to go into my opinion of why certain recommendations of that report have not been carried out. Nonetheless the fact remains that they have not been carried out, and we have many grey areas of jurisdiction in this whole field. This is one of the reasons, and probably the major reason, why we have reached the position we are in in Canada today. For anybody to stand up and say that this is limited to the province of Ontario, is absolute and utter nonsense, because it is not.

Mr. Whicher: What about Windfall? Where was the law then?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Windfall is in Ontario. I would assume it would be the most natural thing in the world that the greatest incidence of weight of these things would fall in Ontario, because we have the greatest number of institutions, and there is more activity in this area here than in other provinces. But it is—

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): By accident.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is quite widespread. As a matter of fact, as has been mentioned before, it is not even a Canadian problem; it extends beyond that. But in our own country we have a specific problem and that is the jurisdiction of the various levels of government, or the various governments of the country in this field.

This bill is now in its application. We have never pretended to advance the theory that it was anything else. The Minister said what it did not do as well as what it did do, and it does not cover federally incorporated trust companies operating in this province. It does not cover them because we have very grave doubts as to our jurisdiction, or our constitutional rights to control those companies.

As far as companies operating in Ontario from other provinces are concerned, there are doubts in that area as well. So the choice and the decision put to the government was: Will we do what we can do? Will

we do what we are empowered to do? Will we act in the field which we know is ours and in which we are certain we cannot be attacked? This we have done. The federal government is moving in its field.

Members opposite say, "Why do we not wait until their legislation is complete?" We do not wait for this reason: There are certain events which have taken place—is this to be a question?

Mr. Singer: Yes. I wonder, the hon. Prime Minister said, "We are certain we can act in this field." Is he certain that banking, the taking of deposits, can be controlled by a provincial government?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, we are as certain as one can be of anything in this field. But the alternative is to do nothing, and we are not prepared to accept that position. We are as certain as we can be, in the advice we have been given, that we are entirely within our own right, within our own jurisdiction constitutionally in instituting certain controls over trust companies that are incorporated within the province of Ontario. This may be challenged, but we do not think it will be; and we think, if it were to be challenged, our position would be upheld.

The problem, when you get into making legislation such as in this bill applicable to federally incorporated companies, is that it could bring an attack upon the whole bill. There are doubts—our advisers tell us there are grave doubts—as to whether we can. My friend from Downsview is a lawyer and he has gone through all his law practice. Back when he and I were at law school, I remember lectures in which we were dealing with the jurisdiction and the rights of provincially incorporated companies as opposed to federally incorporated companies, and he knows all this. But if we are to impose certain restrictions on a federally operating trust company that has branches from coast to coast, and these restrictions are only applicable within the province of Ontario, there is grave doubt as to whether that would be constitutionally correct.

Mr. Singer: British Columbia has been doing it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know what British Columbia does, but I can tell you this: I have learned to be very suspicious in this House when someone says to me, "So-and-so does it in such and such a place, why do not you?" Inevitably, upon investigation, I find there may be a sound

principle there; but I generally find that there is some specific reason which is not always revealed or apparent when the matter is first mentioned. I would have to look very carefully at what British Columbia is doing in this regard.

Mr. Singer: That is right but we have got—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well we have the time to do it. Certainly, that is what we are doing, and I revert to my original point. With this bill, this government is doing what it is empowered to do. We have told you. The Minister has said so. This is not hiding anything behind any cloud, as the Opposition eternally tries to represent the government as doing. This government simply says, "Here is the area where we can act and in this area we will act."

Why are we doing this today? I have already said that it is not emergency legislation. It was not dreamed up last Sunday night. It is legislation that has been under examination and review for some considerable time. The Minister has told Opposition members, if they cared to listen, that we have had numerous conferences with the federal government over this matter. The federal government knows what we are doing. We told it exactly what we proposed to. We told it what we were doing in terms of its legislation. We have discussed time-tabling with it; we do not know yet what the federal legislation will be.

We have a bill. But in that bill—let me point out to you, Mr. Speaker, just one example of what I am speaking about. There is no definition of a deposit in that bill. We do not know whether it is going to be a pure deposit; we do not know whether it is going to encompass GIC as they are called; we do not know whether it is going to encompass debentures; all three of which are specifically encompassed by this Act.

It is not easy to guess at what the federal government will do either, because I will tell the House its problems are probably different from ours—because it is dealing with federally incorporated companies which extend from coast to coast. We will not accept the position that we sit back and do nothing, and wait for the federal government. I am not criticizing its delay. Please do not think that. But its process will take it longer.

In the meantime, there are certain events that have occurred which would indicate to us that it would be prudent if this legislation were passed as quickly as we might do so.

Mr. Nixon: May I ask a question?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Just a minute. Let me finish my point, then I will answer the member's question.

There was a question asked in the House today—and the Opposition should not say we did not answer it—and do not say our answers are not correct, because they are.

There was a question asked in the House today by the hon. member for Riverdale, I believe, concerning the York Trust Company and whether it was within the limits of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, as it presently stands; and the answer was, "Yes". Therefore that company is functioning, as of this moment and time, within the controls established by The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. But members have read in the newspaper and I have read in the newspaper, of the discussion before the banking committee of the House of Commons, that there is a dispute between two groups of financial men, and some place in that discussion is an Ontario trust company.

The answer given in this House to the member's question would indicate that the trust company is living entirely within the liquidity provisions that are set out in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. But with speeches such as that made by the hon. leader of the Opposition, the most irresponsible thing I have ever heard—just the most irresponsible thing—to say that people are lining up at the door waving their withdrawal slips—

Mr. Nixon: Wait a minute!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Does the member wish to ask a question?

Mr. Nixon: No, on a point of order. The same point of order that was raised during the discussion a few moments ago. The Prime Minister has said that my position was irresponsible, and I would say to you sir, that it was directly associated with the statements attributed to the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, as reported in the reputable press of this city. If he wants to deny it, then that is a different thing. I have already indicated that the phrase that the Prime Minister referred to about the withdrawal slips was an exaggeration, but we are talking about the responsible Minister saying that this legislation saved the run on the trust company named.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well I will let the Minister speak for himself. I accept the point of order and I accept the point you make.

In any event, it just does seem to us in the present state of affairs, with the discussions that are going on—and what was the phrase used by the member for Riverdale when I believe he said tremors ran through the financial community, or something of this nature? If it is the intention of this government to introduce this legislation, and if this legislation will accomplish certain things, which it will, then as far as we are concerned, in the present set of circumstances, we think it would be a smart idea to pass it as quickly as possible.

The federal government—there is not a doubt in the world that in due course the federal Act will come along and be debated, and we will see it. We are on the record here on several occasions as saying we do not wish to move into the federal government's field of influence. We do not want to affect their ability to control the fiscal and monetary policy of the country. We would prefer, of course, to see all trust companies in this country, provincially incorporated or otherwise, controlled by the federal government, coming under one set of standards with one inspection staff. This, in my thinking, and in the thinking of this government, would be the proper way for this matter to be handled in the interests of Canada. But we do not know whether the federal government is going to assume this responsibility and I recognize the difficulties they face in trying to do so.

Once again, I am not being critical of them. I am just saying it is not a simple thing for them to do, because there are certain provinces that may say this is their constitutional right under The British North America Act and they do not choose to give it up. If they so decide, they are within their rights, and this might make it very difficult for the federal government. But the difficulties faced by the federal government is not an excuse for us, or for the Opposition, to stand there and say, "Hold this up until we see what the federal government is going to do."

Mr. Singer: Nobody said that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is what they said.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, that is the second time the Prime Minister has said that.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is what I understood.

Mr. Singer: I said that there is ample time if there is no emergency—and the Prime Minister has repeated there is no emergency—to let this bill take its normal process in this House. That is all I said.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well we are getting clarification of positions, if nothing else. We are getting these positions clarified. I know where the Opposition members stand.

At any rate, my argument will remain the same. This bill will have certain effects. They are limited. They are not as broad as we would like them to be. There are real difficulties. For instance, imagine trying to apply the provisions of this bill, which permits the government to take certain steps in the event that a trust company gets in difficulty. Can you imagine attempting to apply those provisions to a federally incorporated trust company? I do not think it could be done. I just do not think it could be done. I do not believe members think it could be done either, but we can go ahead with what we can do.

In the course of time, I think members will all admit that things are not just 100 per cent in the financial community across Canada. Members would like to heap it all on the shoulders of this government; this I understand, because they are the Opposition, and this is their function; but they know that this really is not so. This is a national problem we face today. And we are doing, as a government, with this bill what we think we can do right now.

Mr. Whicher: Why did the government not do it two years ago?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, there are many reasons why we did not do it years ago. Let us move on from there and see what the future will hold in regard to this bill. This bill will have its effect and I am delighted to see the sense of responsibility the New Democratic Party has accepted in this matter. This bill will have its effect and we can look and see what the federal government will do—we are going to be here for some time. This bill will have its effect; we will get what we want with this, limited though it may be. Then, as the federal government proceeds with its procedures, we will be watching them, we will be talking to them. Despite the efforts of some people to break

down and cause difficulty between levels of government, we are in pretty close communication with the federal government and with our sister provinces.

Mr. Reaume: That is a switch.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Why is that a switch? Tell me any issue on which we have not been in communication with the federal government.

Mr. Reaume: Oh, hundreds of them.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member just cannot climb out of the Hepburn days, that is his trouble! He is right back with Mitch Hepburn fighting with Mackenzie King. His thinking has not been updated since 1934, and that is just where it has stayed. Do not talk to me about that sort of thing.

The Minister has been in touch with the federal government. We are in touch on the official level. We are in touch on the Ministerial level—because we think this is serious and we think it is a national problem. But I think it has to be solved by a high degree of cooperation between the various governments.

Mr. Speaker, these are the reasons this bill is here today, and these are the reasons we think it should be passed through this House. It was introduced for first reading yesterday. On first reading it was printed and distributed. Members have had an opportunity to read it—comments have been made, some of them more intelligent than others—but some people have appeared to have read it and given it some examination, and we do not think that we will be rushing things unduly if this bill is dealt with and its effect brought into being. Then, as the situation unfolds, we will have an opportunity, if necessary, to amend this bill, or to see what else might be necessary.

But I do not know, members do not know, nobody knows at this stage how it will fit in with what the federal government might choose to do. We have stated that we will cooperate with the federal government and we feel that it is their area, but perhaps what they end up with will cover everything. There may be more chinks we will have to fill, we do not know, but let us do what we can do. Let us do what we can do right now.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I recognize the member for St. Patrick.

Mr. A. K. Roberts: (St. Patrick): I would like to take part in this debate for a moment or two. I would like to say that of course I will vote on second reading; I would like to say we are still in a field of some inference, though the Prime Minister has in the last few minutes cleared up two or three suppositions that were made by the Opposition. I assume now, from what was said a moment ago by the Prime Minister, that it is the intention of proceeding with this bill into committee of the whole House and dealing with it section by section, probably today. Am I correct in that—probably today, or in the very near future, and that there is now, though there was not probably earlier, any emergency? It was a non-emergent situation but if it has to move that fast there must be some emergency at the moment.

I personally would enjoy the opportunity of seeing this very important bill, dealing with a very important phase of our society, though it is a limited section only, go through a very thorough debate in committee, where it could be given the type of study it deserves. However, if it is going to go forward now I want to point out—and I would like to, and I realize my position is not what it used to be. I cannot make a motion at the proper time if it happens that it is going to, or might, involve the spending of money; but I can say to the Minister now that when we reach section 22, if I were in a position to do so, I would like to submit an amendment in order that not merely trust companies and loan companies of the old line are covered, but that near-banks and near-trust companies are going to be covered too.

That is a very important situation today, if we are really trying to protect deposits in the terms of the definition. Therefore, and I speak to the Minister concerned, and I would like him to take note of these words, perhaps when we reach section 22 he may have some other assurance that would meet the situation as far as I am concerned. But section 22, at the present time—and when I saw this bill yesterday and I first went through it I thought it was wider than the federal bill. I thought it was intended to take in these fringe operations to some extent where they are operating legally, but section 22 defines member institutions, and member institutions are the only instrument covered by the bill as far as insurance goes.

For the purposes of this Act—section 22 says—

every loan corporation and trust company incorporated under the laws of Ontario, and registered under The Loan

and Trust Corporations Act, are member institutions.

As I read that section, it is limited then to those and those only, and does not take into account the wider group that would come in under near-banks, near-trust companies, and so forth.

I would ask the Minister to consider the possibility, if this is really emergent in this sense—so emergent that it is emergent for one sector of society, of commerce—it is equally emergent, possibly, for the less supported to take into account amending this section 22 by adding after the word Act in the third line—

Mr. Speaker: Order! I wonder if the member would leave the particular section and make his recommendation at the time when the House is examining the bill, clause by clause, in committee of the whole.

Mr. Roberts: I agree, Mr. Speaker—and I pointed out earlier that I am not in a position perhaps to make a valid motion at that time because it might involve the spending of money—but what I want to suggest is that the section be widened so that it would take in, in addition to the definition in section 22 and the limits there, any finance company engaging in similar business to that of such companies in Ontario. If that were done, you have something.

I might say, sir, it would involve also an appropriate amendment to section 23 (C) to give the same effect.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, if the problem we are dealing with this afternoon were not so serious, I would say that the position into which the government has placed this Legislature would be a worthy subject for a Gilbert and Sullivan opera. On the one hand, we have all the earmarks of a panic, an emergency, the government itself in panic—we have the responsible Minister, I am still trying to get used to his title, of Financial and Commercial Affairs, saying one thing in this House and apparently other things to the press, neither of which is consistent with what the Prime Minister has been telling us. Then when you get right down to it, we really are not dealing with a basic problem anyway.

The government is in a flap and there is a great flurry, and people are feeling insecure, or many of them are yet, they are not dealing with the real issue anyway. They are just dealing with the fringe. Let us review a very little of the background in relation to

points that have not been mentioned regarding this matter of deposit insurance in this particular field.

As we know, last November, or last fall, I am not sure whether it was October or November, there was the Prudential disaster.

Mr. Speaker: To keep this background material in order, please, make it relative to the principles embodied in the bill.

Mr. Bryden: Strictly, sir, but it goes back to this Prudential affair, because at that time Mr. Mitchell Sharp made a great hero of himself and got his name in headlines all across the country, and on television programmes, by saying he was going to introduce deposit insurance. It was not entirely a new idea; it had been under discussion for some time; but he got a lot of kudos from it. Then our own Minister here, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, was not going to get left out of this act, so he came into the picture saying, in effect, "Anything Sharp can do, I can do better. I am going to have deposit insurance too, and furthermore I am going to get mine in faster than Sharp does."

This is the sort of byplay that has been going on. The basic point to notice, Mr. Speaker, is that deposit insurance has absolutely nothing to do with Prudential at all. If this bill had been in law at the time of the Prudential disaster, as far as I know it would not have made any difference to the overwhelming majority of people concerned.

We were going to deal with a problem by dealing with another problem. That is how it all got started, and I must say it was not this Minister, it was Mitchell Sharp who started it. What a situation, where we have Ministers contradicting themselves, where they talk glowingly about what they are going to do in one field and deal with something in another field.

I really think the Prime Minister's explanation this afternoon of why this bill is going through with such unprecedented speed, is still not good enough. The hon. member for Downsview said he did not know of any emergency. I am not so sure there is no emergency, that is why we are willing to act.

It is true the government is playing a cat and mouse game. It has been playing a cat and mouse game with the public and with the Opposition, but I have an uneasy feeling there is an emergency. I am therefore ready to deal with it.

We are still saddled with this government in Ontario for the present. They are the only people that can deal with the crisis of confidence, a really serious one, that has developed. Therefore we obviously have to give them the instruments to deal with it.

But again, just look at what has happened. Yesterday, on adjournment, I asked the Minister in charge, also acting as House Leader at the time, what the emergency was, why was there this quite unusual haste. I am not quoting, but this was the import of what I asked him.

And it is an unusual haste. This is a complicated, important bill. Although it is technically correct and since the government got it printed so quickly, they do not usually get their bills printed so quickly, but since they got this one printed so quickly it is quite in order for them to move first reading one day and go on to second reading the next day and rip her right through. It is in order, but it is not usual and in my opinion it is not desirable, except in emergency situations.

Now when I asked the question, the hon. Minister, was I must say, most coy. He said that in effect—again I do not purport to quote him, I do not remember his exact words—he said in effect he did not think it would be advisable to say anything more about the matter at that time. Apparently, however, from what I can judge from reading the paper, he went out and talked quite freely to the press. He would not vouchsafe any information to us mere mortals who happened to be elected to represent the people of the province. No, no; he could not tell us anything about it, but he told the press apparently.

Now if he was misquoted I wish he would clear the matter up, but he told them that the York Trust situation was the reason this bill was going through this House so fast.

Now the Prime Minister says that has nothing to do with it. Now—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I did not really say that it had nothing to do with it. I pointed out that there had been a question asked which indicated that York Trust was within its limits.

I also pointed out that there were certain events taking place in the press, where the battle of the Titans is joined; if the member wants me to put it that way, and somewhere it would appear mixed up with this fight between Mr. Coyne and York Trust. I do not know. I am just saying this is the thing that is causing those tremors the member for Riverdale was telling the House about.

I am not saying that there are not circumstances that might be viewed with some alarm, but I think it would be irresponsible to say there is a situation of emergency. The point I made was if the legislation will have an effect, why not do it and have the effect of that legislation in the protection of the people we are trying to protect; those are the people who have their money tied up in this and other institutions.

Mr. Bryden: I certainly accept the Prime Minister's correction. The words I used certainly did not convey accurately what he said, although what he has now said to me does suggest that really, the York Trust situation is involved, but not on emergency basis. I think his original statement could not be better summarized than by saying that the government considers it expedient to move rapidly in this matter at this time. I am going to suggest to him that it is not expedient to move forward rapidly with this bill if there is no serious emergency that we are trying to deal with. We have one of two situations as I see it.

On the one hand there is an emergency, that is one possible supposition. The government says no, or at any rate it is not really an emergency category, it is a worrisome situation but not yet an emergency state. That might put their point of view.

But let us say we have an emergency situation. Now I think it should then be dealt with as an emergency, if we have one. The government, as my friend from Riverdale pointed out, could surely get up and announce that it is prepared to back up deposits and debentures held by any people in any company registered under the law of Ontario, and I would hope perhaps that it might be able to go further and say that of any deposits Ontario residents may have in any other companies that are properly supervised elsewhere.

It should work out something like this. I do not think they need a law to do that. I think they could say they will do it. They have the resources of the province of Ontario which will stand behind to make sure these institutions do not go under and people do not lose their money. If the government—

Mr. Singer: They did it for British Mortgage!

Mr. Bryden: Well yes, and certainly no one lost their money, as far as I know. Certainly no small investors did. I do not see why they cannot make a general declaration, if there is

a crisis of confidence. If they feel their powers are inadequate in any respect, I am sure this Legislature would back them up 100 per cent. I am sure if they wanted to bring in a bill to give themselves certain emergency powers, we in this House, certainly in this group, would be willing to waive all rules and let it go through all readings and committees in quick succession if the government advised that was necessary to deal with a certain situation that now exists.

But if something of that nature is not necessary then I resent, Mr. Speaker—and I will speak for myself as a member of this House—I resent having to pass judgment on a complicated bill like this just at the snap of a finger.

As a matter of fact, I am not so sure that it will resolve the problems, it may create new ones. Let us consider this situation: Deposits and debentures in certain corporations as of tomorrow, if the Minister's plans are carried out, will be guaranteed up to \$20,000 by the government. That is what it will be, they will not be insured, there will not be an insurance fund, they will be guaranteed by the government. The government will put up the money if necessary.

That is true of certain trust companies, but deposits and debentures in other trust companies will not be so guaranteed.

Now I am not one of these financial giants that they talk about, I am a very small potato in the investment world or even in the deposit account world, but I will say, Mr. Speaker, that I have some money in a trust company and I am going to find out if it is covered by this bill. Because if it is not, why should I be so silly as to leave my money in it when I can have 100 per cent security by putting it in another one?

Now, no one over there need say that I am now starting a run on other trust companies. I am sure that there are lots of people around just as bright as I am and they are going to see this too. I may say the trust company in which I have my money is a very old, reliable one. I do not have much doubt about it. In fact I do not have any real doubt at all, but if it is not covered by the bill, and I can put my money where it is covered by the bill, why should I not have that iron-clad security?

So I think the government really has to do something to indicate to people for the present that they can all feel safe if they are in any of the regular institutions. Then let us have time to work this thing out with the federal government within our own terms.

The government is asking in this bill for quite drastic powers. They are always accusing us socialists over here of wanting to take everybody over, but sometimes they ask for powers we would never think of asking for. They are asking for powers to move in and take over institutions governed by this bill and operate them for as long as they like; move right in.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Nonsense!

Mr. Bryden: The hon. Minister of Mines says, "Nonsense". That is right in the bill which I presume he as a Cabinet Minister is supporting; I suppose he supports it in his usual manner of not knowing what is in it, but just doing what he is told.

But that quite unusual power is asked for. I am not saying that it is improper for the government to have it, I do not know. My friend, the member for Riverdale, has suggested that if the government were doing a proper job under The Loan and Trust Companies Act there would never be any necessity to exercise or even have a power of this kind.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Oh nonsense!

Suppose there was a depression and every stock on the market dropped down, it would show the liquidity of every company in Canada.

Mr. Bryden: Is the Minister seriously suggesting that he would then move in and take them all over and run them all? Is that what he has in mind?

I am interested in this new form of bastard socialism that is coming from the government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): It shows how badly the Minister is floundering when he makes a comment like that.

Mr. Bryden: At any rate, Mr. Speaker, I think we can all agree, and certainly I would think Tories would agree, that this is quite an unusual power. It is not the kind of power that our Legislature would normally grant to a government with 24 hours notice.

Now I want to know: Does the government need this power by noon tomorrow? Because that is what they are asking us to do, they are asking us to give them the power by noon tomorrow.

Do they need it by then? If so, we will give it to them, but I would like to know why they need it. If they do not need it by noon tomorrow, then I say that we should have time in this House to sit down and

think about the implications of it. Is it necessary to give it to them?

That is true of everything here. This corporation has powers of borrowing that are really out of this world, they have every conceivable power of borrowing. I do not know that they should have that.

I also think the point that the member for Riverdale raised is a most important one. I am not sure that we should have this form of corporation at all. There are instances where it is necessary to set up independent bodies that get beyond the control of the people's elected representatives. This is occasionally necessary, but I decry the tendency every time we have a problem to take matters out of the control of the elected representatives. Yet this is what will be done by this bill.

I do not think we should have to pass judgment on these matters in such short order. I would say to the government again, let it give whatever assurances it needs to restore confidence, but let us take our time dealing with this bill.

A bill like this should properly be before this House for at least a month, when one considers all the stages. It should come in for first reading, we should have a few days to look it over and talk to people about it. It should come for second reading. It should then surely go to a standing committee and so on.

If the bill is to get the deliberation it deserves, it should take at least a month; and we are being given only a total of 48 hours.

Now then Mr. Speaker, there is one other aspect of this that I want to look at. I want to raise the question very briefly as to why it is that the people who lost their money in Prudential are apparently going to be left completely out in the cold?

The British Mortgage people received protection. The York Trust people, if they need it, are going to have protection, along with any other trust company people. But these little people in Prudential Finance have just lost their shirts and nothing is going to be done about it.

I repudiate the implication that has often come from the Attorney General that they were a bunch of greedy speculators who were indulging in unsafe investing. Well they were certainly indulging in unsafe investing, but it was not out of any motives of greed, or certainly not in the case of a great many of them. A great many of them were old folks with savings of certain amounts—

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I would ask the hon. member to withdraw the words he put in my mouth. I never used the words "greedy speculators", and to say that is an implication of my remarks is certainly not true. I never said any such thing as that.

Mr. Bryden: I would say it was an implication of his remarks; but if the Attorney General wants those specific words withdrawn, I do not want to waste time, I will withdraw them. At any rate, there have been implications that these people were speculators trying to get more than a safe return on their money; and I am saying that a great many of them were not, they were old people with limited savings to whom it was important to get the maximum possible income out of their savings. They were trying to maximize that income in what they thought was a safe investment.

I think it may be ruled that this is beyond the scope of this bill, Mr. Speaker, so I will not pursue the point any further at this time. But I would definitely like to put before the House the question as to why these folks are being left completely out in the cold. I am certainly not against the protection given to others, such as it is, but I think it is most unfortunate that these people who were totally unprotected and many of whom were completely wiped out, are apparently to be left in that tragic situation.

Finally Mr. Speaker, in returning to the bill and looking at it in its total context, the best you could say for it is that it is only one small part of a total solution that is necessary. I think we are entitled to ask for more information than we have had up until now as to what the government's total solution is. I do not see why this bill should have to go through until we have the whole picture. Basically I do not think there is any great need to shore up National Trust or to protect the depositors of National Trust. We protect people who do not need protection under the guise of helping people who do need it.

Most of the trust companies are well established. The ones with the big operations are well established. They are not in need of shoring up and their depositors are not in need of protection, though a few smaller ones are.

It is in another area of the financial market where there is serious trouble. The basic trouble actually is the uncontrolled freebooting that is now going on in the financial market. The Prime Minister says that it is a cross Ontario has to bear. It is too bad

they should all have picked Toronto, but there are reasons why they should. Well I do not care whether they pick Toronto or where they go, the problem is the whole attitude, the whole ethics that seem to prevail among these people.

We have right now two latter day Genghis Khans fighting for control, fighting to build up their power and personal prestige with other people's money. This is what is happening all the time. That is what happened in British Mortgage and Atlantic Acceptance. Another Genghis Khan trying to build an empire for himself with other people's money. We had the same deal in Prudential Finance.

These people have got to be controlled. If the thing works out, they become giants, pillars of the community, financial geniuses. Of course if it does not work out, they do not get hurt. Rather a lot of other little people lose their savings.

Now, if these people want to engage in that sort of megalomania, I think we should put them off on a desert island somewhere and let them build castles and fire cannons at each other; but at least keep them out of our way. Let us not write them up in the press as if they were great financial geniuses. They are, precisely, freebooters and pirates.

This is the area where control has to be exercised. This bill just does not touch that field at all. It still leaves the basic problem revealed by Prudential Finance exactly where it was and regrettably, it leaves the poor people who lost their money in Prudential exactly where they were.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, much has been said here this afternoon, and perhaps too much cannot be added, about this very important bill that has been presented to us this afternoon. But, on the other hand, I feel that all of us who have a serious interest in a matter of this nature should stand here this afternoon, or at later hours, and express their opinion.

I just want to start off by saying one thing: The Prime Minister has accused my leader of creating some of the tremors that, it was suggested, went through the financial world—suggested by the member for Riverdale. I want to underline this right now.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the member is not keeping within the scope of the bill.

Mr. Whicher: I will try not to get into it too much; but on the other hand I surely

will not wander any farther than other members here this afternoon.

But the tremors which were created in the financial markets of the province of Ontario, and indeed Canada, were created by the headline in the Toronto *Star* that went across, not only the province of Ontario, but across Canada this afternoon, and it said this: Rowntree Says Province Stopped Run on York Trust. And if that does not create tremors, Mr. Speaker, made by a responsible Minister of a so-called responsible government, then there are certainly no tremors ever created in any financial circles.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member should not believe everything he reads.

Mr. Whicher: The hon. Minister did not deny it and he has had every opportunity of denying that headline.

Mr. Speaker, I am also somewhat amused when I hear the Prime Minister stand this afternoon, as he has done in the past, and while admitting that this is a serious situation, while being in my opinion rather fair in his remarks about Ottawa, attempting to leave the impression that all is well in the financial world of the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: I did not use that expression.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, he said that he could not do anything in the past. I asked him why he did not do it two years ago, and he said, "I believe that it was not possible to do it two years ago." Mr. Speaker, all I ask you is this: Let us ask the victims of British Mortgage, and Atlantic Acceptance, and Prudential Finance. Let us ask the victims of Windfall Mines, and all the other mines that have been delisted on the Toronto stock exchange in the last five years. Let us ask them if all is well in the financial circles of the province of Ontario. Because, Mr. Speaker, it is not; and it has not been stable for a long, long time.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, is not that a nice grunt and groan? But you know, when somebody has lost \$20,000 or \$25,000, which many people have done, citizens that the member represents in this province, it deserves far more than a grunt and a groan by the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Is the member suggesting that we control every movement of stock, and guarantee it?

Mr. Whicher: I am suggesting that the government smarten up and operate the way they do on the New York stock exchange. And this has been told to them 100,000 times.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Here is a bill that will do just that.

Mr. Whicher: It still does not, as far as the Toronto stock exchange is concerned. The biggest crap game in the whole world and controlled by you.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I consider this present discussion that is now taking place not within the scope of the bill. I would ask the member to get back on the principle of the bill and not be discussing this particular subject.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, sometimes one has to provide a background for the financial mess that we find ourselves in through the incompetence of these fellows who are sitting across the aisle here.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that it is not just the Liberal Party, or the New Democratic Party, who feel that the government has made a mess of the financial situation here in Ontario. Why do they not do as Will Rogers used to say, "read the papers", because it has been in every paper in this province, over the last two or three years anyway.

In order to keep my remarks not too long, I have an article before me that was in the Toronto *Star* of December 6, 1966. It summarizes what I feel to be the truth most capably. It certainly was not written by a politician. It was written by a newspaper man who was trying to put down in words what, yes, millions of people feel has happened in this whole province of ours as far as the financial mess is concerned. And this is the way it starts:

You know what the real story is on Prudential Finance, on British Mortgage, Atlantic Acceptance, Racan Photocopy, Windfall, the take-over of Canadian Oil, and a dozen other wild episodes in Ontario's recent history? The real story is that the impetus for investigation and remedial measures has always come from a handful of investment and securities commission people and the Toronto newspapers. Without them, the provincial government would have presided in paralytic inactivity over an area of financial cloud and scandal rarely equalled in the history of North America.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): It is close to it now.

Mr. Whicher: I continue:

The cold, cold fact is that the government has constantly given the impression of wanting to do nothing, not even investigate much less reform. Meanwhile the people in Ontario, and those foolish enough to invest without great care and skepticism in the securities business administered from the province, have lost literally tens of millions of dollars. Discouraged, they have turned—

And I would like to emphasize this to all who are interested in the investment world in this province:

Discouraged they have turned in increasing numbers to investment in American stocks. This trend is already established in the statistics.

And its facts, as of today, Mr. Speaker, are this. There is more Ontario money being invested in the New York stock exchange today than there is American money being invested in the Toronto stock exchange. These are facts, and the reason is sitting right over there.

Now to continue—

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I think the member will find that wrong.

Mr. Whicher: Well, check it! As a matter of fact, the Minister should know the answer. Is the Minister checking on those diamonds up in Moosonee?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Yes I am.

Mr. Whicher: Is the Minister checking on that \$5 million harbour they were going to put up there a few years ago?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. Whicher: Now to continue, Mr. Speaker. The government, apparently heartened by its ability to survive one scandal after another in a variety of areas, seems to feel that it knows what it is doing—which is as little as possible. It gets elected, does it not? That indeed is the depressing thing. If the people of Ontario will not kick out a government for setting them up as suckers, what reason do they require?

An hon. member: Like Andrew Thompson?

Mr. Whicher: I think that was a rather uncalled for remark, because the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson) is not here

to answer for himself. The member has been a very sick man and I do not think his name should have been brought into this discussion at all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, we are here on a point of order. We are here debating the principle of a bill as to whether it is wise to provide this type of protection, deposit insurance, for loan and trust corporations, and I think we have long since agreed that we are not talking about finance companies or that type of company at this time. There are notices on the order paper about legislation having to do with that sort of corporation.

I think, Mr. Speaker, I must call to your attention and ask that the member be kept to the point instead of reading a newspaper article having nothing whatever to do with the principle of protecting the depositors and holders of securities of loan and trust corporations. Surely there will be an opportunity—and I do not like to deny the member an opportunity to get in his political licks. That is all he is doing, he is not talking about this legislation.

Mr. Whicher: Political facts, they are not licks.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, perhaps they are facts, but let them be relevant to this discussion, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, speaking to the point of order. This debate is likely to go on for two or three more hours and there will grow up a mood of restricting debate. Mr. Speaker, I want to draw to your attention now, so that there will be no misunderstanding in the future, that when this debate began with the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, he spent the first five minutes talking about not what was in the bill but rather what the government was doing to deal with outside the bill—answering the criticisms that had been made elsewhere.

In other words, the Minister started out completely out of order, in the full range of financial institutions and what this government has done and is planning to do. Either the debate should have been stopped then, or it is in order from that point forward, Mr. Speaker, I submit in all deference to you.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, it is never in order to get off the principle of this bill.

Mr. Speaker: The member cannot speak twice on the same point of order. I think perhaps the discussion that has gone on so

far has been not too much outside of the bill, although there have been several side issues. I have received notes from several members who would like to speak to the bill and I have answered that they could speak, if they wished, to the bill. But, to please try to make their remarks relevant, as the Attorney General has said, to the principle contained within the bill, and not get off on some side issue. I would respectfully ask the members to try to keep within the ambit of the principles contained within the bill. I do not mind a little bit of variance, I know it is difficult not to stray a bit—but not to get off completely on some other side issues that do not relate to the bill at all.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I want to say most sincerely that, in my mind, it is no wonder that the Attorney General does not want these matters, that I have discussed in this article, brought up.

Mr. Speaker: I think the member is departing from the principle.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I have to defend myself. I would point out to you that, very courageously in my opinion, the member for St. Patrick got up this afternoon and suggested that finance companies and loan companies should be included in the bill. And most respectfully, Mr. Speaker, I wish to bend over backwards to say how much I appreciated the courage of the member for St. Patrick. If a Conservative member can bring things up that are not listed in this bill, why, then, surely a member of the official Opposition can do the same thing?

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. Minister started out by bringing in a discussion of financial institutions which are not in the bill; it is, therefore in order to debate them.

Mr. Whicher: And I want to say furthermore, Mr. Speaker, that no wonder—and I speak with respect and sincerity—no wonder the Attorney General does not want me to continue with some of the remarks that I have because, if there is any one government member who is responsible—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

The member is not doing what I asked of him. He is getting completely away from the bill and I am going to have to ask him to come back to the bill and proceed with the remarks that he was making prior to this

point which had some relation to financial institutions.

Mr. Whicher: I will continue with the editorial:

It would be bad enough if the Queen's Park problem was ignorance of such matters, but the government concedes that it knew of the trouble of British Mortgage and Trust before the public knew. It knew of the troubles in Prudential Finance before the public knew. It did little or nothing. It hoped these companies would pull out of their trouble.

It was wrong. Not just a little wrong; unbelievably, spectacularly wrong. Almost certainly because it did not investigate quickly enough and thoroughly enough. Meanwhile these companies continued in business and presumably the likely losses continued to rise.

Rhetorical questions to the citizens of Ontario: How do you feel, suckers? You held a note from Prudential—had loaned it money. The government knew that there was trouble but it would not tell.

Now you worry about how you will get it back.

Or how about it, fall guy? Had shares in British Mortgage at \$30 and got the equivalent of something like \$2.50 stock for them. A shock, wasn't it?

Of course the government was right in there hoping everything would turn out all right. It was a trifle overoptimistic. British Mortgage could not have been more than \$10 million in the red when the roof fell in.

O.K., maybe the province could not have prevented it but it could have tried a lot harder.

That is the problem. It does not try, it does not want to try and it has not tried until, respectfully again I say, it brought this bill—half measure though it be—before this Legislature this afternoon. Members can draw their own conclusions about why it never wants to try:

Try Racan Photocopy—the share went over \$20 but later the company went bankrupt. There was always a great shortage of information about this company, its products and connections. At one point the Ontario securities commission could have pried open at least one closed door and obtained details on an overseas deal but it chose not to.

I do not know why precisely and I do not want to belatedly belabour either the securities commission or the Toronto stock exchange. They may not be perfect but they have shown an infinitely greater desire than the provincial government to improve investment practices, investigate problems and improve corporate disclosure.

Instead of the thoughtful leader, the government has been a reluctant follower. The creakingly old government suffers from the conviction that it must always appear to be running an outwardly calm, tight ship, well managed. This causes us to shove out of sight all nasty problems calling for rough measures. Of course it cannot take timely action since action acknowledges the magnitude of the problem. Unfortunately, the investment chaos it has been trying to keep quiet keeps boiling into view every few months—

And I might respectfully point out, Mr. Speaker, that this was written in December, long before we had the chaos or the tremors, as somebody has so aptly called it, that has been evident in the financial world in the last couple of days.

Each time the government sets up a Royal commission it just wags its head seriously and hopes the trouble will disappear. It does disappear to be succeeded by another disaster. Queen's Park has been pressured into adopting some changes in the law in this field, which it may even get around to putting into force. It has been passed by the Legislature but not yet proclaimed. As you might expect there is a big fat loophole. In spite of all recommendations to the contrary, the stock policing of the Ontario securities commission is to be left directly under a Cabinet Minister. That will just make sure that the government can, if it wishes, prevent investigation and enforcement from getting out of hand and embarrassing the wrong people. It has done a super job of that all along.

Now Mr. Speaker, I want to go on record as saying this, that I agree absolutely 100 per cent with that editorial and I would suggest that the people of Ontario, and particularly those people who, most unfortunately, have lost thousands of dollars will agree with it too. If this bill is a good bill which the government is presenting today, it would have been a good bill two years ago.

An hon. member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: They have been there for a quarter of a century. Who else has had the chance to put into operation legislation that would protect the little investors of this province who wished to get into the financial business? Who else can protect the people who, when they retire into a small town or even into a city with a few thousands of dollars in the bank, invest it in what they call legitimate stock transactions or legitimate trust certificates, or legitimate deposits? Who can protect them if it is not the government who is sitting opposite? And the government, Mr. Speaker, has not done so. There is only one word in my opinion that can possibly describe it. As far as financial business is concerned, it is complete, 100 per cent incompetence. This government has shown that it has not got the ability to look after the financial business of the little people of the province of Ontario. In many respects, what it has allowed to happen is highway robbery in broad daylight. Everybody knew that it was going on, but this government chose to hide behind something or other and do nothing about it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: What about this bill?

Mr. Whicher: Never mind about that. Why did they not bring in the bill before? Well, we will get to the bill. People are interested in other things besides the bill, and I say the incompetence of this government is one of those things. Mr. Speaker, I know that much has been said about it, and there is not a doubt in the world that I have covered material that has been said already here this afternoon, and the next speaker is going to do exactly the same thing—there is no doubt about it—but we are worried about this situation, we in the Opposition.

We are worried because we have constituents who have been hurt by the government's lack of knowledge in financial matters, and lack of action; and I would say that I agree completely with the member for St. Patrick. I know that we cannot bring in amendments to certain sections when we are talking about the principle of certain bills but I agree with him completely. In their hearts the government agrees with him too, because it knows that sooner or later such action is going to be necessary, and that if it does not do that why, another Prudential can happen tomorrow, and more thousands of people will be hurt.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. MacDonald: Hold everything!

Mr. Speaker: I would say to the member for Grey North that I already had accepted a note from the Minister of Mines to make a few remarks.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Mr. Speaker, I will only be a minute or two. But speaking on this bill regarding the \$20,000 insurance for depositors, not two hours ago I had a telephone call from an elderly couple in the city of Port Arthur—the husband is 74, the wife, 72. They have a little over \$7,000 in a trust company, which I will not name. He asked me about this bill and I told him that this bill would protect losses up to \$20,000, and that I thought this bill would be finally passed tonight. His words to me were: "Thank God, we will have a good night's sleep tonight".

I think that is an exact repudiation of the chicanery, circumlocution, and other things that have gone on all afternoon on that side of the House. This is no laughing matter, gentlemen. This old gentlemen is 72 and his wife 70, respected people in our community.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: All right Mr. Speaker. I have listened to that hogwash across the way. All I want at the moment now is to tell a story about an old couple in my town who are going to sleep well tonight. In fact, this bill is protecting their life savings. I think that, Mr. Speaker, is something worthwhile.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, as a member from an outlying rural area, I want to ask about clause 7. The thing I am concerned about is: We are going to talk about financial agencies; how can this government justify asking the people of Ontario to put up five shares at \$1 million each—\$5 million—to help one area of business? In other words, a group of glorified pawnbrokers—that is what we are. We are talking about \$5 million of people's money and I would suspect, Mr. Speaker, that we are talking about financial institutions. You will try and stop me very shortly, but I am going to say it.

Mr. Speaker: The member is talking about specific clauses. He can ask the Minister about those specific clauses, and what is understood by them, whenever we come to the committee stage of the bill.

Mr. Sargent: Well, Mr. Speaker, you will recall a year ago, of the collapse of Atlantic

Acceptance Corporation, and British Mortgage, and the shocking situation where the government broke every law in the book by not revoking the charters of these institutions prior to this further legal act, where thousands of small investors lost their life savings through the government's negligence—and the Prime Minister thinks this is really a jolly affair!

I want to get to the point. I have asked you, Mr. Speaker, I have asked the House on different occasions, to answer specific questions insofar as those bankruptcies were concerned. Because the answering of these questions would have embarrassed the government, and we probably would have had some of them lose their seats in this House, to date I have had no answer from them.

I ask first, Mr. Speaker, I ask through you to the House, for a full disclosure of the transfers of shares record of British Mortgage to—

Mr. Speaker: I must call the member to order. He is not on the principle of the bill whatever. Now these are matters that should be taken up at other times, either through questions or, perhaps, the member would have an opportunity surely to get answers like that, but not on debating this particular bill. That has nothing whatever to do with that.

Mr. Sargent: I bow to your ruling, Mr. Speaker. I would like to tell the Minister, then, that this is not going to prevent any Prudential happening again. Not a bit of it. This is not going to change a thing, insofar as the laxness of the Minister's department is concerned.

Will the Minister answer that please?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I will be glad to answer that.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the question is out of order at this time. This is not a question-and-answer period, and with all due respect to both sides of the House, I am trying to have the members speak strictly to this bill which, as I understand it, is on deposit insurance with trust and loan companies. I think your remarks should revolve and relate around that and not get into these specific questions and answers on something else that has nothing to do with the bill.

Mr. Sargent: Well, Mr. Speaker, not being informed on the constitutional authority of the government, do they have powers to take \$5 million from the general revenue fund?

Mr. Speaker: There again, the member may ask these questions when the bill

reaches the committee stage. He can ask the Minister all these questions whenever the committee is going over the bill clause by clause.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I rise more in a mixture of sorrow and anger this afternoon, than anything else, I must admit. I am certainly not prepared. I had no intention of getting into this debate this afternoon—if I can attempt to lift the tenor and tone of what, in this House is sometimes called a debate? I must say I am just shocked at the lack of realism and responsibility of some of the things that have been said by some of the members here this afternoon, and I mean this most sincerely.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Whose side is he on today?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I am going to start off first of all by, as usual, backing myself into a corner and saying that I am going to disagree with just about everybody who has said anything this afternoon, from the Prime Minister right on down. I disagree with some of the things that the Prime Minister has said, and I certainly disagree and am absolutely horrified by some of the things that the leader of the official Opposition has said.

I am not surprised but I am rather disgusted, quite frankly, with some of the tactics of the NDP group in this House, not only today but over the last few weeks. I must say that the whole of the tenor and the lack of responsibility that has been shown by hon. members in this House makes me wonder if they realize the importance of some of the matters and some of the items that are being discussed here today and how they can affect lives and human values, and certainly savings of people in this province and right across this country.

Now first of all, may I say that I disagree with the Prime Minister, because I do not want to tantalize anybody any longer. I disagree with the Prime Minister when he says that this now is not an emergency situation. Perhaps I am getting that wrong, but this is the tenor of the remarks that I thought I heard him make. I disagree with that view because I think from what has been going on here this afternoon that, absolutely, there is now an emergency situation, certainly in regard to one of the trust companies in this province. And I cannot emphasize the word "now" any more strongly than I have. I

think it is essential that this piece of legislation now has to go through the House.

I believe now that it has been perhaps essential for the last few days that this piece of legislation has to be now introduced and rushed through the House in this fashion.

Quite frankly, I agree with some views of the member for Woodbine. I disagree with some aspects of this particular piece of legislation and certainly the giving of the investigative powers in this bill to some of the officers of this corporation set up under this bill. But these are petty inconsequential matters now, when we are really dealing, as I am afraid we now are, with the life and death of a financial institution that could drag down others. I do not want to get into any more of this reckless talk, of these inflammatory phrases that have been used by some this afternoon, but I feel that we do have to get ahead with the bill and I speak most sincerely and with the utmost sincerity that I can here today.

It is all right for the member for Downsview to say that he perhaps is using too strong language in some of these matters. It may be all right for the leader of the Opposition to say: "Oh well, I am exaggerating." But Mr. Speaker, consider the harm that has been done here this afternoon and the harm that has been done in this whole matter because of the actions and the tenor of some of the discussions that have taken place over the last few days.

Let us go back a bit. Let us go back to a few years ago when I think the loan and trust corporations of this province and of this country stood at the very pinnacle of the credit rating in the western world as far as reliability, stableness and responsibility is concerned. Now a few years ago—I do not want to get into this because it involves a loan and trust corporation on which there is now a Royal commission sitting and perhaps human faults will be shown and perhaps even negligence, I do not know—but I do know a little bit now about the finances of British Mortgage and Trust, and I think it is obvious that when the assets and the liabilities of British Mortgage and Trust were taken over by another very reputable trust company in this province that it was an extremely fortuitous purchase or amalgamation or merger, whatever you want to call it, by that other trust company.

It is now apparent that in the long run, if you take a look at the balance sheet and you take a look at the material that is available to us, it is now apparent that British Mortgage and Trust had a lack of liquid assets and only a lack of liquid assets in

order to keep up with the great rush or demand that was then going on by depositors attempting to get their money out. There is no question at all that Victoria and Grey Trust of Lindsay today stands in a much stronger and better position because of the purchase or amalgamation or merger, call it what you want, and the acquisition of the assets of British Mortgage and Trust. It was a very good purchase from their point of view.

Mr. Sargent: Who financed it?

Mr. MacDonald: Who engineered it?

Mr. Sargent: Who financed it?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Now there is another matter that comes along. This is now apparent to the financial community at large. Some of the confidence that was badly shaken at that time in respect of loan and trust corporations in this province has come back to these very reputable trust companies. Do not forget that no depositor in any loan and trust corporation in this province has ever lost money due to the defalcation or bankruptcy of any loan and trust company in this province. Do not forget that, Mr. Speaker. This is something that we should all bear in mind.

Mr. Sargent: No shareholders either.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Now the confidence, I feel, has been coming back into the loan and trust business here in Ontario.

Late last week an event occurred outside of the jurisdiction of this province, outside of the jurisdiction, obviously, of any government, which again made the whole field rather shaky. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, you know to what I am referring, namely the open fight between two principals of other organizations that have an interest in York Trust.

Obviously, at one fell swoop, this was an act which again made people worry about the whole set-up of the loan and trust field in this province.

Now, what happened? There is a piece of legislation at the federal level that is apparently going to come along and cure this in due course and in due time. Here is the government sitting at Queen's Park obviously with a duty, a duty that gets pounded into them and a responsibility that gets pointed out to them every day by the members of this House and certainly the members of the Opposition—and quite rightly so, I am not denying that. But instead

of talking about Prudential Finance any more in this House, all of a sudden the whole tenor of the questions and the references that are made in public and on TV and in press releases and in this House change for no other reason than there is a public fight respecting a company associated with a loan and trust company.

All of a sudden the emphasis and the focus and the climax of these questions is all directed against a single trust company in this province. I say first of all that these were shameful acts by the members of the Opposition because they were unnecessary. The member for Riverdale, for instance, comes along with a question about annual returns.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The Minister leaked the information.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: For heaven's sake! What does this do in the minds of some of the unsophisticated in this province? All of a sudden they feel that perhaps something is wrong. All of the questions in this House by the two Opposition parties since last week have been directed in the main toward a single trust company.

Now is this responsible? Is this responsibility as far as public people are concerned in this province? I do not think so. Obviously it was incumbent then upon this government, and I would have been the first to stand up and criticize the Minister if he had not been able to do it, to bring in something of a stop-gap, temporary nature to cure something that could develop into an extremely great run on a single trust company which would have the effect of bringing others down with it. I think, sir, when we hear speeches this afternoon from the members of the two Opposition parties, that they should be just ashamed, I can think of no other word for it, just ashamed of their actions. Surely for once they can put the good of other people above mere partisan political bias.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I draw to your attention, sir, that the speaker is not talking about the principle of this bill, and I request that you call him to order.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: As I was saying, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Nixon: Is this sort of a lecture?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I am not going to put up with one set of rules for one member

and another set for me; I have as much right to speak in this House as the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I am sure the House has appreciated everything the member has been saying, but I think perhaps he could go too long with that particular theme. Therefore, I would rather that he came back to the bill and not perhaps lecture the Opposition.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will attempt to stay within your ruling.

But I say of all people in this House it ill-behooves the hon. gentleman who just stood up to say what he did, more than any other member in this House, due to his disgraceful actions this afternoon. I will let it go at that. And I say that in sorrow, because I have a great regard for the member and for his friendship over the years.

Now if I can sir, let me merely say that just by accident today—I have no brief for York Trust, I have no connection with York Trust.

Mr. Whicher: Neither have we.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: But just let me say this: I think a lot of the things that have been said here today, on more mature consideration by the members of this House, when they read what they have said in black print, I think they will be extremely sorry for them. Just today, for instance—

Mr. MacDonald: The member might be sorry.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: —I realized by accident from a non-governmental source, for instance, that a very large sum of money was advanced to this same York Trust on Monday afternoon last, in case a possibility should arise of any great run on it.

Mr. Sargent: Does the member not know about that?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I see you are putting on your hat and pulling on your gloves in that fashion that indicates that obviously we are getting near the six o'clock hour. If it is your wish, sir, I will ask that you recognize the hour.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 9, 1967

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (Continued)

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Mr. Speaker, due to the two-hour gap of the dinner hour, I trust we have all been able to regain our cool—myself included—and in that regard may I unreservedly apologize to you and the House for perhaps losing my temper on one occasion during those remarks this afternoon. I am ashamed for doing that and I apologize to you and to the House.

Second, I would also like to correct what I believe to be an error in my excitement this afternoon when I referred to my knowledge of an advance being made to York Trust. My whole purpose, Mr. Speaker, in even referring to this matter, was to indicate that to my knowledge, in any event, the loan and trust corporations of this province are well able to meet their liabilities, both short term and long term. I only brought in the case of Victoria and Grey Trust, for instance, and the case of British Mortgage, to indicate that perhaps even in British Mortgage's case, if this particular bill had been in effect at that time, the unfortunate circumstances that did follow at that time might not have occurred. But I mistakenly used the word "advance" this afternoon in respect of moneys held by York Trust and I was wrong in using that word.

My information, and I might as well indicate to the members of the House how it came about, because you cannot keep very much secret on the street these days in Toronto financial communities, came from a completely non-governmental source, Mr. Speaker. I just learned quite by accident today that York Trust, last Monday, for instance, liquidated a long-term asset of theirs in a very large amount which, while I am not too sure of the exact amount of their deposit, would more than cover their deposits. Therefore they are certainly, from that source alone, in very good shape to meet any rush on their deposits.

So that if I can merely recap—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: No, I will not, Mr. Speaker. If I can merely recap, the point that I was trying to make is that I do believe the loan and trust corporations of this province have had a good history up until fairly recently and that this measure should strengthen them and restore a great deal of the lack of confidence that perhaps has been shown in some quarters about me.

I think I pointed out that I thought the history of a perhaps unseemly public brawl in regard to some financial corporations in this province merely gave an excuse to the Opposition groups here to focus in on a single trust company. I thought this was extremely unfair and extremely discriminatory in regard to that single trust company, especially when, just a few hours ago in Ottawa, I understand, the Minister of Finance of the dominion of Canada indicated that the whole thing was merely an "internal dispute" in any event, and in no manner, shape, or form even remotely connected with the ability of that particular institution to meet its obligations either on a short-term basis, or a long-term basis.

I made the point, at least I hope I did, that I feel, and I know there are others in this House who feel, that the Liberal Party in this House, by provoking the House the way they did this afternoon, is obviously too busy grasping for political power to worry about the good of the people or the people's financial institutions.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Some hon. members: There is no point of order.

Mr. Whicher: He has said that we caused the situation. The situation was provoked by the Minister with large headlines in the *Toronto Daily Star*. And that is where we got our information.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, may I say to you that I think the member who just

sat down should certainly not join in with any more interruptions especially this afternoon when, in the hearing of all, we heard him call any investor in the province of Ontario today, a sucker. Now that is the type of—

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I said no such thing.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I am going to have to stop this interjecting, and too many people rising on pointless points of order and perhaps getting into this back-and-forth admonishment of each other. I would like the members speaking, to try to speak towards the bill, and never mind admonishing each other for who started what this afternoon. I would like to get off tonight on the debate on a line of discussing the principles embodied in this bill.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, I just want to say this one thing. I did not say that every investor is a sucker. I read an editorial in the *Toronto Daily Star*.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, obviously though, when we are discussing principle, I think you must admit that we also have to deal with the motives of what is said in regard to the principle of the bill in this House. In that regard, I am surprised and horrified, and perhaps even ashamed for my friends on the Liberal benches for what they have done.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): He said that before.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I do not think we should be surprised at the attitude of the NDP in this House, because after all they are basically committed to the principle of replacing our economic system with another system. So this situation today falls neatly, I feel, into their philosophical lap. Anything that they can do to hurry its demise, by starting a run on York Trust, they will. I think we have seen this this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, I would like, if I could, to deal just briefly with some of the comments of my long-time friend and very hon. gentleman of this House, the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts), who I see is not here. I just had the opportunity of passing a few words with him on our way out at the dinner hour. While perhaps I join with him in

regard to a puzzle over why the word "debenture" has been placed in this bill, obviously the principle behind the bill is to set up an insurance system, whereby deposits in notes sold to the public are insured by a Crown corporation.

Therefore I do not see how this particular bill can possibly be widened to include any other financial corporation or institution in this province. After all, the only type of company that is permitted now to take deposits or to sell such things as GIC, or unsecured notes, are loan and trust corporations. Obviously this type of assistance, I am firmly convinced, is only applicable to an institution such as a loan and trust corporation, and therefore I feel that the member for St. Patrick, in his remarks this afternoon, did not grasp that this type of system would not apply to the different types of institutions.

Obviously there are other problem-type institutions. Quite frankly, I can go down the list of numbers, of types of other financial corporations in this province which have problem areas at the moment, and which should be dealt with by special legislation in this House. I think we can all agree with that. I am sure that even the Minister involved here can agree with this, because he has indicated and certainly committed himself, I feel, to me and to the other members of this House, and certainly to the public at large, to bring in a comprehensive legislative programme as soon as it can humanly be done to cover all of these problem areas in the financial community at the moment.

I think the point here, in respect of this particular bill, and it seems to me to be a point that has entirely slipped by some of the members of the Opposition, is that this particular bill is for a particular type of institution, namely the loan and trust corporation. I feel that, especially because of what has been said here today, it is an emergency piece of legislation with which we do have to proceed as quickly as possible. Therefore I feel that the measures and the procedures outlined by the House leader and the Minister here are certainly valid and I intend to support this in every and any way I can.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have been sitting here most of the day listening with interest to the debate. Frankly, I had not intended to take part in this debate, until it occurred to me that perhaps the kernel of the whole matter is being overlooked.

The member for St. George—during one of my interjections, I labelled him Quentin Jergens, for his lambasting of the whole House, not just the Opposition—sort of riled me as he was himself riled. I am happy to say that the dinner hour and his statement at the opening of the evening sitting had some effect in cooling me off, too. So perhaps I will not be quite as sharp as I had intended to be.

Mr. Speaker, the bill that is before the House is supposed to affect loan and trust companies. What everybody overlooks, is that this is an emergency piece of legislation. It was brought about by this government because, in the first instance, if they would have stuck their finger in the dike, they would have saved the dam. Mr. Speaker, the combined fatheads on the government side stepped into the hole and could not stem the tide.

We are dealing with loan and trust companies, and we have never had the intestinal fortitude to get up and admit that the first error that they made was to permit loan and trust companies to deviate from the objects of their incorporation, that loan and trust companies ought not to be in the banking business. The only reason that they are submitting this legislation to this House, Mr. Speaker, is because in their efforts to get tax moneys they have been permitting trust and mortgage companies to carry on the business of banking—a jurisdiction that falls wholly within the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, if it is news to the member, I will perhaps read him the definition of a loan company as defined in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. Loan corporation means every incorporated company, association, or society, constituted, authorized or operated for the purpose of lending money on security of real estate, or for that or any other purpose.

It does not include a chartered bank, an insurance corporation, a loan and land corporation, a trust company, or an investment company registered under The Investment Contracts Act, 1949. A loan and land corporation is a corporation for the purpose of lending money on a security of real estate, and carry on a business of buying and selling land. A trust company is defined as meaning a company constituted or operated for the purpose of acting as trustee bailiff agent, executor, administrator, receiver, liquidator, assignee, or guardians of a minor's estate, or committee of a mentally incompetent person's estate.

Nowhere, Mr. Speaker, does it say that a loan company or loaning land corporation or trust company can accept moneys for deposit, or is supposed to be acting as a bank. There is only one section here, Mr. Speaker, section 72, which provides that, with the consent of the directors, they may take in deposits. But they are supposed to be, as is stated here, repayable by the corporation either at a time certain, or upon notice, not being less than 30 days. And then come the key words, Mr. Speaker—"unless such notice is waived."

So what has happened? They started off as loan companies. They started off as trust companies. And it is easy for the member for St. George to say that our trust companies have enjoyed the highest reputation. Indeed they did, because they were operating as trust companies. But because of those few words in there, they can now take deposits and can waive the notice; because that section states, Mr. Speaker, that any moneys taken as a deposit are to be treated as loans to the corporation, not as deposits but as loans to the corporation, to be repayable at a time certain or upon notice.

Naturally, since this is a roundabout way for these corporations to get into the banking business, they waive the 30 days' notice, and therefore become banks. So what has happened? This government, for a quarter of a century, as was pointed out by the member for Bruce, has permitted the loan and trust companies in this province to operate as banks—something that came solely within the jurisdiction of the government of Canada.

If they had not permitted them to operate as banks, this situation would never have arisen; because what has happened is that it is not the trust aspects of the trust companies which are in danger; not at all. It is the deposit aspects which are in danger, and it is the deposit aspect that this bill is intended to insure.

In the last ten years we have seen branches of trust companies spreading out like chickweed. You can go to any one of the branches of these trust companies and ask to see the trust officer and they will probably gape at you in amazement, wondering what a trust officer is. Go and ask to speak to the clerk so you can draw up a will; they have not got a solicitor there. They are operating solely as a bank. They act as a bank, they talk as a bank, they look like a bank, and they are a bank; and this government has been permitting that. And now we are asked to pass judgment on a bill which is in fact

a bill to guarantee deposits of a bank and nothing else.

They can call it a loan company, they can call it a trust company, but it is a bank, and they know it. And if they had not been shutting their eyes, and stuck their finger in that dam in the first instance, and said "No, you cannot operate as a bank on a little technicality here," then this would never have arisen. Because it is only what happened to British Mortgage, Mr. Speaker; they took the deposit money and they used it too frivolously. The deposit money! They never played around with the trust moneys that they had, under the trust aspect of the corporation.

The hon. member for St. George says there is an emergency. Well there is. Some people are inclined to speak just of York Trust, and I would remind the hon. member for St. George that the question first raised here regarding a named trust company were raised by the NDP in its questions to the House. The second raising of the issue was in the *Toronto Daily Star*. But the fact remains that officers of at least two branches of two different trust companies have indicated to me over the past three weeks that they were just hoping this bill would be introduced because, Mr. Speaker, there was an inordinately large run on their deposits.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Ben: So then, Mr. Speaker, I resent very much the hon. member for St. George getting up and criticizing the Opposition benches. We have a justifiable right to criticize this government for its negligence in the past, and bringing this bill to try to dam the tide of dissatisfaction and insecurity that is running through this province.

Are we going to support this bill? Of course we are going to support this bill. It is not our job actually to have this bill before the House. It is something the federal government should be looking after because it is banking that you are dealing with, not loan and trust companies. Sneaking it in here under the title of loan and bank companies brings great discredit on the government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, in intervening in the debate at this stage, I do not intend to speak at great length, but there are a number of points that I do want to draw out and emphasize—and perhaps make a few comments of my own in addition, as I attempt to make that summary.

The most remarkable thing about this debate, Mr. Speaker, I think, is the multiplicity of voices with which the government has spoken. If one were to take the debate and analyze it carefully, one would find that in almost immediate succession there are members of the government side of the House, sometimes in the Cabinet, rising to state that there is no crisis, and the next person denying it and saying that there is a crisis.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): It is not a dictatorship like the member's party.

Mr. MacDonald: That kind of childish interjection, I suggest, is worthy of their attention.

An hon. member: Worthy of the hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: The first point that I think should be made in summary on this legislation, and comment on the debate on this legislation, Mr. Speaker, is that the legislation does not do an effective job in the field which the government is presuming to tackle.

As has been pointed out by my colleague, the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), it has no reference at all to trust and loan companies operating in the province of Ontario that come under federal jurisdiction. It has no control or influence at all on those companies which are incorporated in other provinces. So it is only tackling a small aspect of the problem. It is this kind of piecemeal approach to a serious problem that I think is worthy of some pretty serious criticism in this Legislature. In other words, the government is isolating, at this late date, one group of investors and depositors, and saying that the government is going to give some sort of security to them.

I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, since there have been a lot of imputing motives as to why things are being done, both from the legislation itself and the speeches that have been made, that the main reason why the government is moving in this area is an attempt to bolster its image of being grossly negligent in terms of protecting some of the investors of this province.

Even in its move to bolster its image, it is as fumbling as in its earlier activities, because all it is doing is protecting this one isolated little group. It is going to be rather difficult to prove, for example, to those who lost their life savings in Prudential that it was o.k. for the government to step in and bail out British Mortgage and Trust by a standby credit. It is all right for the government to

come in now, but this one group who happened to be fleeced by people, some of whom are facing criminal action, and who got into this sort of a problem because of the government's negligence, are not going to be given any compensation at all

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): What group is the hon. member talking about?

Mr. MacDonald: I am talking about the people who lost in Prudential Finance.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): The hon. member cannot forget about them.

Mr. MacDonald: Of course I cannot forget about them, and I have no intention of forgetting about them. The people here in this government would like to forget about them, but they will prate about somebody who happens to have supposedly been dealt an injustice on other occasions; and they will prate about it for years.

The next point I would like to comment on is this question of a crisis or no crisis. I would like to reiterate the comment of my friend, the hon. member for Woodbine (Mr. Bryden). If there is no crisis, then let the government get up and document the fact that there is no crisis; or, conversely, if there is a crisis, let the government get up and give us evidence of the crisis. Otherwise, there is certainly a high degree of illogic in the proposition that the government should be coming to this House and asking us to rush, through all of the various stages, a bill that clearly is the kind of bill that should be given the most meticulous kind of attention—because it has in it an exercise of power by the state that, indeed, is something of a match for the so-called “police state” legislation which was introduced with disastrous consequences a year or two ago in this House.

However, Mr. Speaker, having reiterated the comment of my colleague, which I think is a valid one, that the obligation is on the government to say that there is a crisis and to justify its rushed approach to this whole piece of legislation, I want to say that as far as I am concerned there is a crisis. I am not puzzled about it as the member for Downsview is. I think there is a crisis. I was interested to note that the member for St. Patrick said that there is a crisis, and let us not kid ourselves. The member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), also said that there was a crisis, although by a strange and tortured kind of logic he tried to come to the

conclusion that the crisis was because of how we have handled it in this House.

Mr. Speaker, before we even got a chance to raise it in this House, a Minister of the Crown raised it; and since the government seems to be forgetting about it, let us put on the record exactly what he is reported as saying. And at this stage it is a little late in the day to deny it, I would suggest.

I am quoting from the eighth paragraph in an article in today's *Toronto Daily Star*, entitled: Rowntree Says Province Stopped Run on York Trust:

The government has set up surveillance of York Trust's 15 Toronto branches (there is one in Guelph), and is getting half-hour reports during business hours, it was learned.

In addition, provincial authorities have interpreted existing laws as widely as possible to increase the company's funds on hand so it can meet obligations.

Now, just pause for a moment—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I will just say that no such statement as read was ever made.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, I will come back—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: The only comment, Mr. Speaker, I have to make is this: If no such statement as this was made, I suggest that there was an obligation on the part of the hon. Minister to have gotten up and clarified this because it is he who has created the atmosphere of crisis. It was in these words—and if the Minister thought they were wrong, he should have risen before the orders of the day earlier this afternoon. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that if he did not rise then, he is doing a little bit of quibbling at this point.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There is no quibbling on my part whatsoever, and there never has been since I first became a member of this House.

Mr. MacDonald: Let us proceed, Mr. Speaker. I quote further, from the article in the *Toronto Daily Star*:

Rowntree told the *Star* that York Trust's difficulties are the reason the government is racing its deposit insurance bill through the Legislature. The bill was given its formal introduction yesterday, and plans are to speed it through the legislative process so it becomes law tomorrow.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): I asked him this afternoon to deny that, if it was not true; and he said nothing.

Mr. MacDonald: Exactly. He did not deny it then and I suggest that it cannot be denied. There is no point putting the blame on the press for a relatively, if not an exactly accurate, representation of what the Minister did.

The interesting thing, Mr. Speaker, is this: What this Minister has done is an almost uncanny duplicate of what the former Attorney General (Mr. Cass) did two or three years ago.

The Attorney General of that time, with this Minister, introduced a bill in quiet tones, as though there was nothing to the bill at all. Then he moved out of the House and spoke in such inflammatory tones with regard to the importance of the bill that screaming headlines appeared in the newspapers, and that is what blew Mr. Cass out of the Cabinet.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Do not lose your cool!

Mr. MacDonald: As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, it is this Minister—and I draw this to the member for St. George—it is this Minister who has created the atmosphere of crisis. He was trying so desperately to get political kudos for the government that this government acted belatedly; but acting, as he would now have us believe, so that it appears that they are responsible for having stopped a run on York Trust. This is his argument!

Let me come to another point, Mr. Speaker, to show you what an incredible succession of contradictions there are. The Minister corrected it this afternoon by saying—he was trying to get some compromise, with the contradiction from the York Trust that there had been no “run”—that there had been excessive withdrawals on Tuesday—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I said that there had been some withdrawals.

Mr. MacDonald: Some withdrawals.

Mr. Bryden: Are there not some every day?

Mr. MacDonald: There were some withdrawals on Tuesday—why he should say “some” now when he stopped a run yesterday is just another contradiction that I invite you to contemplate, Mr. Speaker. However, while you are contemplating it, let me go on—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It never got started!

Mr. MacDonald: Some withdrawals on Tuesday—and presumably on Wednesday they were back to business as usual. But the member for St. George has just sat down and has informed us—I presume it is authoritative information—that on Monday, as proof of the soundness of our trust companies, and we do not need to worry about them, they had, of their own volition, liquidated enough money that they had to cash, to cope with all—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: —of their deposit obligations.

Well, Mr. Speaker, if on Monday York Trust had done that, and if there is any truth at all in that particular interjection of the member for St. George, then I submit that the man who has caused the crisis even more needlessly and irresponsibly is the Minister, by his comments outside this House.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: Let me go one step further, Mr. Speaker. I asked a question of the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), this afternoon. My question to the Prime Minister this afternoon was:

Has the government of Ontario taken any preparatory action to support, in the event of need, depositors of York Trust, either through a guarantee of deposits or through a transfer of provincial funds from general revenue, or transfer of revenue from any government board or agency to York Trust.

The Prime Minister's reply was that their action to cope with this is this bill.

Then he said, in dealing specifically with the question I asked, that the answer is “No”. I invite the Prime Minister to go back and review the advice that he got before he gave the answer in the House. I invite him to go back and examine the situation, and find out exactly what went on because, I have reason to believe, Mr. Speaker, that last weekend top officials of this government were meeting in crisis and were making plans to transfer money from the Provincial Savings Bank, and from agencies of this government, that would be available to meet the situation if there was a run on York Trust.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I suggest that, as one who knows something

of the operations of the provincial savings bank, that is an absolute falsehood.

Mr. MacDonald: Perhaps if we were to have an inquiry, and we were able to bring witnesses as to exactly what plans were made on the weekend to cope with a run which the Minister says they have now forestalled—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is expressing any doubt about the statement I have just made, let him say so. I say what he said is false.

Mr. MacDonald: I invite the government to do what it is obviously refusing to do, and that is to permit an inquiry, a public inquiry, into all of this. Because as things now sit, the government is in a position where they can hide what they want to hide. And this is what it always does. I have had too much experience with this government, which gets up and chastises me, browbeats me, and then five or six years later the facts come out.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Nobody is browbeating anybody, Mr. Speaker, in this House right now; but the hon. member—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: If the Minister wants to make a speech, he will have to wait his turn.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am not making a speech, I am rising on this same point of order. The member made a categorical statement—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has made his point but I have indicated to him that if he really believes that, then let them have a public inquiry so we can find out what has happened. You cannot sit and hide what you want to hide and let out what you want to let out, but that has been your procedure up until this present point.

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, it was my understanding—

Mr. Speaker: There will be no more points of order. A point of order has been raised and it has been finished and I would ask the member now to—

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, I have a new point of order.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Sometimes these points of order are pointless points of order. But, because you can always rise on a point of

order, I will have to hear the member's point of order.

Mr. White: My understanding, Mr. Speaker, is that when a member of this House asserts that the statement of another member is false, the member having made the statement is obliged to withdraw it. I now ask the leader of the NDP to withdraw the false assertion he made earlier.

Mr. MacDonald: I said, Mr. Speaker, that I have reason to believe that I invited the government to set up an inquiry, because the Minister charged me with being a liar.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I said this statement was false.

Mr. Speaker: In that respect, if the member denies something that another member has said, then the member has to accept the other member's word for it.

Mr. MacDonald: Fine, I accept it, and I invite him to set up a public inquiry so we can get the full story.

Mr. Speaker: I have listened to Cabinet Ministers on that side get up and tell me I did not know what I was talking about, and five years later they find that the people involved are now incriminated and charged and convicted.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Is the member talking about me?

Mr. MacDonald: I am talking about Cabinet Ministers who have talked in precisely that way in the past, until there was an opportunity to get the full account. And the full account never came out by their actions; the full account came out by events that followed.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid we are departing from the bill. I will have to bring the member back to the business before the House, which is this bill.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I fully understand why you must have been a magnificent teacher in your day.

An hon. member: What day?

Mr. MacDonald: In his day as a teacher.

Mr. Speaker: I want to move on to another aspect of this. I asked a question of the Prime Minister on February 6, as to whether or not he had taken steps or would be prepared to take steps to ascertain whether or not the dissension in the top management of British International Finance Corporation,

and Lord Thompson's financial corporation, is not caused by financial difficulties in this group of companies including York Trust and Savings. The reply of the Prime Minister, as reiterated a few moments ago by the hon. member for St. George, was that there were no financial difficulties involved, but rather it was a difference of policy within these companies. Mr. Speaker, I want to suggest to you that is a very facile way of avoiding a basic point.

The first thing I want to draw to your attention is the February 11 issue of the *Financial Post*, which happens to have a review of the stock of the companies involved in what might be described as the Stevens' empire. The House might like to know, if they are not so aware at the present time, that as compared with 1964 the prices of British International Finance A are down 66 per cent.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Would the member mind reading, beginning at the top of the story?

Mr. MacDonald: How the stocks fared?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No. Read the caption shown in conjunction with the chart.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would like to read what he wants to read and I will read what I want to read. What I said, Mr. Speaker, was that I wanted to refer to the financial position of this company; then I will come to my conclusions with regard to the situation as to whether or not it is simply a dispute between those who have a different attitude towards policy.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is not what the headline says.

Mr. MacDonald: That is o.k. If the Minister would just listen to my story. Fine. Now, how the stocks fared: British International Finance A, down 66 per cent since 1964; Bank of Western Canada, down 33 per cent; York Trust and Savings, down 70 per cent; Wellington Financial B, down 61 per cent; Wellington Bank of Canada, down 77 per cent; Lambton Loans, down 50 per cent; Canadian First Mortgage, down 26 per cent; Fort Garry Trust, down 56 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What does that mean?

Mr. MacDonald: That just simply means that the companies are in some difficulty and there has been, Mr. Speaker, a growing lack of confidence in this group of companies.

Mr. Speaker, let me proceed further. The more significant fact, as we seek to ascertain whether or not this is a difference of policy and that alone, is that British International Finance had a \$13 million credit line, which has been reduced to \$150,000. That is just how much credit was left of the \$13 million that was available as a credit to this group of companies.

They were in a squeeze and, as a means of coping with the squeeze, Mr. Speaker, they had passed a motion at their board of directors' meeting, according to Mr. Coyne, that they were going to seek credit from the Bank of Western Canada in violation of a commitment which they had given to the banking committee in Ottawa.

Second—and this is the burden of Mr. Coyne's complaints—they were going to seek credit from the United States, namely a banking firm in the United States. The details of that have now become public. In return for this, the American bank was going to get options on the stock which had been held by British International Finance. All I am suggesting to you, Mr. Speaker, is that this is not simply just a case of a difference of policy decisions; this whole financial structure in the Steven empire was becoming shaky. The chartered banks in Canada were refusing to advance credit, just as the chartered banks in Canada refused to advance credit to the Atlantic Acceptance Corporation—and stood idly by, if you will, until the whole empire came collapsing down.

This is the problem we have to cope with at the present time. I suggest to you it is a problem that means there is a genuine crisis. I submit this is the reason why the government is moving at the present time with its crisis piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, as has been said by a number of people in this debate already, the province of Ontario simply cannot stand another collapse of this nature.

An hon. member: The member is working for it.

Mr. MacDonald: What does he mean "we are working for it"? Mr. Speaker, this is the most irresponsible kind of talk, because we are dealing with facts. And some of the facts, for example, are evidence that this government has been so lax in its regulations that York Trust does not even file its reports under the law. Instead of crediting my hon. friend from Riverdale with a public service in revealing the fact that the government was not enforcing the law under the statute, the mem-

ber for St. George contends that he was drawing attention to it and it was needless.

Is it needless, Mr. Speaker, is it irresponsible, that we should draw attention to this—as on so many matters where the government passes a law and then winks at the violation of it?

Mr. Bryden: Then we get into this sort of mess.

Mr. MacDonald: Exactly! We get into this sort of mess. The hon. Minister got up yesterday, and when this was drawn to his attention he frankly, because he had no alternative, said, "No, they had not filed it." But then his excuse was that many of the companies are week or so late. Well Mr. Speaker, why are many of the companies a week or so late?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Ask your lawyer friends, behind you!

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Ask your accountant friends!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, if you pass in your statutes an obligation on these companies to file their returns one month after the date of the period for which they are returning, that is the time when they should file it. Because this government is so lax, of course they do not bother filing it. And of course it will be two or three weeks, or a month, or six weeks late.

We are back to the same kind of story that we had to deal with with the Provincial Secretary and the whole question of charters of incorporated companies, and the racing charters. The law was honoured in the breach. When my friend from Riverdale then says to the Minister—and the Minister was so startled—"Is it the Minister's intention to impose the penalties under the Act?" the Minister was taken aback for a moment and said, "I will have to give that matter some consideration."

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker, if the law is broken, does the government have to give some consideration as to whether they will impose the penalties? Or have we got two laws—one for the little guy who violates the law and gets it in the neck, and one for the trust companies who violate the law and to whom the Minister will give some consideration as to whether or not he will apply the law? Here is our problem, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): The member is in great form tonight.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: He should be careful when he is talking about the law.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, for years the city of Toronto, which is an important financial centre of the business world, has been getting a worse and worse reputation, because of the operation of our stock exchange and our refusal to clean it up. I met a chap last week, a business man who had been down to the United States on a business trip, and his report was rather an interesting one. I report it to the House, more in sorrow than in anger, but it is a problem that this government has got to face up to and try not to sweep under the rug.

His proposition was that when you go down to the United States today people do not ask about the great city hall, they do not ask about the O'Keefe Centre, they do not ask about the burgeoning development of the city of Toronto. What are they asking about? They are asking about what is going on in the business world up in Canada. What about Windfall and Atlantic Acceptance and British Mortgage and Trust? And now this. In fact, their comment was that Toronto has become the financial pornographic centre of the world.

Mr. White: It was a socialist friend, no doubt.

Mr. MacDonald: This is the kind of reputation that has been created because of the laxity of this government. And do not say it has not been lax, because we had the evidence just yesterday that the government is tolerating laxity, and has not even moved with vigour to impose the penalties under the statutes which, I submit, it is their obligation to impose without any hesitation.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, that this government has lost the confidence of the people of the province of Ontario and its financial interests. This government has lost confidence in the minds of people who are normally immune to doubts with regard to a Tory government. This is panic legislation. It does not even pretend, as my hon. friend from Riverdale has pointed out, to tackle the basic issue that has been faced, and that the government has not grappled with and solved, since the time of British

Mortgage and Trust, or earlier. What it is doing is fidgeting around in the periphery of the problem. This is panic legislation.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, we have had another example of fumbling administration. We have had another example of this government's refusal to face up to its obligations until it is blasted by events, and a public outcry which even it cannot withstand.

Therefore, as my colleagues have indicated, on the assumption that this is a crisis, which I believe it is, then the obligation is on the government to cease its double talk, to speak with an authoritative rather than a contradictory voice. If we have got a crisis, then I think it is our obligation in this House to give to this government who, for better or for worse, is in the seat of power, and who have to exercise the necessary authority to cope with this situation, the necessary authority to cope with the crisis.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Now he is talking.

Mr. MacDonald: Exactly! We have said it from the outset and we have said it right now. We acknowledge it is a crisis. We have got to protect it so that our constituents back home can sleep in bed at night, because they have not been able to sleep up until now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): Just say you can have—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, pass this, and settle this crisis of confidence. I challenge this government to pass it and then to go to the people of this province and let them vote on an issue like this. Because there is no doubt in the world that on this issue they have lost the confidence, not only of this House, if they were free to speak, but certainly of the business world, and certainly of the general public across the province.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, since I rose earlier in this debate on a point of order, asking you to confine the remarks of members to the principle of this bill, I trust I shall keep my remarks to the principle of this Bill 24 which we are debating. Rather than stress those areas of disagreement which I might have with other hon. members of the House, I would like to stress the areas in which I think we all agree.

I think we are all agreed that this bill has to do with loan and trust corporations, that it

seeks to provide a means of insurance, of security, of safety, for deposits in those companies. It is intitled, A bill to establish the Ontario deposit insurance corporation. I think we are all agreed upon that, and we are all agreed that it does not deal—and let us not argue the point, it is very clear and plain—it does not deal with finance companies, with mutual fund companies, and with insurance companies.

I do note on the order paper that the hon. Minister of The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs has given notice that he intends to introduce legislation with respect to The Securities Act, with respect to The Loan and Trust Corporations Act and with respect to insurance companies. This bill deals with deposit insurance.

I think we are agreed, Mr. Speaker, that this situation is one which has very considerable elements of urgency in it, and that makes it essential that we get on with the business of enacting this legislation. The government has been charged with delay in previous situations.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): That is asking for the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And I would suggest to the hon. members that any delay, any obstruction, of this legislation would leave them open to the charge of failing to act in a situation where they are so fond of charging the government with delay.

Mr. Singer: After 24 years, another two days is not really going to matter.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well that, Mr. Speaker, is a very debatable point but I do not propose to debate it at this moment.

Mr. Bryden: No, you just want to—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I just suggest to the hon. members that there is urgency in this situation.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I am making my speech.

I think we are agreed, and that we are all aware, that this bill is patterned after legislation in the Parliament of Canada, dealing with the very same subjects and written in very similar terms—so that we have, I think, a good example to follow. I suggest to members that if the Parliament of this country, of this dominion, sees fit to introduce such legislation we cannot be far wrong in following its lead. I think several hon.

members today have suggested that this whole field, this whole business of banking—I do not like the term “near-banking”—is one with which we are familiar; and which, we understand, is one of national importance. It is admitted that the federal legislation when passed will very likely supersede the legislation we are discussing here this evening.

Mr. Bryden: If the Attorney General would permit a question, Mr. Speaker: Have the actual terms of the federal bill been made public? I would like this cleared up, because my impression is that nobody has seen the actual bill yet; it is just the resolution that has been approved. Is this bill modelled on the terms of their bill?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The federal bill has been printed and made public.

Mr. Singer: Except this, sir; am I not correct in suggesting that the federal bill does not define the word “deposit”? It leaves that to the regulations; that is really the substantial essence of this bill and the federal bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I did not submit, Mr. Speaker, that the bill was word for word. I said it was patterned on the same principle as the federal legislation, which in turn, like this bill, is patterned on deposit insurance legislation in the state of New York.

I think we all again agree that that jurisdiction, which has had such legislation for a number of years, is an experienced area of great economy, of great experience and—again another word I do not like to use—a sophisticated area of finance. So we have a good model, a good pattern, a good experience to follow—an accepted principle, deposit insurance.

I think we are agreed that a failure to act in passing this legislation, and I speak plainly, could lead to a worsening situation, one which could worsen quickly. I am not interested, I am not concerned with trying on this occasion to assess blame or responsibility, or to say that there has been irresponsibility which has brought about such a situation. I leave that to the conscience of those who have spoken in this matter. I think we are agreed that failure to act could lead to a rapidly worsening situation.

I therefore say, Mr. Speaker, that time is of the essence in this matter. I think we should call upon the members of the House to use their sense of duty, their sense of responsibility, in the public welfare, their responsibility to the people we all represent,

and get on with the job—which is to pass this piece of legislation.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, will the Attorney General accept a question?

Mr. Speaker: This is not the Throne Debate.

Mr. Sargent: I have the right to ask him a question.

Mr. Speaker: You can ask the member a question—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I really feel I should leave this to Your Honour. We are debating the principle of a bill. I do not hesitate to accept the question and to answer it, but I do not want to get this debate off the rail. I will, however, accept the question.

Mr. Sargent: I thank the Minister. Is there pressure from York Trust, or specifically one person, Mr. Crate? I understand he is a friend of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Is there pressure from one person for this bill?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Is that the question?

Mr. Sargent: That is the question.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I never heard the idea expressed before.

Mr. Sargent: May I ask then if you—

Mr. Speaker: Order! He has asked his question and the Minister has accepted it. Now I think he should be satisfied.

Mr. Sargent: He has information we do not know here.

Mr. Speaker: It makes no difference. This is not a question-and-answer period. Quite frankly, questions and answers are out of order during the debate of second reading of a bill.

Mr. L. M. Reilly (Eglinton): Mr. Speaker, I thought I should tell the House that my experience in Eglinton has been somewhat different from some members in the House. I have personally spoken to a number of people in Eglinton over the past few weeks. I have asked them their impressions of the financial markets. There did not seem to be any loss of confidence in connection with the market.

Perhaps the people in Eglinton—a large number of them being architects, auditors, engineers, and teachers, and groups after this nature—are perhaps what the Attorney

General might call more sophisticated from the standpoint of investment?

Mr. Whicher: Does Mr. Shulman live there?

Mr. Reilly: I am not sure whether he is there or not but I thought I should perhaps explain to the members of the House the different situation, and the response that I received, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I might inform the member that this is not debating the principle of the bill, so I am afraid I will have to ask him to be short in his remarks in that respect.

Mr. Reilly: I realize, Mr. Speaker, that you would not want to show preference to your deputy, and that under the circumstances you would probably rule me out of order, but what I was doing was following a theme that had been expressed here earlier—that there was a crisis from the standpoint of confidence. I am merely replying that there is no crisis from the standpoint of confidence.

Mr. Bryden: Then there is no hurry about this bill?

Mr. Reilly: Well on that particular point, as to whether there was a hurry for the bill, or an urgency, I must admit, Mr. Speaker, that it surprised me that the bill was brought in, had to be hurriedly discussed, and hurriedly passed through a second reading, coming before the committee of the whole House, and then to get a third reading without delay—but I am not surprised when I stop to think about it. It is not just what has gone on here today.

When you have headlines in the newspaper about Coyne and Stevens, and link it up with a trust company, naturally under those circumstances there is a need for urgency. But not the need that the leader of the Liberal Opposition had pointed out to this House earlier today. The need has been caused because York Trust has been mentioned as being the link between Coyne and Stevens; and, under those circumstances, people who have invested in a trust company, and particularly York Trust, would be concerned.

Let me go on to say, as far as I am concerned, that I have not lost any confidence whatsoever in any trust company. Only last month I invested money in a trust company; and I think if the people in the gallery are interested in doing a job from the standpoint of creating confidence, not creating mistrust, they would say to us that they do not know

of any trust companies that failed—with the exception of one, and that was not considered an outright failure.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Reilly: And under those circumstances, tomorrow, if you had a run on any trust company, there would not be any question about it whatsoever that it would be very difficult to have money invested and have money available at the same time. I am surprised that the members of the Opposition, New Democrats and Liberals, do not realize that when you take money and put it in on deposit you do not have it easily available. So, under those circumstances, if everybody came and asked for his money at the same time it would not be available. This bill is common sense; this is sheer business policy.

Mr. Bryden: But that was not British Mortgage's problem.

Mr. Reilly: Now what the Opposition has deliberately tried to do is to put everything into one particular pot. They said that Windfall and Atlantic Acceptance, and a series of these, were all grouped together; and under those circumstances you lose confidence in the financial market. This, of course, is not the truth.

Anybody knows what could happen with a "Windfall". It is a different situation entirely. It is a stock market manipulation.

Here is the member for York South, who came and read to us a few minutes ago from the *Financial Post*. He says there has been a 66 per cent, a 33 per cent, and a 70 per cent drop in certain stocks. My daughter invested a short time ago in Trans-Canada Pipeline, her first investment, at \$36, and I think it has dropped down to \$22, \$23, \$24. Subsequently she invested a few hundred dollars in Bell Telephone at around the \$60 mark; it came down to \$44 or \$45 or \$46. Now surely these firms, such as the Trans-Canada Pipe and Bell Telephone, one could hardly say that they were in trouble, yet they dropped some 25 to 30 per cent in value of shares.

Mr. Speaker: I think the member is straying too far. I take it he is in favour of deposit insurance and I think, if he would conclude on that—

Mr. Reilly: Mr. Speaker, you are absolutely right, I am going to support this bill, but I could not support the proposed amendment. And the reason why I would say that

is this; the proposed amendment by the hon. member for St. Patrick comes in a different category entirely.

Mr. Speaker: I might inform the member there is no amendment before the House.

Mr. Reilly: No, I realize that, Mr. Speaker. Now that the members in the Opposition concur with the members of the government, and are ready to support and adopt the bill, I will sit down.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour of the bill?

The motion was carried on the following unanimous, recorded vote:

AYES

Allan	MacDonald
Auld	Mackenzie
Bernier	MacNaughton
Boyer	McNeil
Braithwaite	Newman
Brown	Nixon
Brunelle	Noden
Bryden	Olde
Carruthers	Pittock
Carton	Price
Davison	Pritchard (Mrs.)
Demers	Reilly
Downer	Renwick
Edwards	Reuter
Ewen	Root
Farquhar	Rowntree
Freeman	Sargent
Gisborn	Simonett
Gomme	Singer
Grossman	Spooner
Guindon	Stewart
Harris	Thrasher
Haskett	Trotter
Henderson	Walker
Hodgson	Wardrope
(Scarborough East)	Welch
Hodgson	Whicher
(Victoria)	White
Johnston	Whitney
(Carleton)	Wishart
Kerr	Worton
Knox	Yaremko
Lawrence	Young-63.
(St. George)	

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 63, the "nays" zero.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into committee of the whole House.

Motion agreed to; House in committee of the whole, Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

House in committee on Bill 24, An Act to establish the Ontario deposit insurance corporation.

Mr. Chairman: I would remind the members of the House at the outset that we are now discussing this clause by clause, section by section, and in order to avoid repetition, which we had previously, we will stay with the sections and not deal with extraneous matters.

Sections 1 to 6 inclusive, agreed to.

On section 7:

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, on section 7, I think there is no need whatsoever for the government of this province to either subscribe or be obligated to subscribe \$5 million by way of capital. Sample powers throughout the bill—and I would suggest that members look at section 18 to see one example of the very wide powers that this corporation will have to obtain all the funds which are necessary.

I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that no part of the money of the government of the province of Ontario should be tied up in this corporation. It is not an essential part of the operation and I therefore move, Mr. Chairman; that subsection 1 of section 7 of Bill 24 be amended by striking out the figure "\$5,000,000" in the second line and the figure "\$1,000,000" in the third line, and substituting therefor the figures "\$500" and "\$100" so that the subsection shall read as follows:

1. The authorized capital of the corporation is \$500, divided into five shares with a par value of \$100 each.

Mr. Chairman: The House has the member's amendment. All those in favour of the amendment—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): I would like to hear some comment from the government. They have time to force frivolous votes but they do not seem to have time to discuss the content of the bill. I would like to ask the Minister why it is necessary to have the share units valued at \$1 million apiece. What is the plan? Is he going to put one share in and, if so, why does he need \$1 million? And why does he need the authority to put in, all told, \$5 million? I think we are entitled to hear these things from the government. There is very inadequate opportunity to consider the bill, but we might as well use what

little time we have to raise some of these matters.

Can the government give us an explanation of why the section stands as it does, and why the amendment of the member for Riverdale is not acceptable to it—if that is the case, as it appears to be?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): The share structure of the corporation was determined as a result of discussions with our Treasury officials and the Provincial Treasurer. This \$5 million of capital will enable the corporation to establish itself, I would hope, to invest the money in government bonds, but in any event to provide a foundation for the operation of the corporation and give it some substance.

Mr. Bryden: As I understand the bill, Mr. Chairman, and if my understanding is incorrect the Minister will no doubt put me straight, the corporation really has no expenses since, shall we say, it has no administrative set-up. It consists of senior civil servants, plus others whom the government might see fit to name, but who do not get any fees in any case. It has the most varied and ample borrowing powers, and I just do not see what it needs any significant amount of capital for.

I assume—now maybe I am wrong again, and the Minister can correct me—but I assume that the minute the corporation is set up, as it will be when this bill is passed, the government is going to subscribe to one share. I assume somebody has to hold one share, if it is a company with share capital, and one share costs \$1 million. I just cannot see why that money is going to be there.

The government is going to invest \$1 million in this corporation and then borrow it back. It makes no sense, especially since there is no office set up, and administration will be through other agencies. I presume that the government is not contemplating that there is going to be an immediate call for money before the corporation can even borrow. That would be the only basis on which I could see them putting this much money into share capital, into this type of corporation, which really is just a board. It is a number of experts, and that is all.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The operating expenses of the corporation would probably involve a chairman who might be a paid individual, but I do not anticipate that that would even be a large amount. I would think

that the operation of the corporation, if it were ever called upon to operate as provided in the bill, could either do it by its own agents, who have to be paid, or it might operate through an agency. It might assign someone to do it on a contract basis, but one or the other.

Mr. Bryden: But under the bill—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is six of one almost, and half a dozen of the other, but I think the capital structure is what gives the corporation substance.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Well Mr. Chairman, on this I do not follow the logic at all. In section—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I might say it is similar in structure to the federal bill, which is \$10 million.

Mr. Singer: Well I know, Mr. Chairman, it is similar in structure to the federal bill, which is not similar because it applies in a federal aspect and has several different sections. The Attorney General tells us it is similar in structure to the New York bill, which we have not seen. We are comparing apples to oranges and saying they are the same kind. What we are talking about is the bill we have here.

What is the purpose—when the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has told us so many times that we are short of money—of putting \$5 million into this corporation when you give in cash? Because you are going to issue five shares, and the province is going to subscribe for them, and a cheque is going from the consolidated revenue fund into the treasury of this corporation. \$5 million will sit there when, in section 14, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, the corporation may from time to time borrow or raise by way of a loan such sums as the corporation may deem requisite. Again, in section 16, the Lieutenant-Governor may authorize the Provincial Treasurer to guarantee the payment of any debentures, bills or notes.

In other words, you have got all the borrowing power in the corporation. You have got all the power of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to guarantee them. And really the worthwhileness of this whole exercise that we have been through today is that the province of Ontario, when this procedure is through, will have done as they did in British Mortgage and say, "We guarantee," and that will be sufficient.

If you are short of money, as the Prime Minister said you were when he came back from Ottawa, why do you want to tie up another \$5 million uselessly in the treasury of this company?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Well now Mr. Chairman, it is not tied up. The hon. member has not—

Mr. Singer: You are not going to use it?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Let us look. Here is what the section says, section 7 (1) and (2), and I am reading from (2):

The Treasurer of Ontario shall subscribe for the five shares of the capital stock of the corporation and shall pay the amount of such subscription out of the consolidated revenue fund at such time or from time to time as the corporation may require.

He did not read this, it appears.

Mr. Singer: What is the purpose of doing it at all, when you do not need it?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, under this clause 7, based on the fee of one-thirtieth of one per cent, is the charge to the bank—or roughly \$300 per million is the charge. It would take \$15 billion of deposits to justify a return or liquidation of \$5 million given by this government. This is correct?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Whatever your mathematics are—

Mr. Sargent: Well, figure it out. If you get \$300 for \$1 million worth of deposits, \$300 into \$5 million gives you a figure of \$15 billion worth of deposits.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sargent: Well the way the Minister runs his department, I guess you would not dare to know.

I think the Minister must be realistic to answer the question: Are you going to amortize the \$5 million out of return of deposits from the near-banks?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The operation of the corporation, if called upon, would probably be by way of temporary financing. That would be one of its functions. It might put up some of its own money or it might elect

to simply guarantee a credit somewhere else. That would be one possibility.

I cannot say what the situation would be. But actually the amount would be such as might be required, as the situation demanded, in whatever case might come before it. It could be that the corporation might not call for the capital at all, for all I know.

Mr. Sargent: The fact is that the member for St. George made a point that the trust and loan companies' association had ample funds in their association to guarantee any run. He made that statement this afternoon.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sargent: Well I think if you check *Hansard* you will find you made that statement.

Now if the association—

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I never mentioned the loan and trust corporation association.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): The companies.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Oh yes, the companies. What are you talking about? Are you talking about the association or the companies?

An hon. member: The companies.

Mr. Sargent: The hon. member made the statement, I believe, that the trust and loan companies association—the group had enough funds, or collectively—

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I have never mentioned the association, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I apologize. I thought you had made that statement. But I would suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Minister, that the industry involved here should be concerned enough to put up enough assets to guarantee this in their own industry, without coming to the people of Ontario to say, "bail us out in time". I am opposed to the principle of financing this industry, and I think—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is the principle of the bill, Mr. Chairman, that we have approved—the principle of the bill that there should be a deposit insurance corporation. The question now is whether or not it shall have any capital structure.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, but I want to ask the Minister: Is he going to amortize this \$5 million we are going to guarantee out of fees from the banks? The Minister does not know that, does he?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The premium is set at one-thirtieth, and it is stated right in the bill.

Mr. Sargent: And so the Minister is going to have \$15 billion of deposits to guarantee that? You must know that or you would not have it before you here.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Well whatever moneys the corporation advances, either by way of its own capital or by way of credit or other borrowing, would be secured; and I would hope, and I anticipate this in any operation, it would have security for its loans. To me—there is a phrase called holding operation—I would anticipate that that would be the most the corporation would be called upon—

Mr. Sargent: Well, this is the second time that this government has come to the rescue of the trust and loan companies in trouble.

Mr. Chairman: I must remind the member for Grey North that we have passed the principle of the bill and I have to ask him to restrict his questions to section 7.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I will probably be quite brief. It is quite obvious that the corporation does not require this kind of money, either by way of immediate subscription or subscription for the shares subject to call at a later time. It is quite obvious that, either from its premium income or from the borrowing powers, which is up to a limit of \$250 million, that this corporation can, without getting involved in this kind of a corporate structure, fulfil the purposes of the bill. The substance of this corporation will not lie in whether or not it has got \$5 million, or some part of \$5 million, in its capital stock. The substance of this corporation is that it is a Crown corporation. It is totally a creature of the government of the province of Ontario. This is what it is. This is why the substance will be there. This is why it will carry out its business.

I think that when a bill comes in such as this, there should be some thought given by the government before they simply adopt language which has no meaning for the purposes of this corporation.

Mr. Chairman: You have heard the amendment.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry but I want to persist on this. The Minister has given no valid explanation. He has said that the only claim on the funds would be that you might have to have a full time chairman but that would not be very much of a claim.

They have full powers to borrow to meet any obligation that may arise. They will be accumulating premiums. Sir, when I come back to the figure which our hon. member from Grey North has raised—this \$5 million—we anticipate that some time soon they are going to have protection for something approaching \$15 billion.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I do not follow that proposition.

Mr. MacDonald: One thirtieth of one per cent, \$5 million in premiums would be to protect \$15 billion in deposits. Now does the Minister really think that they are faced with that kind of a loss?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is clearly a mathematical figure.

Mr. MacDonald: True it is a mathematical figure but, Mr. Chairman, they can borrow if they need it, they do not have to have the money in the pocket, so to speak, to cope with this situation. Now why do they have to dip into this Treasury which they say is so hard pressed? We find it so difficult to make money available for so many other things; and suddenly this government, in a crash programme, a crisis programme to meet a situation in the trust companies, is willing to set aside \$5 million. They have given no valid explanation for this.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Chairman, if I may, there is nothing in the section of the bill that says \$5 million will be set aside. If the member reads it, it is authorized—

Mr. Bryden: Well why can it not be authorized? That is what we are asking.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well I think maybe when one places legislation before the House it is wise to anticipate things that may arise, whether they arise or not. Subsection 2 of section 7, and I am sure the members have read it, says that the Provincial Treasurer of Ontario shall subscribe to the five shares of the capital stock of the corporation and shall pay the amount out of such subscription out of the consolidated revenue fund at such time, or from time to time as the corporation may require.

It may never be required, but if it is required the provision is there. This is authorized share capital. It does not mean that it is going to be subscribed.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, what the Provincial Treasurer—and he should be the last one to do it—what the Provincial Treasurer is asking us to do—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Why should the Provincial Treasurer be the last one to do it?

Mr. Bryden: He should be the last one to do what the Minister is now doing, and that is he is proposing to this House that we just give a blank cheque with \$5 million on it—or up to \$5 million. There is no conceivable purpose that we can see here, or that the Minister can explain to us showing why he will need the \$5 million or any part of it, either now or at any time in the future.

This is the sort of thing I object to having to do; to vote money, or give authority for money for no reason that anybody can explain. I do not see why the government digs its heels in. Just because they apparently copied this slavishly out of the federal bill is no reason for passing it here.

There is one angle to this though, Mr. Chairman, one other angle that has not been mentioned to which I think attention should be called, and that is that the Minister in charge of the bill, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, has suggested that there would be some small administrative cost; and that seems reasonable, there probably will be a few thousand dollars a year. Now I am suggesting to the House and to the government, Mr. Chairman, that the corporation should come to this House for those relatively small administrative costs and have them voted year by year under the estimates of the responsible Minister. What is going to happen here is that, if they get the \$5 million, with other operations that they will carry on they will get themselves totally independent of this House.

What we are in fact setting up here is a corporation with very broad powers that could actually involve the province in a great many liabilities and that does not have to account to this House in any form whatever. It is true it is under some supervision by the government, but it does not have to account to this House at all. All it has to do is to file its annual report on the table once a year and this is it; and as members know we do not have an opportunity, as of right, to read annual reports.

I do not see why it should be cut loose from this House so that it never has to account for itself. The only thing I can think of is that this \$5 million has something to do with putting this organization off as a little empire by itself that runs its own show, accounts to nobody and thumbs its nose at the House.

It is not going to be accountable to the House, and I do not see why it should not be. There is certainly no other valid reason for the authorization of \$5 million of share capital, and certainly under the bill as it now stands the corporation is completely independent of the Legislature. I would suggest to the Minister that it would be desirable, as with the Ontario housing corporation for example, as with a good many agencies, for their administrative expenses they have to come in here and get money and their performance can be reviewed. I do not see why this body should be put up on a pinnacle so that it is, in effect, responsible to nobody.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would not have intervened again at this point if the Provincial Treasurer had not intervened.

Mr. Chairman: I recognize the member for St. George.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, again I feel there is quite a lack of thinking in relation to this matter.

First of all, as I understand it this bill is going to cover about 16 or 17 corporations. Now I am sure that no one, perhaps not even the presidents of those corporations, and I am sure no one in this government at the moment, can tell the amount of the deposit and GICs (guaranteed investment certificates) that are going to be covered under this insurance scheme.

Mr. Singer: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I can supply that information right now to the hon. member.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: All right. I am not asking—

Mr. Singer: One billion, one hundred and one million, one hundred thousand dollars is the figure.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: That is utter nonsense.

Mr. Singer: It is not utter nonsense. It was supplied by the registrar's office today.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I can tell the hon. member—

Mr. Singer: If that is utter nonsense, then—

Mr. Chairman: The member is on a point of order.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Quite.

The reason for it is this, we can all go and take a look at the balance sheet, as some of us have done, to total up the amount of the deposits and the amount of the GICs. I defy anybody, even the registrar, I do not care who he is, to tell me; because I know for a fact in a number of the companies the information is not even available, to indicate to anybody just exactly how this is broken down as far as single ownership and the \$20,000 figure is concerned.

Mr. Sargent: Pretty bad mess, is it not?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: No, it is not a pretty bad mess at all; not at all.

Mr. Bryden: What does all of that have to do with this?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: If the member would just let me finish, I will get it out and maybe we can go on.

I have taken a rough calculation and it would seem to me that the amount of GICs and deposits that are going to be covered here are going to be perhaps of the order of \$15 million.

I do not know, I have done this completely independently without consulting the Minister, the department, the government, the registrar, Mahatma Gandhi, or anybody. It is simply a figure that I believe would be approximately it. Now the purpose of this thing is not only insurance, it is assurance. It is to instil some confidence.

Mr. MacDonald: That is maybe why the member needs so much—

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: All right maybe it is, but in any event again perhaps to the unsophisticated it might help a great deal to be able to indicate that there is \$15 million readily and easily available without this corporation borrowing it or doing anything else.

Mr. Bryden: \$15 million!

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I am sorry, the \$5 million would be available solely and simply because of these shares already being registered in the name of the Provincial Treasurer. It would help as an assurance on the whole scheme. And if, eventually, this is going to be a temporary stop-gap measure that the federal people are going to take over in any

event, then we have to put a value on the thing.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Ministers if that is the explanation? Now they have had to have a private member come in to bail them out because they cannot explain the thing, is this the explanation or is it not?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bruce.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the hon. Minister this question: We all hope, of course, that there will be no immediate call for this fund, but just supposing there was in the next year, that the government had to put \$4 million or \$5 million into some trust company, would this be a loss to the consolidated revenue fund of the province of Ontario, or would this come, in the years ahead, from the various trust companies of the province through their premiums and fees? I certainly do not think that we should have to put up any money for these financial organizations without getting it back.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is our intention.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, because of what the hon. Provincial Treasurer said, as well as the hon. member for St. George, I know we can argue about figures, but the actual figures as at June 30, 1966, of all trust and loan corporations, whether Ontario corporations or otherwise, carrying on business in the province of Ontario was, for the trust corporations \$1,700 billion and for the loan corporations was something in the neighbourhood of \$400 million. So in the province of Ontario at June 31, 1966, there was in excess of \$2 billion in the loan and trust corporations, either that were incorporated in the Ontario or that are carrying on business in Ontario.

Now it would appear, so far as one can calculate it from the figures which are available, that there will be a minimum of \$500 million from which this corporation will divide premiums. And at the rate of \$333 per million, this corporation will have an income not less than \$160,000 or \$170,000 a year. Now on that basis those funds will be available to defray whatever expense is necessary for this corporation and will be available quite promptly.

Now the Provincial Treasurer has read the section as everybody else has read the section. He is the Provincial Treasurer, saying that the bill provides for a subscription now for five shares at \$1 million each payable in such

instalments or at such time as the corporation decides.

The Provincial Treasurer will have put it outside his control as to when that corporation will call for the money. Now if the Provincial Treasurer is going to say; "Oh no, that is not it", because he is really going to have control over the corporation, then I say let us have the corporation responsible. If, on the other hand, we are going to put it out here it is not responsible to anybody; let the corporation run its own affairs!

But to come back directly to the amendment, there is no reason why all or any part of that \$5 million is necessary for this corporation at any time. It is just as easy to provide the money by the Provincial Treasurer signing a cheque of the province payable to this corporation by way of loan, if, as and when it is needed, as it is to lock up some cash now or to impose an obligation on this government if the board of this company calls for the paying up of the subscription.

I would suggest that there is no need for this provision. I do not see any reason and there has been no reason advanced that I know of why the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs cannot accept this amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North.

Mr. Sargent: The motivation is confidence. That is what we are talking about, confidence in the government and in the trust companies, but in effect we are signing a blank cheque, as it were, and so the \$5 million does not mean anything really. If there was a failure to the extent of \$100 million, in essence the government picks up the tab. Now this only pinpoints that if this had been in effect in the last three of four fiascos we have had here, it would have broken the government unless there is better policing.

I think in view of the fact that in the United States the federal deposit works on a \$10,000 deal, why do we have to go for a \$20,000 guarantee when we can ill afford it? In effect, payday does come. Why the \$20,000?

Mr. Chairman: That is not before us at the moment; we will come to that section soon.

Mr. Sargent: Let me define this one point, then. Are we signing, in effect, a blank cheque for X millions of dollars?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The amounts are named in the Act.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister said that it was named in the Act.

Mr. Sargent: The extent and the magnitude of this? I do not think that it would be.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, for the erudition of my ill-informed friend, the hon. member for St. George, who says that the figures that come from the registrar of loan and trust corporations are nonsense, let me just correct the member for Riverdale by suggesting that his figures were very conservative; he underestimated by half. We have undertaken to write down these figures given to us today by the registrar of loan and trust corporations, which figures are effective as of December 31, 1965, and since the member for St. George is so dubious about them, I am going to read them all into the record and in detail, because it is about time that he began to learn what is going on in this whole business.

For the 17 trust companies, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Renwick: The hon. member for Downsview has referred to 1965. Before we get into an area of argument, is he speaking of 1965?

Mr. Singer: The period ending December 31, 1965.

Mr. Renwick: The figures which I was quoting were the figures as shown by the registrar of loan and trust corporations at June 30, 1966.

Mr. Singer: I gathered that, but you broke them down and your last figure was an estimate. These are the exact breakdowns as we did them from the exact figures which will show those totals to which this Act applies.

For the 17 trust companies, the deposits as of December 31, 1965, were \$491,400,000; the debentures and GICs were \$453,400,000. The total of those two figures is \$944,800,000. For loan companies, deposits, debentures and GICs are grouped together and the figure is \$153,400,000, and the total is \$944,800,000. For loan companies, deposits at the end of the same period were \$66,500,000, and GICs \$89,800,000 or a total of \$156,300,000. The combined totals, the total public liability is \$1,101,100,000.

For the further erudition of the member for St. George, I can give it to him company by company for each one of those but I am sure that he no longer believes that the figures that we obtained from the registrar of loan and trust corporations are nonsense.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Chairman, I am quite willing to admit that my computations

were very far off. However, can the member tell me then how he has broken his down into \$20,000 deposits, name by name? I checked today with a couple of trust company people and they informed me that they had no records at the moment themselves to indicate this. Therefore, I am saying that neither the registrar, the member, nor anyone in this world right now can tell me exactly the amounts that are going to be covered by this, because there is a \$20,000 limit per name or per person.

Mr. Singer: The member is unfortunately confusing two things; he is confusing liability and collectibility—if I can use those two words. The fee is based on the totals; the fee is the percentage on the \$1,101,100,000; the liability is on \$20,000 each. The rate of premium is not on \$20,000 per deposit; the rate of premium is on how much they have got deposited.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I am talking about what would be covered under this scheme—

Mr. Singer: If the member is talking about how much we would have to pay out if every \$20,000 deposit had to be paid out—

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Singer:—And we are talking about how much would come in. Now you take the percentage and apply it to the \$1,101,100,000.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Now we are both confused.

Mr. Chairman: On section 7, please.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, just a word again. I do not want to belabour this point. I think there are a lot of tremendous figures being thrown back and forth here, but let me go back to the member for Riverdale and say that I paid very strict attention to what he said. I point out to him again that he indicated when he made reference to subsection 2 that this capital, if subscribed or when subscribed, would be dealt with as the Provincial Treasurer or as the corporation may decide.

I suggest that is not quite right and I do not think the language of the section would imply that. It says: "From time to time as the corporation may require." I think that is quite a different situation, I think the Provincial Treasurer at that point, if he is called upon to subscribe for one or more of these shares set out in the share capital to be authorized—

Mr. Sargent: It is still a blank cheque.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Would the member let me finish? I may be wrong here, too, but I do not think I am.

Mr. Bryden: The Provincial Treasurer is supposed to be responsible.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I do not think I am wrong. The point is that this has been set up as authorized capital but it will not be subscribed unless it is required and at that time I suggest that any responsible Minister, or his responsible adviser, is going to indicate to him the extent that it may be required before it is subscribed. It may very well be—and this is the purpose I am confident that this section was put in here for—it is going to take some time for these premiums to accumulate. The member made reference, I think, to a sum approximating \$160,000 to \$170,000 per year.

Mr. Sargent: The way things are going—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Accepting his figures, Mr. Chairman, this may be certainly sufficient to take care of the operating costs of the corporation. But I suggest to you that there exists the possibility, I suppose, that the corporation may be called upon in advance of sufficient premium revenue accruing to the corporation to provide some help—

Mr. Bryden: But you have no control over this \$5 million; you have to give it to them if they ask for it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: If they require it. The section says "if it is required." I think there is a very great difference here. I am not trying to deal in semantics, Mr. Chairman, but it is not as the corporation decides, it is as it is required and they have to substantiate the requirements. They will as long as I have anything to say about it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, might I just speak to one point. There is some confusion here about the computation of the premium and I think it is a fairly important matter that it should be understood. There is an element of truth in what each of the participants in the debate has said. The premium is not computed on any amount deposited in excess of \$20,000. It insures up to \$20,000 and therefore the difficulty which the member for St. George refers to is reflected in this situation.

For example, how many accounts are there and what is the total value of them, whether they be \$2,000, \$4,000, \$6,000, \$8,000 or \$10,000 or up to \$20,000, and I think that is

where the unknown factor and the difficulty in computation would be. The best estimate that I have been able to secure in this matter is that the premium would be somewhat less and in the area of maybe \$350,000 a year. I put this to you because this is the situation.

Mr. Sargent: What is the potential payout?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to pursue the semantic argument with the Provincial Treasurer. To the extent that the government insists on analogizing this to a corporation and there is a subscription made by the Provincial Treasurer for those shares, then at the call of the directors of that company those funds must be subscribed. If, on the other hand, the Minister is saying, "Well, I've really got control of it," and if his interpretation is right, I would suggest he get busy and draft proper language to show that it is under his control if, as and when he puts it up. In any analogy to corporate work it is quite certain that it is in the control of the board of this corporation, which this government is setting off in limbo accountable to nobody.

Mr. Chairman: I have an amendment by Mr. Renwick. All those in favour of the amendment, will please say "aye." All those opposed, will please say "nay."

I declare the amendment lost.

Section 7 agreed to.

Sections 8 and 9 agreed to.

On section 10:

Mr. Renwick: On section 10, this is the point which we come back to on all occasions when we deal with the emanations from the Crown that are set off in limbo, accountable to no one other than the obligation to report and to table the report in this assembly. The argument is a general one and this focuses attention on it again. The fact of the matter is that when this corporation is set up in the way in which it is envisaged under this statute, the Minister ceases to be responsible for it. There is no Minister of the Crown left in this assembly who will then be answerable for that corporation. Its obligation will be simply to receive the report and to table it and it is out of his control and out of the government's control.

The point which we make is that once that takes place the only place where there is any democratic accountability is in the standing committee on government commissions. We have been into this before, there are over 100 such commissions. At the very most during a session, the standing commit-

tee on government commissions deals with 10 to 15 of them for about one hour apiece. It has no staff, it has no expert guidance in the questions or the study which it makes of the affairs of such organizations and here we are now asked to add another one to that large group of outfits or commissions or boards or corporations which are unaccountable except through that committee, which cannot possibly do its job. Therefore, simply for the purpose of focusing attention on this problem, Mr. Chairman, I move that section 10 of Bill 24 be amended by inserting after the word "shall" in the first line, the words "be responsible to the Minister and shall", so that the section shall read as follows:

10. The corporation shall be responsible to the Minister and shall within three months after the termination of each financial year of the corporation transmit to the Minister a statement relating to the activities of the corporation—

The remainder of the section is as it is printed in the bill. I would ask that consideration be given to the acceptance of this amendment by the government so that this corporation shall be democratically accountable to the Minister and by the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Mr. Chairman: You have heard the motion for the amendment of Mr. Renwick.

All those in favour of the amendment—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, at this point let me just say this, that as far as I am concerned I have always answered to this Legislature with respect to boards and commissions coming under my jurisdiction; I have never argued the point.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would just remind the Minister, I do not dispute what he says, but I just remind him that it has always been a matter of contention in this House whether such organizations as Hydro, the workmen's compensation board and the LCBO are accountable in any way. Now I will give the present administration credit that as a rule they make some sort of provision for discussing the affairs of these organizations in the House, there was a time when it was flatly refused. There was a time also when it was proposed and was actually done that a motion would be put on the order paper so we would discuss it, but the motion was still on the order paper the day after the House adjourned or completed its session for that year.

So there is no guarantee at all that the House can call these corporations to account,

absolutely no guarantee. And this is what we are complaining about. The practice for the last two or three years has been not unsatisfactory, but that is simply a matter of grace, shall I say. The House has no rights in the matter at all. That is why we think that the amendment should be passed.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: At the risk again of having too much to say on this thing, I must say that I have a great deal of sympathy for the views and the arguments of the member for Riverdale but I really do not believe that his intention would be borne out by his amendment. I think it is unfortunate in a way that his amendment is drafted in that fashion.

Mr. Bryden: Will you propose a better one?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: I would hope that his intention would be that the administrative expenses of this corporation somehow or other—

Mr. Bryden: We asked for that and they refused it.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: —might have to come up in the Minister's estimates.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: They will be in the estimates.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: And in that event I do not think the amendment that he has proposed clarifies this situation whatsoever, simply by making the Minister responsible. That does not mean there would have to be \$1 voted by this House during the Minister's estimates. If this is his intention, I think perhaps he should redraft his amendment if the House would permit him.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I was certainly not necessarily claiming that it is impossible to improve on the device that the member for Riverdale has used to bring the matter to the attention of the House. If somebody can think of a better way of achieving the objective he is trying to achieve, I am sure he would be perfectly happy, as all of us would.

But on the point the member for St. George raised, we had this before the Minister not very long ago. We would like to have the administrative expenses of this corporation come before this House by way of estimates, but it is abundantly clear that that is not going to happen. As a matter of fact, I think this share capital gimmick is the final clincher to make sure that it will not happen.

This corporation—once it is set up and operating and draws, if necessary, some share capital from the government—is entirely on its own and it never has to come back here at all. It can adjust its premiums to cover whatever administration it has. We have been blocked from that avenue and that is why we are now trying the avenue suggested by the member for Riverdale.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Have you got a copy of that proposal?

Mr. Bryden: Oh, sorry; here it is.

Mr. MacDonald: This corporation is superannuated at birth.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Oh, I do not know. It has got a healthy life ahead of it.

Mr. Chairman: The amendment before the House—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Just a moment, may we have just a moment?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: While all this expensive legal talent is mulling over the words of my friend, I wonder if he would be good enough to explain to the House just exactly what is accomplished by these words?

Mr. Bryden: We now have a person identified as being responsible, and he is a member of this House. When the Minister's main office vote comes up, we can get after him on it. But as it stands now there is no way. Also it would seem to me the Minister would like to have the corporation responsible to him. I may be wrong in that, but if I were the Minister and going to take all the brick-bats if the corporation made any boo-boos, I would want to tell them about it.

Mr. Chairman: While the Minister is thinking about it, I should remind the members of the committee that what it actually says here is that, "The corporation shall be responsible to the Minister".

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is what is added.

Mr. Chairman: This is what has been added in the first line. The amendment reads:

The corporation shall be responsible to the Minister and shall—

Are the members ready for the amendment before us—the amendment before the committee now by the member for Riverdale?

Those in favour will please say "aye".

Those opposed, please say "nay."

It would appear that the "ayes" have it.

The amendment carries and section 10 passes.

On section 11:

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, judging from the fantastic amount of work that is being created here by this new department, where is the huge staff coming from to do all these duties in section 11 here? All the examination? If the Minister cannot look after what he has now, where is he going to get the \$150,000 a year of a staff to handle all this? Mr. Minister, have you thought of that? Are you going to create a new staff?

Mr. Chairman: Under section 11 I do not see anything about staff.

Mr. Sargent: The duties, yes.

Mr. Chairman: It is the objects of the corporation, as I see it, under section 11.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I anticipate no difficulty in securing staff, Mr. Chairman.

Section 11 agreed to.

On section 12:

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, section 12 (a) says: "Acquire assets from a member institution and make loans or advances to a member institution and take security therefor and guarantee loans to or deposits with a member institution." For the purpose of reducing the risk to the corporation, that is all well and good, but this opens the door wide open, unless you put in the word "there" in the fourth line, for the sole purpose of reducing a risk to the corporation.

Mr. Chairman: Do you have an amendment in connection with this? I have to have a written amendment.

Mr. Sargent: I do not have it.

Mr. Chairman: Is section 12 carried?

Section 12 agreed to.

Sections 13 to 21 inclusive agreed to.

On section 22:

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, section 22 should be amended and I am so moving by deleting therefrom the words "incorporated under the laws of Ontario and . . ."

The purpose of that amendment is simply this. If that amendment carries, there will then be included in this Act all of the trust and loan corporations that are provided for under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act and that are allowed to register thereunder.

I tried this afternoon to get at the constitutional argument and all I got was that apparently the government has assurances this is the only constitutional way you can do it. Let me ask the Minister: If this is in fact correct, how is it that you are purported to do just what I suggested in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, but you say you cannot do it in this Bill 24 that is before us?

Without reading the details, the Minister is nodding his head, and I presume he is with me. The Minister has said in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act that unless—and he defined them—Ontario companies, extra-provincial companies and dominion companies register, they cannot do business in the province of Ontario. He has said that. If it is constitutional there, why is it not constitutional here?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I shall try and deal with this. Under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, a registration of a federally chartered company is required to do business in Ontario. This is based on the theory and on the argument, which is admitted by the federal government. This much is admitted, that the fiduciary aspect of the trust company operation is provincial in its nature, under the sections of The British North America Act dealing with civil rights and property rights and it does not refer to the deposit aspect of it.

I do not think I could add much more to it than that. That is the interpretation given to The British North America Act and the reference was made a little earlier today with respect to licensing in British Columbia. We have the same section here and the member now makes reference to it. That has to do with the fiduciary operation, or the trustee aspect of a trust company.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, perhaps this is the reason why we were so anxious to get properly informed constitutional lawyers before us, so we could examine them on this, but we are denied this privilege. If the Minister is making the point that he is concerned and his advisers are concerned about the interpretation of the word "banking" in section 91, let us limit it, if we can. I do not think there are any constitutional cases that properly define banking, as far as I can recall; there are no cases specifically on that point.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think there is a line of cases involving some of the Quebec chartered companies.

Mr. Singer: Well, they limit banking to accepting deposits. I think it is clear that

that is banking and this is where your worry lies. It may be there is a dual control over that, or there may not be. But supposing that only prevents you from entering into this field, surely the Minister cannot argue when you widen the definition of deposits to include debentures, that you have widened the scope of the federal jurisdiction under section 91, because under no interpretation that I know of can one say that a debenture has to do with banking. A debenture is part of a mortgage on land, which is property in civil rights. So merely by widening the word deposits you have not extended the federal jurisdiction under section 91.

So the government is making it all-embracing. At least for one-third of this section the Minister is with me on my constitutional argument. At least for one-third of this section he has clear jurisdiction, in my opinion, to roam the whole field, the same as he requires registration.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Except that in certain other interpretations debentures have been regarded as simply promissory notes and rank equally with deposits and/or guaranteed income certificates.

I might add at this point that it is of interest to note that the federal government does charter incorporations and federal trust companies, to engage in deposit acceptances.

Mr. Singer: Well be that as it may, Mr. Chairman, then we are roaming around in the dark on this thing because we have no written constitutional opinion. We merely have an opinion that the Minister was advised by his advisers and this is his understanding of their advice.

I would like to have seen, if this bill had been properly presented—and if it had gone through its usual courses I am sure we would have seen—a written constitutional opinion that we would have had an opportunity of studying. Be that as it may, if this is the stop-gap legislation that they were talking about this afternoon and it will be abandoned substantially when the federal legislation comes into force, why not be brave enough tonight to make it stop-gap over the whole field, because by the time anybody gets up to the Supreme Court of Canada to test the constitutional theory, even the federal government will have passed the legislation.

Mr. MacDonald: Even the federal government?

Mr. Singer: Even the federal government, yes; and I say that advisedly.

So what kind of risk are they taking by doing it, even though they might be running the risk of being constitutionally unsound? It is going to take quite some time before the Supreme Court of Canada makes a ruling on it and by that time it will be signed either by federal legislation or by provincial legislation. Therefore I would urge the Minister to adopt this amendment.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I am going to solicit the cooperation of the member for Downsview to get before the House the kind of distinction which I think will avoid this kind of constitutional impasse which has been mirrored in it. We have an urgent bill which is before us, which requires rapid attention and I do not think that we can solve this constitutional impasse this evening. If the member for Downsview will listen, perhaps he will consent to incorporate the ideas which I would like to express in the amendment which he is going to put before the House, so that we could then clearly see the principle and the problem which is involved.

I mentioned this afternoon that there were 11 loan corporations provincially incorporated and there are three extraprovincial corporations which are loan corporations authorized to do business in the province of Ontario from other provinces, in this case Quebec; and there are nine federal corporations—federal loan corporations.

In the trust field there are 17 provincially incorporated companies; eight extraprovincial corporations, eight federal companies and three foreign companies authorized to carry on the trust business in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman, without repeating the figures in this field that I referred to earlier, on the basis of the figures at June 30, 1966, and which will appear in *Hansard* in the matter which we discussed a few minutes ago, there are in excess of \$2 billion of deposits with these companies. In the case of the provincially incorporated companies, either loan or trust, the deposit figures cover their deposits, whether they are in Ontario or elsewhere across Canada. In the case of the non-provincially incorporated companies, the figures cover only their deposits in the province of Ontario.

My understanding is that the \$2 million is made up of this complex, some of which are deposits across the country, some of which are deposits only in the province of Ontario.

Of the \$2 million, so far as the calculations which I can make—

Mr. Singer: Two billion.

Mr. Renwick: Two billion dollars!

So far as the calculations which I can make, the legislation as presently before this assembly will protect something less than one-third of that \$2 billion of deposits.

We can argue about the figures, but it would appear to be that on the June 30, 1966, figures which I quoted, the list which I have here, that something less than \$600 million is going to be covered by this deposit insurance. Unprotected in the province of Ontario, if my assumptions are correct, the remainder of the \$2 billion is not going to be protected by this insurance.

I am suggesting as a solution to the impasse of the constitutional problems—because both at the federal level and at the provincial level the same constitutional problem exists in this field. The arguments which the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has put forward indicating the constitutional difficulty which this government has are the identical arguments which the appropriate Minister in the Parliament of Canada would have to put forward about the question of their jurisdiction over provincially incorporated loan and trust corporations.

So what I am suggesting, and the amendment which I would have proposed had the member for Downsview not proposed his amendment, would simply have been that in the case of the provincially incorporated loan and trust corporations, as it now stands in the bill, that they be obligated to be member institutions of this corporation, but that we leave it open in this bill, both for constitutional reasons and for the purpose of covering the gap in time until federal legislation is enacted which will allow this problem to be worked out, that we provide the cooperative dovetailing legislation in this Legislature by making arrangements that for companies which are not provincially incorporated loan and trust corporations but which are registered in the province of Ontario, that such companies have a permissive right to join this corporation and become member institutions, and that consequential amendments be made in the bill to limit the insurance coverage in the case of those companies to the deposits which are made in the province of Ontario. Or, if one wants to refine it a little bit more, to those deposits made in the province of Ontario by residents of Ontario.

So that in this way, in my view, a relatively simple accounting procedure, the premium income of this corporation would be substantially enhanced. The potential or con-

tingent liability of the Provincial Treasurer of Ontario would be lessened to that extent and at the same time we would have covered this very substantial gap of about \$1,200 million to \$1,300 million, which are now not covered in the province of Ontario. The amendment which I would have proposed does not deal with the consequential amendments which would have to be made in the following sections. It would, to simply cover the main point of my argument, have read:

For the purposes of this Act every loan corporation and trust company incorporated under the laws of Ontario and registered under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, shall be member institutions.

And then to carry on:

Every loan corporation and trust company not incorporated under the laws of Ontario, but registered under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, may be member institutions.

And then, for purposes of clarification, consequential amendments would have to be made in the subsequent and following sections to make certain that the insurance protection would relate, in the case of those companies, to the deposits in the province of Ontario. With the additional refinement, as I said earlier, that the deposits of residents of Ontario in those extraprovincial and federal corporations would be protected under the bill.

Now I asked the hon. member for Downsview if he would change his amendment, if the chairman would permit, in order to put this issue before the assembly, because I think it is a crucial issue. I think it is a very important issue, not only because I believe it goes a long way to endeavour to solve this constitutional problem. It provides a permissive arrangement until such time as the dovetailing of this legislation with federal legislation is worked out, it covers the gap in time between now and such time as that working out takes place, and we ensure to the people of the province of Ontario that regardless of which loan and trust corporation they have their money in in the province of Ontario, they will have the benefit of this insurance.

In addition, as I have stated, the corporation would have additional revenue by way of premium, or it may be possible to reduce the premium which would be charged because of the inclusion of those companies in it.

For these reasons, I would ask if the member for Downsview would agree, and if the

chair is agreeable, that the amendment of the member for Downsview be amended or changed to cover this particular point so that the issue could be debated here.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I have listened very carefully to the argument put forward by the member for Riverdale. I can see less merit in it than I can see in my own amendment. I do not see any point, really, in withdrawing my amendment to do on a permissive basis what my amendment would purport to do on a mandatory basis, and I come back to the very simple statement that by the deletion of these words, "incorporated under the laws of the province of Ontario Act" we then purport to say that it is mandatory.

We do say that it is mandatory for every loan and trust corporation doing business in Ontario to take part in this deposit insurance scheme and, in my opinion, there is as much chance of that being constitutional as there is of the sections in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. Should anyone choose to challenge it, the onus will be on them and in due course—who knows when—there will be a decision that will settle the matter from the Supreme Court of Canada. By the time the Supreme Court has adjudicated, certainly the pertinent and applicable federal legislation will have been passed in Ontario, and if what the Minister has said is the government's intention, Ontario will have become part of it.

It would seem to me that this is a very simple thing and not nearly as complicated as being voluntary. Make it mandatory tonight; take our chances that we are correct constitutionally; bring not less than 50 per cent but the whole industry in immediately. Those who choose to challenge it, do so at their own peril.

Mr. Chairman: The amendment by the member for Downsview—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would take it that the government is not prepared to accept the amendment proposed by the member for Downsview: at least the Minister's explanation certainly—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I might first speak to that to make the position clear. We have taken counsel on this matter.

Firstly, what we have done and what we have presented to the House in this bill and in section 22, we are satisfied is clearly within an undisputed provincial area of jurisdiction and that the bill cannot be disputed as it now stands. This is the basis on which this bill is advanced.

We have looked at that other situation from some practical points of view and there are some glaringly difficult, if not impossible, problems with respect to the expansion of this coverage in the fashion that my friend has suggested. In other words, we have done what we can do and what lies within our competence. It is not perfect, we admit that; there is legislation to come from the federal authority and there is legislation to come from other provinces with respect to the creatures of their jurisdictions. Be that as it may, we would be threatening the entire operation of our bill if that proposal were acted on.

Mr. Singer: May I ask the Minister whether, instead of doing it in the one section and perhaps striking the whole of section 22, we could leave 22 as it is, call it 22(a) and put 22(b) in. Then the litigation and the challenge to it would only come under 22(b) and that would clearly and simply be severed if the courts came to a conclusion at a later date.

I come back again to the fact that it will be at a much later date, by which time the other legislation, the federal legislation, will be available. But surely at this time it does not make a great deal of sense if you are going to look after less than half of the money on deposit in Ontario. And that is all that is being done with this bill tonight.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There is no argument that that is not so, but that is our position; that is the advice we received and that is the advice that we propose to adopt.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, would the government be prepared to consider the alternative proposal that coverage of these other companies be voluntary, that those that are clearly under your jurisdiction would be mandatorily covered, and then by whatever device is considered appropriate you will at least make it possible for the others to come in if they see fit.

I do not think that the point I raised this afternoon on second reading is entirely fanciful. I think if there is a group of trust companies in this province which, as of tomorrow or whenever the time is when this bill is going to come into force, are going to have their deposits, GICs and debentures guaranteed by the province of Ontario, and there is another group that are not, there could quite possibly be difficulties for that other group. But if they found they had any difficulties, then at least they could come to the government and say, "Do the same thing for us with

regard to depositors, as defined in the Act in the province of Ontario." I wonder if the government would be prepared to consider at least that much?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I have made reference to the practical problems that arise, in some of my earlier remarks. I suppose if we were to give an option to an extraprovincial company or to a federal company with a head office or operations which they would obviously have outside our province, then the insurance on that basis would be available to their depositors within Ontario. You would automatically have a run of the transfer of funds from Montreal to Toronto. Even an investigation of those circumstances indicates that in a practical way, an impossible situation would develop. It was only after careful consideration of that point which the member raised so ably, that we rejected it.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I have another suggestion on this. The hour is late and my memory is a little hazy but perhaps the Attorney General could refresh my memory — is there not a procedure where very quickly a constitutional question can be brought before the Supreme Court of Ontario without being part of an issue for an opinion of a judge of the Supreme Court? Can that not be done readily and quickly? Is there not a statute?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Yes, I believe there is but I do not think it is so very quick.

Mr. Singer: Well, it is on an originating motion.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, it is relatively quick but it still takes a lot of time.

Mr. Singer: Then it is obviously what my thinking is. Would it then not be possible to attempt this on the mandatory basis and at the same time send the Attorney General to the Supreme Court on an originating motion to get this opinion? At least you would have the law when this is proclaimed—you could get the decision of one Supreme Court judge within two or three or four weeks. Conceivably the Legislature will still be in session. If the decision is favourable you have gone that far; if it is an unfavourable decision, then you can take it out.

What concerns me very much, Mr. Chairman, and this is why I am not letting go of this section, is that if we pass legislation that is going to protect less than 50 per cent of the people whom it is purporting to protect, we have done less than half the job, and that is what this section says.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member has omitted to add the words, but we have covered those corporation features for which the province is clearly responsible and which fall clearly within our jurisdiction.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of the amendment?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, just before we leave the point. The Minister referred in answer to my friend, the member for Woodbine, of some drain, some shifting of funds. I would suggest from the point of the argument I put to him that if he provides this permissive method by which those extraprovincial and federal corporations can become member institutions with respect to the insurance of deposits in the province of Ontario of residents of Ontario, that there will be no such transfer of funds.

I urge the Minister to consider what the member for Woodbine has said, that in fact he is creating unequal competitive operations for the trust and loan corporations in the province of Ontario. The factors of the market are going to work the way the member for Woodbine has said they are going to work. In addition, we are not going to have the benefit of the additional premiums and the people in Ontario, to the extent of \$1.3 billion, are not going to have the protection which it is very important, which we have all agreed, they should have.

Now the constitutional question and the financial question disappear, in my view not by the impasse that the member for Downsview is putting us in, but by a simple provision which provides that the other corporations doing business in Ontario "may" — "may" — join. Leave it up to them to decide whether the pressures of business require them to join, but make certain that the avenue is open by which the depositors in those companies can be protected — and there are some companies which have been in Ontario for a long time and have happened by accident to have been incorporated elsewhere. Those companies should have the opportunity, if they wish, to provide for their depositors that kind of service, the opportunity to join this particular corporation, to make their contribution to it and to make this all-embracing for the people of the province of Ontario.

I think it is essential that the Minister consider this. I regret that the member for Downsview did not see fit to provide a little loosening in his thinking about it, because his proposition is unfortunately totally impractical. It would appear on his amendment that we would then be insuring all the

deposits of all non-Ontario companies wherever they were made.

The suggestion I make is to limit it to the province of Ontario, to make it permissive and to provide that insurance protection for those companies in those deposits, at the same time recognizing that the government's responsibility primarily is to the corporations which are incorporated in Ontario, regardless of where their depositors are. It seems to me to be such a simple cooperative method of dovetailing our legislation with any future proposed legislation and a very simple, obvious method, in my view, of making certain that in this gap in time the expressed intention of this government will be carried out; and that is that all depositors and all holders of guaranteed investment certificates and all holders of debentures of loan corporations or deposits in loan corporations in the province of Ontario will be protected.

Mr. Chairman, I am simply appealing to the Minister to consider this amendment, to consider that this can be done, that it avoids this constitutional impasse and can provide tonight an adequate and almost total coverage for the problem which has brought forth this legislation.

I cannot put it any more strongly to the Minister. I would ask the member for Downsview again if he would not consider amending his amendment or placing his amendment, with the permission of the chair, in those terms. Because I think that what the government is intending to do by this bill can be improved so greatly if the depositors, to the extent of an additional \$1.3 billion or more, have the protection as the result of this suggestion and this way of doing it, which they will not otherwise have. All I can do is to ask the Minister if he will either comment about it, or preferably take it under consideration and accept it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would like to speak to the point of the member for Riverdale.

This matter has given us a good deal of concern. I would very much have liked to have found some resolution for it, but the fact is that we were unable to find any solution either to the points raised by the hon. member for Riverdale and the hon. member for Downsview, which not only would be acceptable but would be workable.

For instance, I just give an example: It would be impossible in many cases to determine whether a deposit was made in Ontario or not made in Ontario. If an extraprovincial corporation joined voluntarily, Ontario would not be able to supervise its operations out-

side of Ontario, which affects the credit risk. These matters have all been studied and been given very careful consideration.

I am just sorry I know of no immediate resolution that would be workable to either of the points raised by the hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Those in favour of the amendment will please say "aye".

Those opposed will please say "nay".

I declare the amendment lost and the section carried.

Section 22 agreed to.

On section 23:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I am having a little difficulty construing this section, and since I do not like having to vote on something that I do not fully understand, perhaps the Minister would clarify it for me.

Perhaps I can make my difficulty clear by an illustration. Let us assume that an individual has a deposit account in a certain member institution to the amount, shall we say of \$20,000. And let us assume also that the same person has a debenture in the amount of \$20,000 from the same member institution. Now does that person's holding constitute one deposit or two?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This matter has been the subject of consideration in New York state where this legislation has been in effect, and the result of it is that the best interpretation and the one that we believe is desirable and workable is that the insurance covers per deposit, and the definition of deposit includes either a deposit, as you and I were debating it here tonight meaning shall we say a cash deposit, as against a debenture which is represented by a note or a piece of paper or something of that sort. So that both, for this purpose, under the definition section, are treated as deposits. If you had two of them you would be insured for two claims up to \$20,000.

Mr. Bryden: Twenty thousand dollars each?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Twenty thousand each, and this arises in this fashion, that in the experience in other jurisdictions where this exists what it did was simply to shift the movement of money and deposits from one company to another. The final outcome after I believe, some changes in the legislation, in any event there was very careful consideration given to this matter, was that the best solution was to simply leave it per deposit.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I can see the problem of shifting from one institution to another, but as it stands now does the limitation imposed in the next section have any meaning at all?

Mr. Chairman: Could we hold that over?

Mr. Bryden: Well the two are so closely related. I will leave it if you wish, Mr. Chairman, but it relates to the definition of deposit.

Mr. Chairman: Is there any further discussion on section 23?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It really relates to—let us substitute for the word deposit the word transaction. As against that approach you would go ahead and make a transaction meaning a deposit, and we are talking of sizeable amounts up to \$20,000. Then on another occasion you might buy a debenture.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, but all I am getting at is this: Let us say a person had \$100,000 in an account in a trust company. Unless he is not in his right mind, surely all he is going to do is to have five deposit accounts, each of \$20,000.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That could be.

Mr. Bryden: Therefore the maximum becomes totally meaningless, does it not?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No. There is a premium paid on each of those five \$20,000, to which the member makes reference, whereas if they were in one transaction he would only pay the premium on the first \$20,000.

Mr. Bryden: I will leave the follow-up until the next session, but I cannot see any point in the limit there if it is going to be in these terms.

Mr. Chairman: Does the member for St. George have something to say on this matter?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Again, I was just seeking information. The CIGs now would be covered under which section?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Under (b).

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Under (b). Is it really not the intention of the government to include almost every obligation of a trust and loan corporation except those in the form of share certificates?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This seemed a more desirable way, and consistent with the language and the definitive approach adopted

in other jurisdictions in which its current industries are marketed.

Mr. Chairman: Section 23 agreed to.

On section 24:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I had said under section 23 that if the word deposit has the meaning which the word seems to imply, and which the Minister confirms, then the limitation is quite pointless because people will simply split up their holdings so that no one of them will be more than \$20,000. I would take it also to follow from what the Minister said that if a person was holding debentures as long as no one of them is worth more than \$20,000, even though they all have the same maturity, he is covered for the whole amount. If he had a single debenture or single deposit for \$100,000 he would only be covered for 20 per cent, but if he split it into five debentures or five deposit accounts or whatever you want it for \$20,000 each, he is covered for the whole \$100,000. It is just beyond credibility that anybody in the world would have any holding of more than \$20,000.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There has to be a relationship between the premium income and the liability assumed.

Mr. Bryden: If you took your ceiling off, then premium income would be still payable. All you are going to do as far as I can see is complicate bookkeeping. You are not going to reduce in any way the overall liability unless there is someone around who is so stupid that it is inconceivable. If there is anybody who would actually have a single holding of \$100,000, so that he would only be covered for 20 per cent when he could very well cover himself for the whole \$100,000, and if he would continue in that position I would say he would not in any case likely hold the \$100,000 for very long, because someone would be very likely to sell him the Brooklyn bridge for \$100,000. His conduct would be too stupid to be credible, so there is no point in the limitation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Most of those transactions in those amounts would be commercial transactions, short term deposits, and so on.

Mr. Singer: I think the member for Woodbine has a point there. I think it is obvious that it can be split up in this way but I think there is another hardship that is done.

Supposing you have a man who has invested in one of these registered savings plans

as his pension entitlement, he builds up an entitlement of over \$20,000 and the whole thing goes down the drain. Here is a man who has been prudent and careful and regularly accepted a registered pension plan and savings plan, and if the thing gets into trouble and he has limited it to \$20,000 his whole pension plan can go out the window. I doubt if any consideration has been given to that eventuality, but I think it is something that should be very carefully considered because we would believe, and I am sure the Minister will agree with me, that it is a good thing for people to invest in properly conducted pension-type savings.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: They are not pension plans. They are income plans. They are guaranteed as to the rate of interest, that is the—

Mr. Singer: Yes, but you can get over and above that entitlement and your whole plan is in jeopardy if anything happens to the company.

Mr. Chairman: Sections 24 to 29, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 30:

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on section 30 I do not propose to move an amendment but I certainly intend to comment, and the remarks which I make will apply also to the subsequent sections through to section 35. This is the section which provides various powers to the corporation and various further obligations on the registrar of loan and trust corporations. We have to remember that in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, from sections 113 on, there are very wide powers conferred on the registrar of loan and trust corporations. He can do almost anything; indeed section 30 of this bill is in fact a duplication of the obligation which is imposed on the registrar under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

He is required by the long-standing statute to make that examination at least once a year and this language apparently is simply to repeat that again. At this point the registrar is required to report to the corporation and there are provisions dealing with that report. On the basis of that, the corporation is to exercise its judgment and come to the opinion set out in section 32. Then in section 33 we have the provision by which this government would take over for practical purposes the operations of a loan and trust corporation which was in difficulty. It would appear to us that these related sections, particularly sec-

tions 33, 34 and 35, have no real place in this bill at this time.

If the government wishes to have this final all-conclusive power—and I question the wisdom of the government either asking for it or wanting to have it—then it would seem to me that it should be introduced at a different time either by amendment to this bill or by amendment to The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. Then we could have a proper debate about whether or not in fact the government of the province of Ontario wants to find itself in the position where the corporation will forthwith take possession of the property of the member institution, and conduct its business, and take such steps as in its opinion may be taken toward the removal of the causes and conditions which have made such proceedings necessary.

The whole point, Mr. Chairman, of these comments is simply that if the registrar of loan and trust corporations, under the elaborate investigative powers which are contained in The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, the right to make inspections, to get information, to appoint examiners, and to get returns, and if in fact the registrar fulfills his obligations and has the staff and the expertise to fulfill those obligations, there is no need to have in this bill these elaborate sections for tying in the registrar with this corporation, and then having this corporation have this penultimate power of actually taking over and taking possession of a company which is in difficulties. I think it is unwise, I think the government should give much more explanation to it. It is not an essential and necessary part of the insurance provision of the bill and when we come to section 33 in particular, we intend to vote against it, Mr. Chairman.

Section 30 agreed to.

Sections 31 and 32 agreed to.

On section 33:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister care to offer an explanation to the House of why he considers it is necessary to have this particular clause in effect tomorrow? Did I see him nod his head that he is willing to explain?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would be glad to discuss it with the hon. member at any time.

The study of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act and the provisions therein are rather startling when you realize that the only remedy for default lies in the Minister to suspend the licence, or revoke the licence to do

business under the Act. I might tell you that that is a very terrible penalty, and in line with what I regard as the modern concept of doing business, the rehabilitation proceedings which are provided in section 33 are a wholesome, desirable approach to problems which may be the subject matter of this legislation.

Section 33 agreed to.

Section 34 agreed to.

On section 35:

Mr. Bryden: Just before you pass 35, Mr. Chairman, if I may get in a word, I would just like to inquire of the Minister what happens to the order from which appeal is taken, if it is indeed taken under this section?

The procedure is that an order may be made under section 33 if necessary, in which case the government or its agent in effect takes over the company and operates it for a period of time, but there is a provision for appeal. What is the status of the order for taking over the company pending the hearing of the appeal?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The section would be operative until it had gone before the courts.

Section 35 agreed to.

Sections 36 to 38, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 24 reported.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister) moves that the committee of the whole rise and report a bill with an amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole House begs to report a bill with one amendment and asks for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

THIRD READING

The following bill was given third reading upon motion:

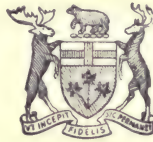
Bill 24, An Act to establish the Ontario deposit insurance corporation.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning His Honour will be in the building to give Royal assent to this bill and we will proceed with the Throne Debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.00 o'clock p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, February 10, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1967

The House met at 10:30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature, and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Huron Street public school, Toronto, and St. Patrick's separate school, Toronto, in the west gallery, R. J. Lang junior high school, Willowdale.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. Could he inform the House as to the status of the draft by-law submitted by Metropolitan Toronto in respect to air pollution control?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, as announced in the Speech from the Throne, new legislation relative to air pollution control will be introduced during this session and no action is presently contemplated on any other matters pertaining to this until that is developed.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, at the last session, an amendment to The Highway Traffic Act was passed that provided the authority to set standards for tires. I would like to inform the House that the first "safe tire" regulation has been drawn up and approved. Effective immediately, the standards and specifications known as "V-1" are required for most types of new automobile tires that are sold in Ontario.

These are the first detailed government tire standards to be established in Canada. Their purpose is to assure the motorist of continuing and consistent high quality, in the interests of safety.

To be meaningful, standards of this kind cannot be generalized. The required quality must be spelled out in exact and technical detail for each individual size of tire, taking into account a great many complexities in characteristics and performance. Our regula-

tion specifies the 34 combinations of tire and rim sizes that are prescribed for new vehicles of North American design, and therefore the V-1 standard is required for the great majority of new tires that Ontario motorists may obtain, either on new vehicles or as replacement tires.

The criteria for the V-1 standard are five exacting tests of strength and endurance. An example is the use of a steel plunger that is forced into the tire tread at the rate of two inches per minute as a means of calculating the energy that a tire will absorb without breaking. Tires must be marked in a specified manner on the sidewall, including the designation V-1, so that the motorist will know that they meet the required standard.

It is required that tires meet this standard immediately. The only deferred provision is for marking the designation V-1 on each tire, and this requirement will become effective for tires manufactured after July 1. The onus is on the tire manufacturers to conduct tests and endure that their products meet the standards set out in this regulation.

The Minister of Transport has the authority to prohibit the sale of a tire if he is satisfied that it does not meet the prescribed standards and specifications.

This regulation is only the beginning of the tire standards that The Department of Transport has under consideration. Our studies are continuing and it is our intention to develop further regulations. The subjects being studied include all new tires not covered by this regulation—that is the tires used on certain vehicles imported from other continents; tires other than new tires; and other factors that affect the safety of tires in use, such as maximum loads they are designed to carry.

Three points are particularly important to the government's policy on tire standards. These are the value of uniform standards in all provinces and states on the continent; the potential danger of tire "dumping"; and the significance of safe tires in the overall campaign for traffic safety.

In view of the clear desirability of consistent standards, The Department of Transport made a thorough assessment of the V-1

standard that has been adopted in recent months in at least five states of the United States and which is being considered favourably in several other jurisdictions. There has as yet been no standard set nationally in the United States. We examined other possible standards as well and made comparisons. Our conclusion was that the V-1 standard is the best available at this time. Therefore we adopted the V-1 standard for Ontario and I will inform the responsible Ministers in all other provinces of the conclusions we have reached and the action we have taken.

In anticipation of the enactment of this regulation, tire manufacturers in Ontario have already commenced to make tires to the V-1 standard. The regulation ensures that this standard will be met and maintained; and further, it is intended to guard against the possibility that substandard tires might be offered for sale in this province in the future. It is significant that the regulation controls the sale of tires, wherever and by whomever they may be manufactured. Ontario motorists are assured that inferior tires cannot be "dumped" in this province. If other jurisdictions were to set standards and Ontario did not, "dumping" could become a serious problem.

The potential hazard to safety of inferior tires is obvious. Safe tires are essential to safe driving. In practice, the evidence indicates that tire failures are a contributing cause in a very small percentage of accidents. The purpose of establishing tire standards is to reduce this percentage still further. At the same time, our emphasis for safety will continue to be placed on the main cause of most accidents—the attitudes and actions of drivers.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the question submitted by the member for Riverdale yesterday, I am informed by the chairman of the Ontario securities commission that a meeting was held on June 13, 1963, when there were present the chairman of the Ontario securities commission; Mr. Brown, the chief auditor; and Mr. Knox-Leet, the registrar, both of the staff of the commission; Mr. Brien; Mr. Betts and Mr. McClellan, both of the Carrothers law firm; Mr. Stein, the auditor of the company; and Mr. Eyton, of the Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binnington law firm.

The meeting was held at the request of the company, which was objecting to the front page disclosure requirement being insisted upon by the Ontario securities commission. Despite the objections put forward by the

company, the commission insisted that there be front page disclosure of the fact that the notes were unsecured and that the notes may be honoured out of the sale of other securities, which was the first occasion upon which the commission required such disclosure.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, if I may ask a supplemental question, was it at that meeting that consideration was given to representations, by the wish of the commission, that the wording on the front page of the prospectus should in fact include the words: "These are speculative securities"; or words to like effect? Surely the hon. Minister must realize that that was the important matter which was discussed at the meeting.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) had yesterday directed certain questions to the hon. Minister of Health, then he turned the questions over to me. I shall take the second portion of the question as notice.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I will now leave the House and wait upon His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario entered the chamber of the legislative assembly and took his seat upon the Throne.

Hon. W. Earl Rowe (Lieutenant-Governor): Pray be seated.

Mr. Speaker: May it please Your Honour, the legislative assembly of the province has, at its present sittings thereof, passed a bill to which, in the name and on behalf of the said legislative assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant: The following is the title of the bill to which Your Honour's assent is prayed:

Bill 24, An Act to establish the Ontario deposit insurance corporation.

Clerk of the House: In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, doth assent to this bill.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to retire from the chamber.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I wonder if the Prime Minister would indicate whether there is any change in the schedule for next week in view of the fact that we are behind?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have asked the Whips to consult on this. As far as we are concerned, we would be happy to sit on Monday evening in order to complete the Throne Debate. If it is not convenient, then we will bring in the Budget in any event on Tuesday; and we might complete the Throne Debate on Wednesday, if that were necessary. But I think this can be left to the Whips to ascertain the position and interest of the members.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order: Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the Speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, may I again, in the time honoured manner, pay tribute to you for the administration of the honoured post as Speaker and say that I feel that since your years as a star baseball player on the playing fields, you have not lost the sense of fair play or sportsmanship in the handling of your very wonderful, honoured post.

I would like you to think sometimes, if the Opposition gives you a bad time in making decisions, to think back to the story about Babe Ruth and his record in baseball, his 775 home runs. The record book does not show that he struck out 1175 times. All of which goes to show that we keep on swinging, which is the most important thing, and we will keep on swinging at this part here.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The member is right.

Mr. Sargent: I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). Some of my colleagues have said they hoped his stay here would not be too long. Well I want to say to him that anyone who can run on a Conservative ticket is a good man, because he won in spite of the government. I hope he enjoys his stay in this wonderful House here.

I also want to say to the riders in the new black limousines we have here, I think they could have made more changes than they have, but they picked the cream of the crop and there are many more able men in the back benches. I think the scenery is good

over there now with a lot of changes. I think of the parallel about the dog teams they have in Alaska. One of the owners was bemoaning the fact that he lost his lead dog, but one of the compensating factors was that the second dog would have better scenery from here on.

Mr. Speaker, in today's press there is a release about the retiring of the member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher) and his not planning to run again as a member of this House. Much can be said on his behalf and will be said at a later date, but may I say, sir, that the love for this man and the high respect in which he is held by his people in Bruce, the way he has served his people, he could win in a walk any time he chose to run. I may say, Mr. Speaker, if I have the good fortune to be following in his footsteps in the merger of my riding with his riding, I hope I can do half as credible a job as he has done in the past.

Now Mr. Speaker, last night the drama that unfolded here, suffice it to say that the handling of the bill by the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) was like a man who owned a shoe store and he buys all the shoes to fit himself and he expects everybody else to buy them. That is the position we were in last night. I think it was a sorry situation for the government to be grovelling and asking us to pass this regulation, to support this.

Mr. Speaker, in the time allotted to me today I would like to talk about—

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Let us get back to Babe Ruth.

Mr. Sargent: —a programme for people. The Prime Minister has based his Throne Speech on a programme for people and when I show what kind of people he has been giving it to, the members will be applauding. Sooner or later I am going to suggest to this House that we are going to have to offset the taxes by some other forms of revenue, as they have done in other jurisdictions.

Sooner or later, Mr. Speaker, we are going to have to have legalized gambling in Ontario in the form of a lottery. It will be a bingo or a lottery or off-track betting or maybe all three. This is not a moral question. We have legalized gambling in this province now at racetracks under provincial supervision, with the province getting a good chunk of the take. The racetracks have a monopoly on gambling here so they naturally join the Prime Minister and the churches in the fight against any competition. The superior look of the Prime Minister on this matter is because many smaller men than he have

thought this was a good idea—the states of New York, Illinois and New Hampshire—but he is a smart guy, he does not think this is too good.

Ontario is one of the richest provinces in the nation but Parkinson's law works here just the way it does any place else. Spending rises to meet income, so no matter how many millions of dollars or how many billions of dollars pour in here, the government is always a jump ahead in the spending of it.

There are not many questions in Queen's Park on which there is virtually unanimous agreement. One is that the province is going to continually raise taxes, leading off this election year. They brought in last year a big sales tax which hurt not big business but the small person. So we know that the government is going to continually raise taxes. A higher sales tax is the most likely source of revenue. Which would be a fairer way to raise \$50 million—a half-cent increase on the sales tax or an Ontario lottery? The poorer a person is, the more this sales tax hurts and we all know that. It is a soak-the-poor tax.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Soak-the-rich tax!

Mr. Sargent: That is about the degree of intelligence we get from over there. So let us decrease the sales tax and offset this by a public lottery.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just say to the member that he flies an airplane and he must know that when he buys it, he pays sales tax on it. The man who does not have an airplane does not pay sales tax on it. One cannot say it is a soak-the-poor tax unless the member considers himself to be one of the so-called poor.

An hon. member: He is flying a kite right now.

Mr. Sargent: One of the arguments against a lottery and bingo is that the poor are not supposed to have enough will-power to resist them, but at least they would have a choice and the sales tax is mandatory. They would not have to play bingo or buy lottery tickets; they would have a choice. But they have no choice in the sales tax.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: If I had an aircraft I would be happy to pay the sales tax.

Mr. Sargent: No, the Prime Minister can use government aircraft. And I would like to know the rates he is paying for it, too. I will preface that remark by saying the Prime Minister should have his own aircraft; I really

mean that. Any corporation that is as big as this should have proper methods of modern-day travel, such as a jet aircraft for our Prime Minister.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): I think the Tory party should have one too.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: The New York Legislature decided to put this question of a state lottery up to the voters and it was overwhelmingly approved and the legislators now are setting up the details.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Why does the member not tell that to his friend in Essex South (Mr. Paterson)?

Mr. Sargent: The tickets probably will cost 25 cents to \$3 and may be sold in banks and near-banks, too—the government's friends, the trust companies. New York expects to raise up to \$100 million for its schools through lotteries.

Some of the opponents to this insist that because this is gambling they are immoral and the churches are opposed to them and so are most of the people. My opinion is that it is a convenient cover for the real opposition which I would say basically would be the racetracks. Some members of this Legislature own a great deal of racetrack stock, I would submit, and they would naturally buck this idea which is beneficial to the people of Ontario. The argument that gambling is wrong and should not be tolerated here is absurd as long as the province continues to participate in gambling at the racetracks.

I am convinced, Mr. Speaker, that if the people of Ontario had a chance to vote, they would consider this method of raising money. The experience in the state of New Hampshire, reported in *Time* magazine, was that after paying the top prize of \$100,000 and covering operating expenses, it had distributed \$5 million among the local high school districts.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Did the member read that whole article?

Mr. Sargent: No, I would be glad to send it over to the Minister if he wants it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: In all sincerity, Mr. Speaker, I would like him to read the whole article.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Well, the Minister should read the whole article.

Mr. Sargent: I wish he would read it; it is pretty good.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He has taken it out of context.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I am glad—

Mr. Bryden: He can read what he wants to read.

Mr. Sargent: No, it is not out of context. Believe me, it is a good article.

There is a lot of talk about the Prime Minister going to Ottawa to head up the federal Tories. I think that the federal Tories could look a lot farther and do much worse and I think they will.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I really must acknowledge that compliment.

Mr. Bryden: The compliment for the party or for the Prime Minister?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, we have a great fondness for the Prime Minister, his affable personality, his smiling image. But it is getting kind of hard to take when one sits over here for three or four years. Sometimes the people wonder how the Opposition can be so cruel as to criticize and castigate this smiling image. So this year he launched the programme for people. Yes, sir, the Prime Minister who could be better described as the Talisman kid; he has a programme for people all right, especially his friends.

Now we all recall the episode last spring when smiling John went to bat for his friend Alex Graydon, the Labatt executive, and got him a club licence for the Talisman ski lodge after the people had turned it down. Now regardless of the fact that section 57 of The Liquor Licence Act, described on last November 22, said that no one directly or indirectly connected with a brewery can have anything to do with a licence; and further we know that this friend of the Prime Minister's, who is a brewery executive has access to a licence, which is illegal; and further, this government had a Cabinet Minister resign in 1963 because his wife had stock in the Seaway hotel. That was very important then and this is not important now.

So we have here, this Talisman kid. He is no piker, he certainly looks after his friends, using provincial money. Now here we have a full page story, and it is quite a glowing

report, dated June 22, 1966. It is in the Owen Sound *Sun Times*, another paper in our area.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Is this the member's paper?

Mr. Sargent: No, it is the opposition. They do not like me up there.

Here we have a full page story about a development road to the ski area and it says here: "Early start scheduled on the Beaver Valley road, reported cost \$3 million".

Now I would like to suggest to members that this idea of getting a friend a licence is all right. I cannot get one up my way, I do not know if I ever will get one, but the thing is—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Is this what bugs the member?

Mr. Sargent: No, no. We are going to do it legally. We are going to have a vote this fall. We are going to do it legally.

But I think that in spending \$3 million on what is not a highway, this is a development road, I would like to suggest either one of two things: That the government has the greatest respect for the member for Grey South (Mr. Oliver), the hon. dean of the House, and they gave him the road—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh that is it.

Mr. Sargent: Or they built the road for the Prime Minister's friend who has the ski lodge. Now let us leave it that way. That is a nice way to leave it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, just for the record, perhaps the hon. member would delineate to this House his interest in a hotel and what he has tried to do.

Mr. Sargent: Sure I own a dry hotel in Owen Sound. I think it is the best hotel north of Toronto. Pardon me for the advertising. I have got about a quarter of a million dollars tied up there and I cannot sell booze. Members are welcome to come up for the weekend if they can help get a licence for it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is all I wanted to know.

Mr. Sargent: It seemed to work in the Talisman case.

Getting to the thing that is important, that is agriculture, the farmers of this province, as everyone knows, are facing a rocky road because of disenfranchisement through redistribution. So more and more the farmer will

have less and less to say about his destiny. The legislation we have in force today in this province, regardless of what the smiling Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) says to members, is a child of the hungry thirties, of Daddy Hanna. It is government policy that governs the lives of agriculture today. Every day, gentlemen, the need for a national farm organization presents itself and it must come. Hard times are knocking at the doors of the farmers of Ontario today.

For example, in two small towns in my riding of Grey county, there is over \$1 million in unpaid taxes for 1966. It is a serious situation. The banks are calling their loans and the farmers have not the money. So the days of the hundred acre farm, which formerly could be operated with a horse plow, is fast disappearing and the economists tell us that a basic economic unit is 400 acres. You are going to need a six furrow plow to operate this—a \$15,000 plow—which in the end will cost the farmer \$30,000.

So I suggest to you that in every county we should have farm management people who know the breakdown of every farmer, his whole picture, to be able to solve his problems.

In other words, an ombudsman for the farmers. It is a shocking situation to realize that in this province we only have four of these people, but in Britain they have 15 of them. Sure, the agricultural representatives do a good job with the limited funds they have, but this is important to have people running each county who know the farmers' problems and know each farmer's breakdown, his balance sheet, the whole story.

To summarize this whole picture, the government is doing a pitiful job on the plan of tomorrow for agriculture, when it reveals to this House that of the \$7 million available for the ARDA plan to make larger units available last year, to go out and buy 100-acre farms and make them into 400-acre farms, no more than two or three deals had been consummated last October by this government. It is a shocking situation.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member if he knows if the people in his own county in whom he was interested, were offered the opportunity to sell their farms to the government. The offer was made to them; they said no, we think we can get more for the land. We left the offer open to them. They can sell any time they want.

It is there, but they are not selling. Now why? Is it because land values are so high

in his particular county that other farmers want to buy the land?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister, but when I approached Mr. Crown, the Minister's appointment for the ARDA development, he said this was going along famously. I asked him to name one deal in Ontario where cash had changed hands. We are doing a lot for them, I said, name one deal and persons. He could not name one person in all Ontario where money had changed hands.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Who was this?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. H. F. Crown, the administrator of ARDA. You check with him.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I could name all kinds of these people. Are we supposed to put these people here? Does the member want this on the order paper? If he does, we can give him all this information. I know that there are several hundred that are in the process right now of changing hands—

Mr. Sargent: I am talking of actual deals.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I can give the member the actual deals where farms have already changed hands.

Mr. Sargent: That is very encouraging.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Right now!

Mr. Sargent: I have not even scratched the surface on this point.

Now, Mr. Speaker, all I want to say is that millions of dollars are going begging because of lack of administration by the hon. Minister's department.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Not one dollar is going begging; not one dollar, Mr. Speaker! We have used every dollar which was allocated to that on the floor of this House; every dollar!

Mr. Sargent: I challenge the Minister to prove that on the floor of this House.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And when the estimates of my department are documented here in a future sitting of this House during this session, he will see that we are up to every dollar that is available from the federal government and from our government; every dollar!

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And I would say this: If my friend is so anxious to get the money that was not used last year, because we were planning a programme that is now fully utilizing all money available under the ARDA agreement, we ask him to request his friends at Ottawa to make that money now available on a retroactive basis. We will put up what they will put up, if they will make it retroactive.

Mr. Speaker: I have to remind the members that it is the member for Grey North who is making the speech.

Mr. Sargent: Last year, much publicity was given to the growing discontent of agriculture in rural Ontario. The first signs of this growing resentment became apparent in the neighbouring province of Quebec two years ago when 10,000 farmers marched on their provincial Legislature complaining of high educational costs, as well as unsatisfactory farm prices. Also in the province of Quebec, some hundreds of families demonstrated with tractors on provincial highways against inadequate compensation for crop loss due to extremely bad weather conditions.

The year before that, the farmers in Nova Scotia were highly critical of their farm organizations which, they felt, were not taking strong enough action on their behalf, and last year, some 2,000 farmers marched to Ottawa to present a special brief on the subject of farm income and prices. The last thing we know, 1,300 farmers marched on Queen's Park, protesting the inaction of this Ontario government to enact necessary agricultural policy as contained in their annual submission a year ago now. We witnessed hundreds of tractors with placards attached, patrolling the provincial highways as a further means of protest.

The Minister of Agriculture and the Prime Minister know this march broke the back of organized resistance against the farmers by this government. They had to knuckle in. Even though they said that they would not give in, they did. They did not have the courtesy, including the Prime Minister, to go down to Ryerson tech. The crowd was there; the government's tables were lined up and their names were in their places. The member for Grey South was there; the hon. member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt), was there; the Opposition was there—but the Minister and the Prime Minister did not have the nerve or the guts to show up.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: I will say it again. And when they came to the Parliament Buildings here,

they had to work to get the Minister of Agriculture and Food down there to even show his face.

Why all this obvious discontent among eastern Canada's people? This did not happen overnight; gradually over the years this has been building up to its present boiling point. The greatest cause has been the cost-price squeeze and the fact that the farmer, unlike most other people, has been unable to add his increased operating costs to the products which he sells. Between 1951 and 1964, the farmers have been advised by economists, politicians and what have you, that they must enlarge their operations and become very efficient and produce more and more at less cost. Many farmers have done this. Taking advantage of increased government loans they have purchased larger acreages and more labour-saving equipment to offset the shortage of farm labour.

Mr. Speaker, while increasing their production costs by 147 per cent since 1947, as against 37 per cent by industry, they have found that prices for their products have not kept pace with the rising cost of production. As a result, many farmers are being forced out of business in the dairy industry alone. One hundred and ten thousand farmers in the dairy industry have disappeared since 1956, and other farmers live on the money that they should have been using to replace worn-out equipment or to repair their farm buildings. Worse still, they could not fertilize or rotate their crops properly—the one restorable natural asset that this country possesses.

Production is down because of this. Statistics show that the number of milk cows, which has been on the decline since 1961, reached its lowest point in 45 years in June, 1965. Total milk production last year was 400 million pounds below the demand, and projected figures indicate that this figure will reach 600 million pounds this year. As a consequence of these figures, according to the experts, there is a substantial increase in dairy imports into Canada, a country which one would expect to be one of the most self-sufficient in the whole world—at least, in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, farmers are not asking for handouts but both this government and the federal government have certain responsibilities in providing legislation which would allow the basic industry of agriculture to maintain its rightful position in the rest of our buoyant economy. Certainly, we have not had an overall agriculture policy at

either level of government, but merely a collection of hodge-podge, short-term solutions when the industry found itself in trouble. The fact that part of our marketing legislation is under provincial jurisdiction and partly under federal jurisdiction gives politicians a golden opportunity to pass the buck.

Why are farmers angry with John Robarts and the government?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No name please!

Mr. Sargent: To show why the Tory party is still a tool of the big interests—and Robarts does not care about agriculture—the redistribution picture will put all the power in the cities. As I said, agriculture has less and less to say.

As we look around this great country of ours, every segment of the economy is flourishing. Packing houses are getting rich; food chains are getting rich, but not the farmers. In every industry, big businesses get together to set prices to protect themselves. They are fixing bids and they are fixing prices and conspiring on every level to show big profits. That is the game right across the whole board.

On the other end of the scale, labour unions in every area of industry—steel, automotive, railway, public employees, hospital employees and even doctors and school teachers—go on strike to get their demands. What happens if the farmer wants to demonstrate? The hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) threatens to arrest the tractor drivers. At the same time Inco was on strike at Sudbury, but they did not dare to arrest the strikers up there because they are organized. The government knows the farmers are not organized. This is why they ignore agriculture and the Prime Minister continues to ignore agriculture until farmers get fighting mad. Possibly the day will come when they will go on strike and then the government will go down and grovel the way it did in this House yesterday.

Mr. Whicher: Pass another bill.

Mr. Sargent: Pass another bill is right.

The striking thing about this whole situation is—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We have lots of time, carry on.

Mr. Sargent: Thanks very much.

The Prime Minister will recall that he went to bat for his friends in Victoria and Grey and got them a loan to the tune of \$3 million to bail them out, and to bail out the British

Mortgage and Trust so Victoria and Grey could make great fortunes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: And the Prime Minister told the group of FAME—there was \$2 million of money raised by 1,300 farmers to protect the packing-house business, to protect six million consumers here. They thought they would get a chance to save their industry, so they raised \$2 million of their money and so they had a bad experience. They did not have anybody milking the till as in the British Mortgage or Atlantic Acceptance. They had actual business losses through bad administration, but they were sincere people. So to protect their—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I think we should perhaps correct the record. This point of milking the till—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, on a point or order, really when the hon. member for Grey North is making a speech he does not need to be interrupted just to correct the record.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is up to the Speaker to decide on my point of order.

Mr. Singer: The Prime Minister did not rise on a point of order.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Of course I am rising on a point of order.

Mr. Singer: He should say so then.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The hon. member used the term "milking the till".

Mr. Sargent: Well what does the Prime Minister call—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: On a point of order, I would like to know what he means by that. Is he accusing the government—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Unless the member is sure—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will never be sure what this member means, but I am trying to find out.

Mr. Oliver: Milking the till is a perfectly legitimate statement.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, as the drama unfolded here last night it became quite evident to me—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. member going to explain what he means by milking the till? It is almost like the remark of the leader of the Opposition about all the people with their withdrawal slips in their hands going down to the trust company. I want to know what he means by milking the till. Is this an allegation against this government? I take it it was supposed to be, but I would like to know.

Mr. Oliver: Speaking to the point of order, I would say that the member for Grey North has the right to expect that those across the way have the level of intelligence that will allow them to interpret.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We often interpret, but we would rather know what this milking the till means. Is this an allegation against the government? I head this government and I am prepared—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to ask the Prime Minister if he will desist. The member for Grey North is attempting to make his speech, and while he may be somewhat provocative at times, I think we should allow him to continue. I will determine whether there will be a point of order.

Mr. Sargent: I want to thank my colleagues for trying to keep me in business here. The Prime Minister, I think is correct, I think I should be straightened out. I want to say it this way, I do not suggest the government was milking the till—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is all I wanted to know.

Mr. Sargent: I want to make it quite clear that I think when these situations such as Atlantic, British Mortgage, Windfall—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member was talking about FAME.

Mr. Sargent: I know, I am getting to that in a second, but when these things all come into focus, I said this had been milking of the till by these big companies. And then there is a little group of 1,300 raising \$2 million—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is 13,000.

Mr. Sargent: Thirteen thousand, I am sorry, to raise this money.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well it is only a difference of 10,000.

Mr. Sargent: This is in the feed cattle industry. We figured out that in these 13,000 farmers they had about \$6 billion worth of plant to protect their funds.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Six billion dollars?

Mr. Sargent: Well, figure it out, when you multiply each one of these farmers by a \$40,000 unit.

Now these farmers were sincere, they wanted to protect this and they were going downhill. They wanted the government to give them credit for 10 years to get on their feet and it worked out to about 26 cents a head per person in Ontario.

So they came to the Prime Minister and they said, "We need help." And he said, "I am sorry"; because the packing houses are in his back pocket. We know this; that is where he gets his funds for elections. And so with crocodile tears, he says: "I am sorry, boys, I cannot help you, there is no precedent to help you."

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Does the hon. member think we have tobacco in our hip pocket?

Mr. Sargent: So he says: "Boys, I am sorry," with tears in his eyes, "I cannot help you."

Now the moment the British Mortgage goes to the wall, and they have hidden assets that we do not know about, probably he did not know about, but the Victoria and Grey group did know of this big plum and so they wanted to acquire this. They could not raise the money, they would not use their own money and they could not raise the money from the chartered banks, so they come to Smiling John here and through Mr. McCutcheon and Leslie Frost, and they come in the back door and they say: "We need about \$3 million."

All right, what does he do? He goes to the till and he says: "Okay, boys, you are in business."

Now what happens? Last November Victoria and Grey stock is climbing, they are the largest in the country now and Mr. Harris now announces that they found another \$1.7 million in assets of the British Mortgage that they were not sure they would get. Now this is the way that the Prime Minister and this government can treat agriculture, but when it comes down to the boys in the banking business, boy we are in clover.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just ask the hon. member a question, if he will permit it

since it is his right not to. Would he have done any differently than we did?

Mr. Whicher: Yes, he would have given the money to the farmers.

Mr. Sargent: I would agree with the hon. member for Bruce, I would have considered it very closely and I would have given money to agriculture; yes I would.

Now, as the drama unfolded here last night in this House, it became quite evident that the payday which we think never happens some day comes, and here was this gloating, sneering government grovelling to ask us to—

An hon. member: May I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Speaker: The member does not wish to answer.

Mr. Whicher: They are not intelligent questions.

An hon. member: Oh I thought it was intelligent.

Mr. Sargent: In full view this government was grovelling to ask the people of Ontario to hand out and bail out the banking industry.

Now I am a free enterpriser, I am a capitalist, I think. I like to have the initiative to do what I want to do in business. But this makes a lot of people socialist, when you take public funds to help out the big boys.

I want to tell members that if they ever get in the hands of these trust companies, they will make them grovel. They are the worst in the world in business. And here they come to the government when they are in trouble and the government takes the ordinary man's money and bails them out.

Now is it not a striking thing that this group over here, like Cassius Clay, say they are always the greatest? For four years they have been smirking, sneering and is it not a parallel that this is the only jurisdiction in all Canada, in the ten provinces the only province; it is the only jurisdiction in 50 states to the south of us, in such a mess as we are here today.

Mr. Whicher: The member is not smiling now.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Is this another gloom speech?

Mr. Singer: Just announcing the facts.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Start smiling!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Sargent: In summary, Mr. Speaker, the government has to go to the people's bank to bail out the big boys.

Now the Minister of Agriculture and Food wants to get into the act, so let us give him a chance right here.

On March 24 I sent a telegram to him and to hon. J. J. Greene in Ottawa and I said:

The news this morning revealed that FAME is going into bankruptcy. I would appreciate if you would grant a meeting of the directors of FAME and hon. W. A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture and Food to discuss a ten year programme to keep this concept alive, because 60,000 live-stock producers in Ontario need protection from the packing houses. Six million Ontario consumers need protection from monopoly on price setting on meat by the packing houses. To protect the livestock producers and consumers would cost about 20 cents per head per year of Ontario's cities. Respectfully request meeting with FAME, yourself and Stewart to keep this project alive with government supervision. Would appreciate an answer prior to three o'clock today. Kindest regards. Cordially, Eddie Sargent, Grey North.

Not a peep out of the Minister. Not a peep. He was busy.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: What did the member hear from the Minister at Ottawa?

Mr. Sargent: He phoned me long distance. He refused to deal with the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member will have to do more than that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: He said he wanted me to get into the act and I was only trying to help.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I wonder if we could have fewer interjections please?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows there has been a growing need for housing in this province. For the last ten years we have known about this bombshell that was going to come along, and on Monday, January 23, the *Toronto Daily Star*

wrote a sensational exposé on housing. It says: "Only one Metro family in ten can afford to buy a home." They caught the government with their pants down. And so what happens? The next day, on Tuesday—

Mr. Whicher: What an exposé.

Mr. Sargent: What happened the next day? The Toronto *Daily Star* featured a story with the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), breaking a fantastic plan called HOME—Home Ownership Made Easy—a lease plan that our leader of the Opposition had broken about six weeks before. Anyway, the Minister had the answer the following day. Within 24 hours he had the answer for this need. When we arrive in the Legislature for the Throne Speech we find we have read the whole story in the *Star* the night before. The Prime Minister says, "Oh, these things happen." I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the Prime Minister's inclusion of the HOME programme in the Speech from the Throne was a last-minute inclusion in this and there was no programme to start with.

Mr. Bryden: There is no programme now.

Mr. Sargent: I suggest that is true. I suggest this is all hogwash and there is no programme at all and there will not be a house built under this programme within the next two years.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Want to bet?

Mr. Sargent: This department is known for its window dressing. It is the biggest con game in the world, this Department of Economics and Development. They have been shamming the people, using public funds to build up the public relations fund on behalf of the government. This is the biggest con game I have seen in my 30 years in politics. I have been at it a long time and I am trying to find what they actually do. The affable Minister is one of the finest gentlemen I know, a good Joe, but he has been coming to my area and taking credit for millions of dollars of industrial expansion, when the truth is that the whole development is a designated area. He has not got a thing to do about it and if he is any part of the deal, he is the detracting influence, because he cannot give us housing. So he is the villain in this piece but he takes credit for doing all these things. They walk in and they have the Minister unveil all these big plants, and I as a lowly member of the Opposition sit back in the back row and watch all this and say, what is going on?

But this is what goes on in Ontario. The biggest PR programme we have ever seen. Housing is a very important thing to our people and we get this type of promotion which is not true.

The Minister went on to brag at a conference last week that his department had done a great job in development loans, and had lent \$315,000 in that great Georgian Bay area where almost billions are being spent in industrial development. He lent \$315,000. Big deal. Now the Prime Minister says this is a programme for people. What has he done for anybody but the government?

Mayor Campbell of Scarborough, when this release came out that they were going to build 10,000 homes in Malvern, said in the *Toronto Daily Star*—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He is one of the member's supporters. We defeated him in the last provincial election.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, and the government was quite lucky.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: We do not really expect him to support us in that proposition.

Mr. Bryden: Well he is mayor of Scarborough, and what he says deserves to be taken seriously.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, no.

Mr. Singer: Is the Prime Minister suggesting he is not telling the truth?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, I am not suggesting that at all. But I just think that one has to look into the background. He is not somebody who is going to stand up and support any programme that this government presents.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, in brief, Mr. Campbell says, and I am quoting him—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, the crux of this whole thing is, how far can this government go in flim-flamming the people of Ontario? He says here—

Mr. Bryden: They have come to the limit.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Oh, come on now. Be reasonable. It is a pretty good programme.

Mr. Sargent: He says that the HOME programme, the announcement to build 10,000 homes in Malvern, is just a stunt.

Mr. Singer: Is this the one we were told about in February, 1962?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I am sorry, I cannot have these interjections going on back and forth across the House continuously when the member is trying to make a speech. I have to look after the rights of the member for Grey North and I would ask the members to give him their very best attention.

Mr. Sargent: There is one point that Mr. Campbell makes, who should know. If the government is going to build 10,000 homes, that is a lot of homes—that is a small city. He said that this is just a stunt. And Mr. Randall would not even give an appointment. He says in quoting Mr. Campbell that there is no possibility of starting work until the spring of 1968.

The member from Guelph (Mr. Worton) can tell stories about land they acquired there but the services to be developed there take too long to do it.

So who is telling the truth—the Prime Minister, Mr. Campbell, the mayor of Scarborough, or the government? “Programmes for people.”

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Programmes for people—I love the way he handles our advertising.

Mr. Whicher: He took it from the story of Cinderella.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, there is a great need in my area and across the province for doctors in small centres. In 1963 no less than 49 per cent of the Canadian medical graduates moved to the United States and took up permanent residence. This trend seems likely to increase instead of diminish, and so we are reaching a point in this country where further thinning out of our medical manpower will make it impossible for the provision of even the basic medical services. In total, the United States counts on about 200 doctors a year from this country, and this clearly points out an immediate need. I want this to get through to the government that the key to this, I think, is the need for subsidized incentives to keep college and medical graduates from leaving this province. Even the most backward of states in the United States are spending millions of dollars on subsidized incentive programmes.

In London, the home of the Prime Minister, eight of the 11 graduates of the medical

school left to train in Detroit. One does not have to search far for the reason for this. Through our OHSC we pay junior interns in this province \$3,000 a year; in Detroit they are being paid \$5,000 a year. So getting into the cost of this “education-for-export” programme—and that is what we have here whether it is doctors or any type of professional—the annual loss of 200 doctors represents a cash drain of \$10 million a year. But too many of these doctors are medical teachers in which the country will have invested \$100,000 instead of \$50,000, which is the approximate cost to Canada for the graduation of a good doctor.

Now the loss of youthful graduates is bad enough, but as we can see the loss of a teacher is a calamity.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, the need for doctors in small centres throughout Ontario is an emergency situation and a crash programme is needed. To quote the hon. Minister of Health, he said:

We have the stables; we need the horses. Unless they are good horses, we are going to lose out in the health race.

I would suggest that this is too serious a thing to play politics with. When the people of Ontario become informed of the gross negligence of the government in this field—because nothing hits home harder than the fact that you cannot get a doctor, and it is the government's fault in the end, believe me—the government will not only lose the health race they will lose the election too.

This is only another part of Mr. Robarts' programme for people.

Now a thing that bothers a lot of us in this party is a story by Arthur Brydon in the *Globe and Mail*, and it talks about the “graft” formula in this House. It tells about all the grants announced here to the hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management). To summarize briefly, he made about 21 of the 71 announcements of where the money went, but the “graft” part of it was that all the announcements were made through a Tory member.

It makes interesting reading:

In the survey period, Mr. Simonett made 21 of 71 announcements to a total of \$1.4 million; and \$1 million was spent in the riding near Elmer Sopha but it often came under Mr. Simonett.

Now five other Cabinet Ministers were involved. Stanley Randall, \$23,000 in one release; Ray Connell, \$6,000, one release; George Wardrobe, \$9,000; James Allan,

\$33,000; William Davis, \$21,000, three releases. The most favoured private member was A. A. Mackenzie, the popular 81-year-old in the Legislature for North York, who made six announcements for \$77,000.

Mr. Walker: Hear, hear! He is a fine old gentleman.

Mr. Sargent: He sure is.

Those making three releases in the trade were George Kerr, \$43,000; Arthur Evans, \$507,000; Alex Carruthers, \$16,000; Clarke Rollins, \$1,000; R. K. McNeil, \$27,000; Russell Rowe, \$16,000. Two releases were made for Allan Reuter, \$4,000; A. W. Downer, \$11,760; Gordon Pittock, \$27,000; John Root, \$47,000. One release came from Darcy McKeough, \$32,000; Ellis Morningstar, \$6,000; Robert Welch, \$198,000—

Boy, this is great!

—J. Fred Edwards, \$300—

They do not like Fred.

—Sylvanus Apps, \$9,000; W. E. Sandercock, \$9,000; Norris Whitney, \$225; L. C. Henderson, \$250; Keith Brown, \$100—

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East): Mr. Speaker, I made no announcement in this regard.

Mr. Sargent: Well I guess the press is wrong here. His name is L. C. Henderson, Lambton East, \$250—

Mr. Henderson: Yes, but I made no press releases.

Mr. Sargent: Oh, he did not make the announcement; the government made the announcement.

Now some of the announcements are issued by The Department of Public Works, but most come from the special services section, conservation authorities branch, Department of Energy and Resources Management—

They are submitted to Mr. Simonett's office with the proposed text of the letter and the conservation authority concerned, and after approval are distributed to reporters.

A spokesman for the department explained that under the conditions Mr. Simonett's name appeared on the announcement. He was asked how the other names are chosen and he said: If you look at who the local members are, it is pretty obvious, isn't it?

Now is it not a sad affair when the government has not got the intestinal fortitude—

even the nicety—to make an announcement to the local member regardless of who he is, because he is after all a member of this government.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, do I understand the hon. member to say that I said—would he read that again?

Mr. Sargent: It reads:

If you look at who the local members are, it is pretty obvious, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Who said that?

An hon. member: The Minister did.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Simonett!

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Simonett did not, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sargent: The press is doing a lot of misquoting there.

An hon. member: It is probably his newspaper he is quoting from.

Hon. Mr. Crossman: Is the member quoting from his own newspaper?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, as mayor of Owen Sound a few years ago I had a soldier and his girl come to my office on a Friday afternoon, and they wanted to get a marriage licence. I tried to raise the city clerk but could not find him, so I told them that they could not get married until Monday. So somewhere along the line he got in touch with a great Minister up our way—Wally Downer—and so they went to Wally and told him the story and Wally said: "I'm sorry; no marriage licence, no marriage." And the girl said, "Well Reverend, John has to be back in camp on Monday morning." So Wally said, "Rules are rules." So the girl said: "Reverend, couldn't you just say a few words to tide us over the weekend?"

Mr. Speaker, I want to say in closing—

An hon. member: Carry on, do not stop—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I want to say that in Owen Sound I had a part as mayor 15 years ago in building the first set of old age pensioners' apartments which were a format across Canada. I have a great regard for the need for old age pensioners' housing. I think that in our thinking, although we are grateful for the great job The Department of Public Welfare is doing with Jimmy Band—I think they are doing a great job for people—in this one area the government is working for

people, but I think there is a great breakthrough we have got to do in housing for senior citizens in that many of these elderly citizens live in substandard accommodation caused by high rents. I think the provincial government should be required to jointly work with the federal government each providing 40 per cent of the cost of building low cost housing units for elderly citizens at a cost within their income.

Along that line they should have a lot of factors, like installing showers, along with the tubs for these people, because these are important things.

In closing I want to say that in this programme for people it is a battle for the mind of Joe Citizen of Ontario. This Joe Citizen is a two-fold fellow. He is a political citizen and he is an economic citizen. That makes him an inconsistent citizen. As one citizen he wants to take the economy road. As a producer, a consumer, a labour citizen, he may favour the economic legislation, which is both socialistic in nature and costly.

As a labour citizen he wants to ride high on the wage bandwagon. But as a consumer he wants low prices. As a getting citizen he wants a lot of free help of one kind or another from the government, but at the same time as a paying citizen he wants low taxes.

So actually, when this Joe Citizen, the man we are talking about makes up his mind to support something, he does it because he has formed an opinion on it, and whether he was right or whether he was wrong, he has formed his opinion on the basis of what he knows or what he thinks he knows. Now there are honest differences of opinion in this House, in this democracy, but one of the real tragedies in a democracy such as ours is that it is quite possible for too many opinions to be formed without proper knowledge of the facts.

So education then becomes the prime factor in moulding opinion. When there are two sides to any question, as there usually are, the opponents of the two sides line up and battle for the minds of people, the mind of Joe Citizen and his wife. I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, in closing, that as in any other contest of this type, the side with unlimited millions of dollars of patronage funds at its disposal—a situation where the government has already booked the best prime time on television and radio, and it is tapping large liquor and business concerns for election slush funds, with all the power to control the communications media—this side has the best chance of winning.

But as the evidence piles up, unless we have an informed public, this sorry mess could continue for another 25 years and the people of Ontario, in the Centennial year, deserve a better birthday gift than a return to this arrogant bureaucracy. And so I say, let Canadians and Ontario enjoy their 100th birthday and make this a Centennial project, a programme for all the people.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Well said.

Mr. Sargent: Not a select few—a Centennial project we could all be proud of—clean house at Queen's Park in 1967.

Mr. A. K. Roberts (St. Patrick): Mr. Speaker, my opening remarks will be to repeat the encomiums which from time to time have been extended to you in your office, and I do it very sincerely because you are a man who is noted for fairness, alertness and knowledgeability. And to the Deputy Speaker, re-elected, or chosen for a second time in what is a record in the proceedings here, I know that we will have continuing efficiency and I congratulate him and the Legislature on his choice.

Mr. Speaker, the mover, a new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), made a very excellent presentation on his maiden speech. He was a good winner there. He was one of those who did not take one shot and then walk out, as some people do. He came back on his second try.

The seconder, who is not with us today, I was going to refer to as the Irishman of Polish extraction, because on the 17th he is usually extremely interesting and amusing in this House, from an Irish standpoint. Some of the tallest stories—and I have heard a lot from the Irish—emanated from him on that particular day.

To the new leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), I would extend my congratulations and I would say that I think in his maiden speech as leader he got off to a good start, after having had a very impressive convention. It was my privilege to see that convention from the gallery, in the capacity of observer for one of our radio stations, and it was an interesting, and for me, a unique opportunity to see a convention in operation without having any of the strains and local problems that usually beset all of us who attend our own conventions.

I would say to the leader of the Opposition that his pay in this House is, I think, actually the same as a Minister and that anything desired beyond that of a material nature or reward is something which will not be paid

for except in the honour. It is of course the worthwhile ambition to look for something beyond that, and to have horizons, and I am sure that this young new leader has those and will reach for them.

As for the leader of the NDP, the member for York South (Mr. MacDonald), I know that he has ambitions also, but I doubt very much if they go beyond the hope of becoming leader of the Opposition.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): The member is away out of date.

Mr. Roberts: And in that respect he is in a somewhat different approach to the official leader. I would say, though, that I am sure everybody in the House is glad to see him back and in good form again after his unfortunate accident.

Mr. Speaker, both these gentlemen have indicated that they welcome me to this side of the House. I am going to mention this seat in a moment, but I would say that in view of the diversity of their views and their own opposition to each other, they cannot expect from me anything much more than a third view, and that might be in the occasional exercise of my newly gained freedom after some 11 years in the Ministries of this province.

I thank the Speaker for placing me here, in seat 73. Previously I have sat on different occasions in seat seven in 1959, and seat three last year, and they are all in the set with 73, for every seat in this House is of equal value. How they show up depends on the occupants and sometimes some are hotter than others.

If I might be a little flippant for a moment, I would say that I am in the position of perhaps being left wing for the new Chicago line, and without, I may say, any assurance from the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Eagle-son) for a continuing contract, so I am not guaranteed this position in that respect. However, the performance of players in this league must be viewed, Mr. Speaker, from well outside the House for overall appraisal.

I listened with interest to most of the address of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts) when he spoke for the government and gave very ably the government's position in relation to the motion before the House, and I congratulate him on that exposition.

I note, sir, that several polls have been referred to. I am not going to become a pollster on my own but I think perhaps in order to balance things or to make the record complete, the poll that was announced at the time of the Liberal convention was known

and broadly circulated at that time and my friends over here took some hope from that and I think they were justified in doing so. And then the NDP had their poll and they were very bold in some of their announcements. And then the Prime Minister was cautious but reasonably optimistic in his.

Now I am told that at Osgoode Hall, the model Parliament down there in the last day or two had a session in which the Conservatives gained the government by a 57-per-cent vote, some 300 voters. I am sure the House would be interested to know that the new Premier of that model Parliament is the son of the Minister of Reform Institutions.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Does the member mind telling us how he voted?

Mr. Roberts: I am glad the member for Bruce rose because I would like to say this, and I am not picking out speeches all over the place, but I thought he gave us a few good old-fashioned, but nevertheless sound, suggestions about economy which I am sure everybody in the House sometimes pays some attention to.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I propose to discuss one main subject referred to briefly in the Speech from the Throne as receiving further attention. I refer to the securities and investors' protection. To those who wish to hear me at this late hour, I would say I will probably take about 25 minutes to complete what I have to say.

In a number of countries of the western world today, financial disturbances of varying degrees of importance have in recent months been taking place. They are causing closer looks to be had at both the methods employed and the controls and regulations—the rules of the game so to speak—how effective they are and how well or otherwise they are enforced or are enforceable, to keep such disturbances at a minimum.

We have had our share of this sort of upheaval in the province of Ontario both currently and during the last few years. Security laws have been looked at and partially reviewed—as witness the 1966 Securities Act with its extensive new provisions and amended provisions, for which the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), deserves very great credit because he was the main author, and the 1966 Corporations Amendment Act, both of which are not yet law in the main, though we know now that May 1 is the deadline for the balance of the major portion of the changes in these two Acts.

At the last session of the Legislature there was a considerable debate on these Acts and I anticipate that there will be considerable further debate when the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree), deals with this subject in the Legislature later on, as I am sure he will, and as he said yesterday that he would. The Securities Act and The Corporations Act are only two in a series of Acts of the Legislature which go to the root of this subject, but beyond that, something more is required to cover what now appear to be obvious loopholes in certain directions. Further legislation and regulation, particularly in the field of finance, can, I think, be said to be certain of introduction in this session.

The United States of America has since 1933 and 1934 had extensive federal securities regulations and requirements. There will be a few, but very few, in this Legislature who will recall the great stock market crash of 1929, and its subsequent erosive and devastating path of loss, unemployment and financial and monetary disturbances carrying into the thirties.

Let me recall the words of the then newly inaugurated President of the United States, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as to the causes of the great emergency with which the nation was faced:

Primarily this is because the rulers of the exchange of mankind's goods have failed through their own stubbornness and their own incompetence—have admitted their failure and abdicated. Practices of the unscrupulous money changers stand indicted in the court of public opinion, rejected by the hearts and minds of men. True they have tried, but their efforts have been cast in the pattern of an outworn tradition. Faced by failure of credit they have proposed only the lending of more money—they know only the rules of a generation of self-seekers.

Those were the words of Franklin Roosevelt on his inauguration at that critical time.

The United States Securities Commission Act and The Securities Exchange Act followed as enactments of Congress. To many free enterprisers in Ontario and Canada, the American approach seemed harsh—full of red tape and costly. In the intervening years, however, Congress has repeatedly used the work of the securities commission to advance legislation and to provide extensive studies in the securities field.

Today the federal securities regulations and control system are recognized as doing—

in conjunction with the self-regulatory approaches of national exchanges and the national broker dealers association—all of which are under the overriding control and supervision of the securities commission—a good job for the public, customers and for capital investment and investor expansion in the United States. That is quite a sentence I have just delivered, but I assure this House that it is not made recklessly and only after a great deal of enquiry and the examination of experience as expressed at various conferences of people highly skilled and practical in the operations of the business which it encompasses.

I know that the Toronto stock exchange is working hard these days to improve, and improve its image too, and I have in my hands a Toronto stock exchange reform sheet as recently as February 6 from the *Financial Times* of Canada in which it outlines some of the things it has done, and is doing. On the other hand, I read a book just the other day by a man by the name of Ivan Schaffer, which certainly gave the other side of the coin in a too-crude way, I think, from my point of view in reading it, anyway. But on the one hand we get justification being set out, on the other hand we get condemnation in a very superlative manner. I hope that anything I say is in the middle of the road and is based more on realities and more on practical ability.

In 1965 the volume of business on the New York stock exchange was in the neighbourhood of \$140 billion, and the dollar value of the listed securities about \$500 billion. A huge public participation is indicated in all this. It means great growth of confidence, and in numbers of investors investing and trading through this U.S. national exchange, which incidentally accounts for a very substantial percentage of all American exchange business. This is one place, New York, where they have been able to hold the money markets of the U.S. in an amazingly controlled manner despite the great growth of the west. I think in 1965 our Toronto stock exchange listed securities, as against that \$500 billion that I mentioned, that had a value of about \$104 billion, so members can see that our Toronto stock exchange in relation to the figures I gave of the U.S. is a pretty substantial operation too, when it comes to dealing in securities.

The securities Act of 1966 is the result of a great deal of study in depth along the lines I have just mentioned, and so far as it goes I think it is an Act which will have a salutary

effect in many directions once it becomes effective. The disturbances some fear it will cause may in fact be exaggerated, but in any event it is quite apparent that the sponsors of the legislation have leaned over backwards to give full consideration to these effects before putting the Act into effect.

There is, however, a sector where in my view the Act has not gone far enough. I refer to part 14, in particular section 139. Here I find it can be said, for the first time in Canada, that once this section becomes effective the securities commission will have some definite control over stock exchanges provided that the commission decides to exercise such control.

The United States legislation spells out the controls and the guide lines by which the commission is exercising control and is required by the Act to do so. In my view, both for the protection of all concerned and for the better carrying out of the responsibilities involved, these things should appear in our Act and in our regulations so that there can be no doubt about the responsibility and no doubt where the final authority lies.

Therefore, I say that I am convinced the time has now come when under the securities legislation both of Ontario, and I hope in due course of Canada, specific control through a strong securities commission of stock exchanges is essential in the public interest.

At present in Ontario there is only one operating stock exchange. It derives its authority from a 19th century statute. It was originally an unincorporated Toronto stock exchange. The Act of Incorporation, 1878, amended in 1902 and 1912, incorporated an application of Henry Pellat and others into the Toronto stock exchange. That the exchange has departed a long way from the original objects of incorporation can be seen by a recital of these original objects:

The objects of the said corporation (this is back in 1878) are hereby declared to be: to compile records and public statistics; to acquire and distribute information respecting stocks, shares, bonds and debentures; to provide and regulate a suitable building or room or rooms for a stock exchange and offices in the city of Toronto; to promote the observance of such regulations and requirements as may by bylaw be established.

The original section 10 was also quite interesting, and I quote again:

The said company shall at all times when required by the Lieutenant-Governor or

by the legislative assembly make a full return with such details and other information as the Lieutenant-Governor or legislative assembly may require on that behalf.

That is still in the statutes. Then in chapter 106 of the statute of 1902, which was an Act to amend The Act of Incorporation of the Toronto stock exchange, they broadened the membership a little. The first Act said a member would have to be a resident of the city of Toronto, but they dropped that resident rule in the second one. Then in the second amendment, the third Act in 1912 allowed them to hold property to the value of \$50,000 instead of \$5,000 and gave them rather wide borrowing powers. Then, for quite a long time, in fact until 1928, returns to the Provincial Secretary were not made on the basis that they didn't have to be, because unless there was a specific request under section 10 they were under no obligation under the special Act to make returns.

Curiously, in tracing this history, it was found that supplementary letters patent were issued on July 7, 1941, being issued to a company which was incorporated by a special Act. The Provincial Secretary of the day was the late H. C. Nixon. Just why these supplementary letters patent were issued or required instead of an amendment to the Act isn't apparent. In any event they got them, and that gave them power, and I quote again:

To enact bylaws, not contrary to law, for the constitution, government, control, regulation and management of the franchises, rights, privileges, contracts, obligations, transactions and affairs of the corporation, and of and between the members, and to impose penalties and forfeitures in respect thereof.

They got that by supplementary letters patent. By section 2 of by-law 1 the membership was limited to 113 members, and that is still the case, with the provision that there would be 113 seats maximum and that any one member could hold up to three seats.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I wonder if I could ask the member a question. Does he have any knowledge as to why they picked the figure 113? Was it an accident or was there any reason for it?

Mr. Roberts: In New York I think the figure is about 1,366 and in London it is several thousand. But I do not know, I cannot answer that except that it is pretty compact today. It might not have looked so compact originally but it is certainly compact today.

When commissioner Kelly, in his Windfall report, chapter 17, devoted a whole chapter to the exchange, he said this, and I think this is so important, the wording is so clear:

The intention of those who formed the exchange was no doubt to provide a convenient form in which brokers could purchase and sell securities for their customers. Regardless of the reason for its origin, the only justification for its continuing existence is the service it provides as a public exchange for, and in the interests of, investing public.

That, I think, is a clear-cut definition of what it is for and its justification.

I would like to point out to this Legislature that by section 3 of The Act of Incorporation it is provided that the business of the corporation should be managed as I will now describe. I want to draw the attention of the government to this, because I think something should be done about the changing of the actual Act itself in this regard. I quote now:

Shall be managed by a president, secretary, treasurer and three managers—all of whom shall be members of the said Toronto stock exchange and shall together constitute the committee of management and shall be elected annually.

Some six or seven years ago, after some urging by the government, an outsider was chosen as president—not a member of the exchange. No one at the time gave very much thought to this musty old section 3 which I just read, and in a return made after General Graham was appointed president, he was shown as president on the file of the Provincial Secretary. But after one such return all subsequent returns showed the chairman of the board of governors as the president. General Graham was not shown in any capacity on the subsequent annual returns to the Provincial Secretary by the exchange.

It is, in my opinion, highly important that the president of any exchange operating in this province be a person who is not a member of it in the sense that he has a financial interest in its operation as a trader. The principle I think has been accepted as sound. It is certainly the principle under which such great exchanges as the New York stock exchange operate.

It is further essential, in my opinion, that an independent administrative staff, answerable to the president and insulated from any pressures or influence by the members of the exchange, be affirmed.

Mr. Speaker, I turn for a moment to the stated purpose of The Securities and Exchange Act of the United States, and that is:

To provide for the regulation of security exchanges and of over-the-counter markets operating in interstate and foreign commerce and through the mails, to prevent inequitable and unfair practices on such exchanges and markets. The commission is responsible to Congress and in the composition of its membership of five not more than three can belong to any one party.

That is the way they try to get impartiality in the United States. It provides—as far as stock exchanges are concerned—and I am going to enumerate these things because it is in this field that I think our section 139 lacks the fullness that it should have:

1. Registration of national securities exchanges.
2. Margin requirements as prescribed by the board of governors of the federal reserve system.
3. Restrictions on borrowing by members, brokers and dealers.
4. Prohibition against manipulation of security prices including regulating short selling, and so on.

I am going to depart for a moment to amplify No. 4. I am not trying to document everything I say here too greatly but I can assure the members that I can document the conclusions I have come to with ample material if that were desirable. On that item 4—prohibition against manipulation of security prices including regulating short selling, and so on—I want to turn to page 64 of the report of the Attorney General's committee on securities legislation in Ontario, dated March, 1965, and I read paragraph 7.21:

The committee has referred above to some of the improprieties and abuses which can and do occur when shares are distributed to the public by primary distribution through the facilities of the exchange. Many of these improprieties and abuses, particularly those relating to manipulation, are not unique to primary distribution on the exchange. They will continue to exist if primary distribution is removed from the floor of the exchange.

In this connection, the criminal code contains provisions making certain manipulative stock transactions an offence. These anti-manipulative provisions fall short of what is required to protect the investing public, particularly if financing in the over-the-counter market is to increase in

volume as the result of our recommendations.

The committee has concluded—and I am underlining this sentence:

The committee has concluded that the highly specialized and complex problems of market manipulation in all its phases should be the subject of a special study to be carried out by the Ontario securities commission.

The committee recommends that this study be undertaken without delay so that its results can be embodied in appropriate implementing legislation prior to the date when primary distribution through the facilities of the exchange is effectively discontinued. The study would be made under special grant of funds and should be carried out in the closest possible collaboration with the Toronto stock exchange and other interested organizations, such as the investment dealers' association of Canada and the broker dealers' association of Ontario. Special staff and legal counsel should temporarily be attached to the commission to facilitate the study.

Now Mr. Speaker, that has not been done and I content myself by simply drawing this to the attention again today, particularly to the Minister concerned—the new Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs—and I do it in this forum of legislators. I say please heed these recommendations in the public interest. If it was urgent in March, 1965, it is doubly urgent today.

Then I go to the fifth of these enumerated headings: 5. Segregation and limitation of functions of members, brokers and dealers.

Here again is an extremely important provision. At this time, in documenting briefly and partially only, I am going to read from the material of the last available annual report of the securities and exchange commission and from releases. In some respects I have paraphrased this for the sake of not labouring too much on it, but it is the considered views of the commission and of the special study of the group whose findings were made known by release.

In approaching this I just point out that only members of the New York stock exchange are allowed on the floor of the exchange. On the Toronto stock exchange a member and up to four clerks are allowed on the exchange.

From time to time the question of floor trading has irritated Congress and the securities commission until, by the latest studies,

findings and enactments—this report is 1964-65—this vexatious and sometimes badly abused procedure has been placed under clear-cut regulation.

The matter came to a crisis proportion in 1964 following a release, No. 7290, of the securities and exchange commission, which pointed out that there were over 400 members, that is approximately one third of the members of the New York stock exchange, who were engaging intermittently in floor trading, with only some 35 of them having as their primary activity floor trading i.e. specialists for a special purpose of marketing and distribution, where there is a special section of specialists who are there for that purpose and they have to have the money and they have to make purchases and sales in order to keep some sort of order in relation to stocks.

But apart from those 35, 400 were intermittently engaged in floor trading as they were carrying on their other duties of brokers for customers. The review showed that floor trading was concentrated on the more active stocks, at times amounting to as much as 35 per cent of the total reported volume on selected days of such stocks.

In other words, the review revealed trading for profits and not trading to stabilize. Coupled with this type of trading, floor trading which “is trading by members of the stock exchange or by an agent for their own account while personally present on the trading floor of an exchange”, enables the floor trader when so trading to act upon a position of advantage with respect to priorities, opportunities to act on the scene in relation to market movements and enables him, by short-swing speculation, often to interfere with the orderly execution that otherwise would be handling a brokerage account for a customer.

This kind of procedure also adds to the delays in execution where there is a very active market, differing of prices, even interfering with the work of the specialists who have clear duties to perform in this field. One of the worst features of it, Mr. Speaker, is that the public has no way of knowing the impact that the floor trader's activity has on particular securities or on the market generally. The effect of the latest rule, 11a-1 under The Securities Act, tied into a plan with the New York stock exchange for operation there, would have the effect of preventing a member from acting both as agent for a customer and as a floor trader on his own account.

This following insert, now I am going to deal with one more insert, and it comes when I come to item 10.

I go now to item 6: Extensive requirements for registration of securities; and I pause there because registration of securities is one of the mainstays of this legislation that we have. Section 19 is the exemption section. Section 19(2)3 reads as follows:

Negotiable promissory notes—

and these are one of the exemptions

—for commercial paper maturing not more than one year from the date of issue provided that such note or commercial paper traded to an individual has a denomination of principal amount not less than \$50,000.

Now that was three years ago that provision was put in, and for a very specific purpose that this House knows about and I will not take up, but I have in my hands here an advertisement that appeared in the *Globe and Mail* as recently as last February 7.

We as agents recommend the National Cash Register Company of Canada Limited short term notes guaranteed unconditionally by the National Cash Register Company, of Dayton, Ohio. Current rates will be furnished on request.

There is no registration in this, there is no prospectus, there is no material available as to the details of it, but there is this advertisement in the paper. The firm, I am not mentioning it by name, but the firm is a very reputable firm. It may be that they are advertising for clients who have \$50,000 or more but that is the only way that I can see that the thing could even have a semblance of legality.

6. Extensive requirements for registration of securities, periodical reports, proxies and over-the-counter markets and provisions for registration of broker dealer associations and members.

7. Accounts, records, reports to be kept and right of examination by the commission thereof.

This is in connection with the requirements under the Act and regulations of stock exchanges.

8. Liability for misleading statements.

9. Power to suspend an exchange for violation of the Act, rules and regulations, or for lack of enforcing rules, and so on, by its members.

There has been lots of lack of enforcing them in recent years as evidenced in several

reports that we have seen and in evidence that has been coming out from time to time.

10. Changes in practice by the exchanges.

It is in that connection that I have a short memo I would like to read, also from the latest annual report of the securities commission in the United States:

The inspections—

by the securities commissions' staffs

—conducted of the two New York exchanges covered such areas as procedures relating to the financial responsibility of member organizations, surveillance of registered traders, surveillance of specialists, procedures for handling public complaints and practices and procedures regarding admission and qualification of standards for members and registered representatives. Where it appears to the staff of the commission that revisions and exchange procedures or policies were desirable in order to improve the exchange's performance, its views were communicated to the particular exchange and discussions were held between the commission and exchange staff to arrive at appropriate solutions. During the past year a number of significant improvements in exchange operations were accomplished as a result of the inspection programme and subsequent discussions. It is noted that during the fiscal year, progress was made towards a final determination—

And this is really just incidental but of some interest

—on impending proceedings under section 19a(1) of the Act to determine whether the registration of the San Francisco mining exchange should be withdrawn for the protection of the investors.

11. Studies and investigations by the commission of the rules and regulations of an exchange including rules of expulsion and punishment of members, and reporting to Congress from time to time thereon. In this connection the commission should have the power to supervise the disciplinary practices of exchanges in this province, in my view.

12. Wide powers of investigation, hearings and reviews by the courts, of decisions of the commission—these are a very important feature of this that I am sure will be of interest and rather intriguing to all members of the House, namely the enactment of a provision for registration fees from exchanges for the privilege of doing business as a national securities exchange of one five-hundredth of one per cent of the aggregate dollar amount of the sales of securities transacted on such

exchange during the previous calendar year, payable by March 15 in each year to the commission.

On the basis of the figures I gave earlier of \$140 billion business in the year 1965, that would mean about \$2.8 million payable to the commission with which they could do a great deal, if not all, of their operations. In this way, supervision and regulation by the commission of the exchange can be handled and financed with due regard to the calibre of employees, the required standards and the essential integrity and honesty without which no satisfactory long-term control and operation can be assured.

It is therefore my submission that we in this province should apply to the control of exchanges, the principles, rules and regulations along the lines I have outlined as having, in practice, proved to be efficient and purposeful in the United States.

Some will say that the Toronto stock exchange board of governors is doing its best to discipline its members and to give a fair shake to the public. I have a very considerable respect for the chairman of the board, Mr. Deacon, and I have read with interest a number of the releases which have been coming out in greater frequency, may I say, in the last few weeks since I brought this subject squarely to the attention of the public.

However, we have only to look at such reports as that of Mr. Justice Arthur Kelly, which is only a year and a half old now, which pointed out so many questionable practices on the exchange, and we have only to look at the evidence that has been reported in at least two subsequent fiascos to realize that all is not well and to justify my assertion that self regulation has not in the past proved to be sufficient.

The most recent extensive studies by the securities commission of the United States, including very considerable debate in Congress, wide hearings, and numerous resultant amendments to the U.S. Securities Act during the last couple of years, all back up what I am saying.

At a recent conference at a university centre which was very representative in its makeup it was stated that the securities commission is responsible for making certain that the programme of protection of the public is carried out, and that the areas to be covered must be outlined, including protection of customers' credit and securities balances, the role of specialists and traders, and meaningful quotations for over-the-counter trading.

Time and again in the Kelly report, in the hearings in the United States, in forums, it is

pointed out that the broker dealer has a fiduciary position. The very fact that he advertises that he is a broker makes him subject to what they call in some areas "the shingle rule"—undertaking by holding out his name as a broker to deal fairly with customers in accordance with standards of sound proficiency.

The recent report to Congress, to which I referred, advocates adequate protective controls over those who may enter the industry, based on standards encompassing competence—and that has been a very weak section for some time though I think it is improving now—character and integrity, and financial responsibility. So emphatic was the finding of abuses in the area of floor trading, and continuing abuses in spite of the regulations, that a new rule was established which in effect said the broker cannot at the same time act for his customers, and himself be participating in trading in the same security.

Members of this House and particularly members of the Cabinet have to have very high standards in relation to interest or possible interest. How can they countenance in this great money market a complete disregard for any kind of principle of that sort so far as absolute stipulation is concerned?

A large percentage of brokers were found to be using their priorities and advantages of presence on the floor of U.S. exchanges to trade on their own account at the same time as executing orders for, and advising clients. These are the sort of things that certainly have been going on, as the findings in the reports I have mentioned show. These are things which can only be fairly dealt with by impartial disinterested supervision going along with self-regulatory action by the exchanges.

I have been in correspondence with the three representatives of the public on the board of governors of the New York stock exchange. They are all men of considerable and varied experience and prestige. I have also had the benefit of some independent views on the advantage of this sort of representation. I believe good use can be made in Ontario and in Canada of such a practice.

Among several things that I am suggesting should be done, I therefore advocate that amendments be made to the special Act incorporating the Toronto stock exchange to clear up anachronisms, and to make it obligatory to have an independent president who is in no way related to membership on the exchange during his term of office and who will have the authority to present the names for the approval of the board of

governors of: (a) public representatives to be appointed to the board; (b) the personnel of his administrative staff.

I would go further and say that very clear rules should be spelled out of the duties of those referred to in (a) and (b) above, and as to their complete divorcement from interests in the markets over which their continuous supervision would be of primary importance to success in the desired objectives.

Mr. Speaker, I will not labour this subject further at this time but I do strongly urge upon the government the need for these additional legislative and regulatory actions, and a great need to establish for the future a securities commission. I want to say here that I think the chairman of this Ontario securities commission is an excellent man and a man of very great capacity. I do say Ontario should establish for the future a securities commission reporting through the Minister, but independent and self-contained, and adequately financed to cope with the many problems that this greatly expanded economy in recent years has helped to produce in the field of securities.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would like to suggest adjournment of the debate.

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William): Yes, Mr. Speaker, in view of the hour I would move adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will resume this debate. I had hoped that we would complete this debate before the Budget is introduced, but it seems that we will not be able to. Therefore the Budget will come in on Tuesday and we will resume this debate on Tuesday after the Budget is introduced, if there is time in the afternoon. We will have, of course, night sessions on Tuesday night and on Thursday night, and we will run this debate until its conclusion. I think that would probably be Tuesday or Wednesday, but whatever time is necessary we will take to permit those members to speak who wish to speak in this debate.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 12.55 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, February 13, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests in the east gallery, students from St. Lawrence public school, Scarborough, and in the west gallery, students from St. Lucy's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East) from the standing committee on standing orders and printing presented the committee's second report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee has carefully examined the following petitions and finds the notices, as published in each case, sufficient:

Of the corporation of the city of Sault Ste. Marie praying that an Act may pass increasing the membership of the Sault Ste. Marie transportation commission; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the town of Burlington praying that an Act may pass authorizing tax credits to elderly persons.

Of Waterloo Lutheran University praying that an Act may pass to increase its powers of investment; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the town of Amherstburg praying that an Act may pass permitting it to exempt from school tax persons who have attained the age of 70 years.

Of the corporation of the township of Murray praying that an Act may pass authorizing the issue of debentures for the purpose of paying the balance owing for the construction of a school addition.

Of the corporation of the city of Windsor praying that an Act may pass authorizing an annual allowance to members of council not exceeding \$5,000.

Of the corporation of the borough of Etobicoke praying that an Act may pass permitting it to pass by-laws prohibiting street vending of certain refreshments.

Of the St. Catharines club praying that an Act may pass increasing its borrowing powers.

Of the corporation of the city of Niagara Falls praying that an Act may pass permitting it to allow certain tax credits to certain occupants of 65 years of age and over.

Of the corporation of the city of Hamilton praying that an Act may pass authorizing it to make increased grants to certain associations, persons and organizations; and for other purposes.

Of the corporation of the borough of Scarborough praying that an Act may pass authorizing by-laws regulating the sale of candy, ice cream and similar products from vehicles on the highway.

Of the corporation of the town of Blind River praying that an Act may pass abolishing the ward system in the town.

Of the University of Western Ontario praying that an Act may pass altering the composition of the board of governors and the senate; and related purposes.

Of the Napanee and district collegiate institute board praying that an Act may pass permitting it to reimburse parents in lieu of providing transportation for pupils from Amherst Island when transportation cannot be provided due to inclement weather.

Of the corporation of the borough of York praying that an Act may pass providing for night time parking by permit on designated highways in the municipality.

Of the corporation of the city of Ottawa praying that an Act may pass permitting the use of private residences as rooming or boarding houses to accommodate visitors or tourists in certain areas of the city; and for other purposes.

Of the board of education of the city of London praying that an Act may pass ratifying a contract of group life insurance.

Your committee recommends that the deposit be refunded to the society of interior designers of Ontario, the application having been withdrawn.

Your committee recommends that the customary supplies allowance for the current session of the assembly be fixed at \$100.

Your committee recommends that copies of the *Canadian Parliamentary Guide*, the *Canadian Almanac* and *Canada Year Book* be purchased for distribution to the members of the

assembly and also that each member be given a year's subscription to the *Labour Gazette* and the *Municipal World*.

Your committee further recommends that the title of all reports of departments, boards, commissions and other such bodies should be printed on the spine thereof where this is possible.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves that this House will tomorrow resolve itself into the committee of supply.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves that this House will tomorrow resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

ST. CATHARINES CLUB

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I had a word of explanation for my bill, I am sorry I did not catch your eye. It is just simply that my bill would parallel legislation in the United States which demands that car manufacturers list—with The Department of Transport in this case—any safety defects which may emerge in new cars from time to time.

BOROUGH OF YORK

Mr. Letherby, in the absence of Mr. E. A. Dunlop (Forest Hill), moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the borough of York.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF ETOBICOKE

Mr. Peck, in the absence of Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore), moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWNSHIP OF MURRAY

Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the township of Murray.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF OTTAWA

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence (Russell) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

NAPANEE AND DISTRICT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE BOARD

Mr. G. R. Carton (Armourdale) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF HAMILTON

Mrs. A. Pritchard (Hamilton Centre) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Hamilton.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

Mr. J. C. G. Demers (Nickel Belt) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

LONDON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the London board of education.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Mr. White moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the University of Western Ontario.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the town of Burlington.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF WINDSOR

Mr. Demers moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Windsor.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Mr. K. E. Butler (Waterloo North) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the city of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

TOWN OF BLIND RIVER

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor - Walkerville) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE FORESTRY ACT

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to redefine forestry purposes to permit the broader application of the multiple-use concept of forest management.

THE SURVEYS ACT

Hon. Mr. Brunelle moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Surveys Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to amend The Surveys Act to authorize regulations establishing, governing and regulating systems of coordinate surveys. Members will recall the announcement that we erect a monument in the grounds of the Parliament buildings. This monument will form a part of such a system.

THE TREES ACT

Hon. Mr. Brunelle moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Trees Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to redefine forestry purposes in The Trees Act in the same manner as the proposed amendment to The Forestry Act, The Trees Act being the statute under which municipalities are authorized to conduct forestry programmes.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, if I can raise a point of order with you. I must confess I would have raised this point of order when the hon. Provincial Treasurer made his two motions today except that I am somewhat embarrassed to say that there is not a copy of the rules of the House in the House, and I had to send to the library to fetch a copy.

I should like to direct your attention to a rule of the House which I allege to you, sir, is being flouted. It was my understanding from the words of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), used a week or so ago, that the Throne Debate would end today, February 13. I questioned the Conservative Whip this morning to ask if in fact the Throne Debate would end and he answered in the negative, telling me that it would continue at least to Thursday. Rule 114 of the House, sir, is to this effect:

Committees of supply and ways and means are appointed on motion, without previous notice, at the commencement of each session as soon as an address has been agreed to in answer to the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Inferentially, the plain meaning of that rule would seem to be that the Throne Debate must be completed before the Budget is introduced and therefore the motions of the Provincial Treasurer made today, that the House will resolve itself into two committees—supply, and ways and means—are out of order at this time.

This might be raised tomorrow when he seeks to so move the House, and I insist to

you sir, that in accordance with the earlier representation made by the Prime Minister that the Throne Debate would end today, if the Provincial Treasurer seeks to introduce the Budget tomorrow without the Throne Debate being completed, then he is clearly out of order in the matter.

If you would just permit me, sir, before you and the Clerk have the exchange, until I complete what I have to say. As I read this rule, and it is about time in this House that we got back to the rules, and I had thought when the Prime Minister made his representation, and you can—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I think the member has made his point of order.

Mr. Sopha: I just have a couple of more things to say, but I thought that in election year—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! The member is out of order now. He has made his point of order.

Mr. Sopha: You mean I am out of order?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I say the member is out of order.

Mr. Sopha: Without having completed my argument?

Mr. Speaker: The member has made his point of order. I would say that he has completed it.

Mr. Sopha: I would say to you, sir, that you are violating my rights—

Mr. Speaker: I am not violating the member's rights and I ask the member to take his seat.

Mr. Sopha: —until I have completed my argument to the point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Will the member please take his seat?

Mr. Sopha: Indeed I will, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The member has made his point of order quite clear and it is not the part of the Speaker to answer it. Perhaps the leader of the House (Mr. Rowntree) would like to. But I could tell the member that by agreement, the leaders of the House, along with the Prime Minister, and the Whips, in my office, have made an agreement to the effect that they would try to complete the Throne Debate prior to bringing in the Budget, but if there were more debaters who wanted to go on in the Throne Speech, they

would have to continue after the House went into committee of ways and means, and supply. The Prime Minister, before the House closed on Friday, made a statement to that effect.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask you respectfully, sir, am I to infer from what Your Honour says to me that the rules of the House as they are written in Lewis' book are meaningless and may be altered by agreements made behind the curtains outside the House?

Mr. Speaker: That has been the practice over the number of years since I have been in the chair, that if they want to diverge from the rules, by agreement, they do so. This has been the practice and precedent for a number of years.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Speaking if I may to the point of order, Mr. Speaker, I do not think it was by agreement that this innovation commenced in the first place. I recall quite vividly in the enlightened days of Mr. Frost that he undertook to do the same thing that is being done here today by the motions of my friend the Provincial Treasurer, and I opposed the motion at that time very strenuously and divided the House on it. To me the rule was crystal clear that the Provincial Treasurer could not introduce his motions until the Speech from the Throne had been completed. But about 75 enlightened people on the other side said that my interpretation of the rule was wrong and since that day we have gone on. I still think that it is a sloppy way of doing it and I think a much tidier way would have been to have completed the Throne Debate first, without going into the Budget Debate.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think it is only fair to point out that these arrangements were acquiesced in by the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) and I hardly think it behooves the speakers from the official Opposition to raise this particular point at this particular time. Indeed if the point was to have been raised at all, it should have been raised when the Provincial Treasurer made his motion and there was no dissent whatsoever when these two motions were made some ten or 15 minutes ago.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, we will raise it tomorrow when he seeks to make his motion then. Now, may I ask sir, how can a rule of the House—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sopha: Would you just permit me to—

Mr. Speaker: The member is speaking twice on a point of order.

Mr. Sopha: How can a rule of the House be broken by acquiescence, may I ask Your Honour that most respectfully? If the rules mean anything, how can they be broken by acquiescence?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we are breaking any rule too seriously here when we have had agreement beforehand on the matter.

Mr. Sopha: I respectfully disagree.

Mr. Speaker: I would say to the member that if there is some agreement on these matters and it is agreed to by all parties, I do not think this is a serious matter.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, the question of acquiescence is rather stretching the point.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): The hon. member for Downsview is out of order.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am as much in order in speaking to the point of order as the House leader.

It was originally the intention of the government, announced by the Prime Minister, that the Throne Debate would continue until it was concluded, which was estimated to be Monday. Now the leader of the government, on his own, determined to change that order and to bring in the bill which we debated all of last Thursday, which threw out the government's schedule. When the order of business was next announced, at the rising of the House on Friday morning, there was no acquiescence, there was merely another announcement and that was all there was to it. I stress the point, if the rules of this House mean anything, then surely, sir, a motion introduced in contradiction to those rules, cannot properly be entertained.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): The member should speak to his leader.

Mr. Singer: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that there is no real understanding among several members on the opposite side, as to the importance of these rules. If the rules are no longer than the view of the House leader on a particular day, we might just as well throw the book away and let the rules be according

to what the House leader says. I do not think that is any way to conduct a democratic Parliament.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if I might briefly speak to this point of order? The House having concurred in the two motions that were presented to the House by myself, seconded by the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs earlier in the day, I would presume to suggest to you that you might consider ruling out any motion to the contrary tomorrow if it is put to the House, sir.

Mr. Sopha: Of course, this is a subtle mark of tyranny, a subtle form of tyranny that the Provincial Treasurer—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, may I make one brief comment on this—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on the same point of order?

Mr. Bryden: With respect to the point of order, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that there are so many legitimate and important issues on which the government is subject to attack, that I do not see why we waste our time on frivolous side-issues of this kind. I hope we will get on with the real business of the House.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to table the report of The Department of Reform Institutions for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1966. This report, which has been distributed to hon. members, covers all the aspects of our work and I trust that members will find it both instructive and interesting. The Department of Reform Institutions endeavours to ensure that a responsible, progressive programme of rehabilitation is maintained and also to inform the people of this province of the programme. I trust that this report will play its part in this.

I will not, of course, go into the details of the report at this time. I would emphasize the graphs on pages 14 and 59, which show that the percentage of people being convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment in this province has decreased over the last few years. In addition, and in line with my desire to make our report easier to study, I would draw the attention of members to the new classification chart of wards in our training schools. This complements last year's

chart on adult institutions which has been modified slightly to bring it up to date. For ease of reference, these charts are in the pocket in the back of the report. Copies of the report have been supplied to all members and to the press and I would be very pleased to supply additional copies to anyone who can make use of them.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Highways.

In the instance of expropriation of homeowners on Inverdon Road for the widening of Highway 27 in the west end of Metro Toronto, how can The Department of Highways justify offers averaging \$23,000 for properties whose market values average \$25,000 and whose replacement values at the moment average \$28,000? Has the government given consideration in this case to provide the owners with alternative comparable homes?

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister might want to answer my question at the same time, it is similar.

I would like to ask the Minister the following question: According to the *Toronto Globe and Mail* this morning, The Department of Highways has offered 103 homeowners on Inverdon Road between Lambton Road and Richview sideroad, an average price between \$22,000 and \$23,000 for their homes. In view of the fact that because of the housing shortage, homes similar to theirs on Inverdon Road are now selling for about \$28,000, is the Minister prepared to increase his offer to purchase?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, in answer to both questions of the hon. members, I do not agree with the inference in the questions that the department is offering something less than these properties are worth. The department's offers are not based on an average price of houses in this area. Each house has been priced at its current value by independent realtors who are familiar with the real estate values in the Richview-Highway 27 area.

For the information of the House, no properties have been expropriated, although it has been made clear to the owners affected that the properties are required for highway purposes. The department has already negotiated the purchase of approximately 50 per cent of the properties required.

In the department's opinion, due compensation is being offered for these homes. How-

ever, as is the usual custom where an owner can show that the appraisal has failed to take into account some element of value for which he is entitled to compensation, the department is prepared to increase its offer. In view of the values of the properties being acquired, it does not appear necessary that the government should provide alternate comparable homes.

Mr. Braithwaite: Would the Minister accept a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

On Highway 401 in North York many of the people there left after they were dispossessed because of the widening of the highway. I understand that many of the homes that they sold to the department were later resold at a much higher value. I am wondering if the government itself or the Minister's department has given any thought to changing the basis for compensation on expropriation, and whether or not they might want to take into account moving fees and dislocation costs; in other words the cost of putting the homeowner into a similar home in Etobicoke?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: In answer to the question, Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell him about the 401, it was before my time. However, they have used a figure for an average price that they have taken from a news clipping, and I did not once say that this was the average price that the department had used.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): If I may, perhaps I can clear up the Highway 401 situation. Those houses were not torn down on 401. The people moved on account of the noise factor and we offered to take the houses off their hands at the market price at a certain date. Many of them accepted our offer and others stayed right there. The member is quite right, we were able to sell most of the houses of those who moved away, for the same or a little more than we bought them for. In this case here, I believe these houses are to be demolished. It is a different situation.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Speaker, I only mentioned the 401 in North York to show that the cost of houses is rising so rapidly that by the time these people are to get out of their homes, they will not be able to buy a house in Etobicoke for \$23,000. As a matter of fact, I live there and I—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. Minister of Eco-

nomics and Development can now answer my question, since he has intervened at this point.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I will be delighted to answer the question. I must ask the hon. member if he will allow me to provide the information for the first part of his question when my staff get back. They were getting ready for the Ontario housing corporation conference last week and will be out of town for the first three days of this week, but I will get the information for the first part of the question and see that it is tabled.

On the second part of the question—"Does the Minister intend to discuss the Malvern project directly with the elected representatives of the borough of Scarborough and if so, when?"—I would, say, yes, as soon as convenient to the mayor of Scarborough, who attended the conference on Friday with myself. We had a discussion across the room at that time and I was trying to get hold of him this morning, so I am quite sure we will get together some time this week.

The second question was: Is the mayor of Scarborough correct when he asserts that there is no possibility of starting work on the project in the spring of 1968 because the needed services cannot possibly be provided by then? The answer to that question, Mr. Speaker, is the mayor could be quite correct in his assumption with reference to the starting time on the project without having discussed the difficulties that he foresees with me. I do not know what he foresees as difficulties until I talk to him. However, it is our considered opinion that the work on the project can start in the spring of 1968, as the intentions of the Ontario housing corporation and our federal partner, central mortgage and housing corporation, are to proceed to achieve this result as quickly as possible.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary, I will, of course, be interested to hear the specific content of the proposal put by the Minister; it will shed light on what follows. But does not the Minister believe that he could have avoided much of the ill feeling and hostility that has been aroused in the borough of Scarborough by a previous consultation with elected representatives?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I answered that question when the member was not in the House last week. I said we had a consultation. Members of the Scarborough board, the civic authorities of Scarborough, had been meeting with our people since September, 1965.

Mr. S. Lewis: But never the elected representatives.

Hon. Mr. Randall: There is no reason to get the elected until we get the matter settled with the engineers. And may I also point out, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Bryden: Does the Minister mean they are just rubber-stamps?

Hon. Mr. Randall: May I also point out, Mr. Speaker, that the statement made by the Minister about 10,000 houses was not made by me. I was not even in the country when the statement was made. When this argument appeared in the newspapers I just ignored it, I have not got into a discussion on it. So I am quite sure that we will have no difficulty settling our problems with Scarborough, believe me.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, may I answer a question asked me last week by the hon. member for Yorkview? The question was on the pollution problem in Sudbury as it affects the employees at the smelter operations at that point.

Delegates from the united steelworkers of America met with me and members of my staff, as well as members of the environmental health branch of The Department of Health on January 4, 1966. I would like to point out here that my department and The Department of Labour use the environmental health branch as our consultants and referees in matters concerning noxious gases and dust which are detrimental to the health—

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, it is not the question I asked. I made a speech and the hon. Minister is making a speech in reply to a speech I made. I would think this should come in the Throne Debate.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I thought I was perfectly in order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: May I ask the Minister, is he making a statement or is he answering a question that was submitted last week?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: This is a statement in reply and I am going to give it—

Mr. Speaker: It is a statement in reply.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: —for his information. Let me assure you that these—

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: I am allowing the Minister to make a statement rather than answer a question.

Mr. S. Lewis: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, is it not the normal pattern of the House to respond to a speech by answering during the Throne Debate rather than using the Ministerial prerogative this way?

Mr. Speaker: I gather that the Minister feels it necessary to make a statement on some question that was being asked last week during the Throne Debate, so if he cares to make a statement in that respect, I am allowing him to do so.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I might say that the member for Yorkview asked me to give him this as quickly as possible, which I agreed to do.

Let me assure you that these highly trained men in the environmental health branch of The Department of Health are not sitting around waiting for work to be done, but are actively engaged in checking complaints throughout the total industry of Ontario. Hence we have to take our turn, which could explain the delay that occurs after a complaint has been received.

During 1966, five separate visits were made to investigate complaints in the smelter and iron ore plants by members of the staff at the environmental health branch and many visits to these plants were made also by members of my inspection branch. Tests made for sulphur dioxide were taken by trained personnel and the readings were considerably lower than those taken by the union. However it is admitted that during adverse atmospheric conditions or a breakdown of equipment, the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere may be excessive. All men working in such conditions are supplied with masks as a protective device. If further protection is necessary beyond the capability of this mask, pure air masks or oxygen breathing apparatus are also available. The latter has never been required in the smelter.

The member for Yorkview must be reminded that technological changes in the smelting operations involve major changes in process and the necessary equipment. Such has been going on at the smelter where major changes in ventilation have been made and also the replacement of the multi-hearth roasters with fluid-bed roasters of advanced design is under way. It is the firm belief of my staff and members of the environmental health branch that the working conditions in the smelter will be improved, and less sulphur

dioxide will be discharged into the atmosphere in that more sulphur dioxide will be converted to sulphuric acid.

The member for Yorkview has also mentioned the problem that arose concerning carbon monoxide. This gas is required in the iron ore plant to reduce an iron oxide.

Carbon monoxide is a very dangerous gas, in that it does not warn a person of its presence, as sulphur dioxide does. Hence it must be contained within the process. Much work has been done to achieve this, and constant vigilance is being maintained. Ventilation in this section of the plant has been increased and a continuous carbon monoxide monitoring and recording system has been installed at strategic locations. These records are checked by a member of my staff.

In addition, if one of the monitoring devices begins to indicate the presence of carbon monoxide, a trained technician checks the area with a carbon monoxide detector. Furthermore, a portable continuous carbon monoxide monitoring device is available and is used where construction or repair work necessitates its use. This matter is never taken lightly, Mr. Speaker; and, in closing, this House should be reminded that The Mining Act is for the health and safety of the employees. While sulphur dioxide is known to be an irritant, this property seems to provide adequate warning of harmful concentration.

Mr. Young: May I ask the Minister: If the experts found the content at a lower level than the union did, why was this information not shared with the union?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will the member ask the Minister if he will answer a supplementary question?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I would say "No." I have given him the full answer.

Mr. Bryden: He means he cannot answer if it is not written out.

Mr. Young: Could I ask the Minister, Mr. Speaker—will he answer a supplementary question?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Put it on the order paper and I will answer it fully.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Provincial Treasurer, notice of which has been given.

Has the Minister given any consideration to exempting tires for farm tractors and farm

machinery from the sales tax; and, if so, will legislation be introduced to accomplish the above this session?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the hon. member's question is that, arising out of a meeting last week, at which a delegation from the Ontario federation of agriculture presented a brief to the Cabinet, I arranged for an invitation to be extended to representatives of the federation, for a meeting with the comptroller of revenue and the director of the retail sales tax branch—so that the views and recommendations of the federation could be studied. This meeting has been planned for February 15.

Rather than give any opinion as to the specific articles referred to in the question, I might say that the review will consider, not only tires, but a broader range, including other items presently used by farmers in their agricultural operations. The Retail Sales Tax Act, including the provisions for exemptions, is under constant review.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the Minister of Economics and Development.

Has the Ontario housing corporation any plans for changing the Roxborough Park housing project in Hamilton from limited-dividend-full-recovery programme to geared-to-income basis? If so, when?

Does the Ontario housing corporation intend to make available for sale, on a rent-purchase basis, those homes suitable for sale at the Roxborough Park housing project in Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the member's two questions. At an outline of the HOME plan, at the housing conference held last Friday, one of the points in the plan referred to the purchase of individual tenancies of existing Ontario housing corporation and federal-provincial dwellings. When a tenant has improved his economic circumstances to a point where home ownership becomes feasible, he will be permitted to purchase the dwelling which he occupies. The price to the tenant will be at or near current market value.

The facilities of the land-lease arrangement will also be made available to him. In other words, the tenant, if he so desires, may initially pay a ground rental and his mortgage payments will be related only to the actual dwelling. At any time during the term of the land-lease he may elect to purchase the lot outright at the stipulated selling price.

Final details of this arrangement require further discussion with our federal partners, as they have a 75 per cent interest in these projects. You recall the area the member is talking about was partially owned by the municipality, the province and the federal government.

In answer to the second question, this question has been raised before. I would again repeat that we have, on two occasions, had discussions with the municipality relative to converting this project. The municipality so far has not been in accord. I feel they will, however, under this new arrangement.

During my recent discussions with the hon. John R. Nicholson, the Minister responsible for housing in Ottawa, this subject has been covered. It has been agreed that a certain number of the dwellings will be rented on a market-rent basis to those families whose incomes have risen above the present limits, who do not want to get into home ownership, and who cannot find comparable rental accommodation privately. Again, I think you remember this was one of the difficulties—if they had to get out, where did they go?

This arrangement will get underway as quickly as possible, and certainly during the course of this year.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister allow a supplementary question?

What was the last date on which the Minister or his department talked to the municipal councillors regarding the conversion to the geared-to-income programme?

Hon. Mr. Randall: That I cannot tell you without checking, but I would say it was some time last year in 1966. I do not think there has been any discussion this year at all. I would say probably the fall of 1966 was the last time we discussed it. I would be glad to check it for you, though.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health.

Having regard to the report in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* of Friday last—that four women confined to wheel chairs, in the 30-40 year age group, are residents of Lambert Lodge home for the aged—what is the extent in Ontario of the shortage of proper accommodation for such handicapped persons not eligible for continued care in chronic care hospitals?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, we do not have in The Department of Health any information which would

indicate that there is a shortage of accommodation for such handicapped persons as cited in the question. Neither do we have any real definition of what constitutes proper accommodation for such persons. As we all know, many persons who are handicapped to the extent that they must be confined to a wheel chair, manage to live at home or in other comparable residential facilities. I would point out, however, that at the last session of this Legislature the Minister of Public Welfare introduced a Rest Homes Act which provides for capital and maintenance grants to municipalities, to establish facilities which I believe, at least according to my understanding, could be used for this purpose. However, since this comes within the purview of The Department of Public Welfare, that Minister would be much better equipped to answer the question.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Health would ask his colleague if he would take the matter up and perhaps let us have an answer in due course.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, I shall be very happy to talk to my colleague.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very glad to listen to my colleague.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Education. Are the "Bank Street Readers," presently in use at the Duke of York school, Toronto, on The Department of Education's circular 14, approved textbook list, and therefore eligible for direct departmental subsidy?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, the books referred to by the hon. member are not presently on circular 14. It is quite customary, when boards purchase or indicate an interest in books that are not on circular 14, for experimental or research purposes, that they are approved by the department and thus become eligible for grant.

Mr. S. Lewis: Following Mr. Speaker, if the Minister will permit the question—does the Minister not think that this example demonstrates that there might be wisdom in granting the money directly to boards or schools to buy their own texts without setting out a list of specific and often irrelevant texts?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I think to answer this question completely and engage

in some useful discussion it would be more appropriately dealt with in the estimates. There are many pros and cons in respect to this. It is a system followed in many other jurisdictions and I think, Mr. Speaker, one can say we are really quite flexible here. If a board finds a book, or a series of books, that make sense we are quite prepared to look at them and, as I say, they have been approved on many occasions and thus become eligible for grants.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William): Mr. Speaker, I would particularly like to call attention to the fact that you conduct the business of this House with great composure. The things that happened earlier today carry out that further congratulation to you and your Deputy Speaker.

To begin that which I have to say, Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce into the record a short covering letter and some points made by the Canadian Lakehead industrial commission incorporated—a night telegram as a matter of fact—to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), copies of which I think were sent to all members of this House, and the letter reads:

Dear Sir:

The attached copy of a telegram sent to Premier John Robarts on February 6, 1967, expresses the deep concern of commission members of this huge portion of Ontario in its not moving forward at a pace commensurate with its natural endowments. As a result the Lakehead cities of Port Arthur and Fort William are experiencing growth much slower than other areas of Ontario. Your consideration and support of suggested incentives and action to accelerate progress is solicited.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That is an indictment of the Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope) is it not?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Of the whole government.

Mr. Freeman: I would leave that to the members to—

Mr. Sopha: Especially the Minister of Mines—quite an indictment of him.

Mr. Freeman: But, Mr. Speaker, I would feel that this should be part of the record of this House at this time and the telegram reads:

Lakehead industrial commission representing the interests of 100,000 citizens view Centennial year as crucial crossroads of economic life of northwestern Ontario. Your powerful help imperative if we are to make right turn and accelerate toward new plateau of progress. In keeping with spirit of Throne Speech we earnestly request your government take positive approach to potential of our region and by dynamic action on following proposals and issues, assist Lakehead and northwest to move forward at pace commensurate with natural endowments:

(1) Provide or obtain tax or other incentives sufficiently attractive to ensure swift development of seven huge iron ore bodies in northwestern Ontario within relatively short reach of Lakehead deep water port. Such action by Minnesota triggered capital investment of more than \$300 million and sparked great economic resurgence. Top authorities here estimate potential of 17 million tons of iron ore pellets from known and proven ore bodies representing capital investment of three quarters of a billion dollars, 6,000 permanent jobs, population growth of 40,000, and addition of \$200 million annually in new wealth to province. Natural resource development on this scale would bring secondary industry in wake and give northwest a giant push forward. This glittering prospect poses exciting challenge to leadership of your government and is well within its reach.

(2) To ensure energy fuel supplies for natural resources and industrial development in northwest and increasing demand in southern Ontario, we request your government support an all-Ontario route for Trans-Canada's second natural gas pipeline by providing Crown corporation financing on basis previously followed by federal government. Protracted hearings and delays over proposed routes through United States leave indefinite availability of additional supplies of gas and thus imperil economic progress of all Ontario.

(3) We request your government articulate forcefully, absolute opposition to proposed increases in seaway tolls and imposition of blockage fees on Welland canal as detrimental to growth of Canada

and adding unwarranted additional burden on consumers of northwest industry and shipping.

(4) We can only stand by impotently wringing our hands while other provincial jurisdictions more and more move into the industrial development arena with incentives, inducements and financing. Our closest neighbour, Manitoba, pumped many millions into new enterprises and is establishing \$50 billion fund to attract more. It also plans to use hydro water rental revenue to push industrial growth. We urge your government initiate similar programme to expedite industrial development of northwest.

(5) Because of special tax and cash incentives to industry locating in 81 other areas of Canada under designated area programme, northwest has lost number of substantial enterprises, thus further retarding its overall slow growth. We urge your government exert utmost influence on federal authority to enlarge area development programme to include our region and end damaging and discriminatory effect of programme.

Yours respectfully,

Canadian Lakehead industrial commission
incorporated, on behalf of the directors,
STANLEY F. MACK, *President*.

I think this is a very direct and a very real request for action for attention to be placed and concentrated in the northwestern part of this province. In carrying further the argument to that point, Mr. Speaker, I have some prepared words that I would like to head: The North, an Underdeveloped Region.

Lately there has been much talk of balanced regional development for Canada and the importance of ensuring that all Canadians participate in economic growth and enjoy a minimum level of services regardless of where they live. This is considered essential both for national unity and the full utilization of our resources both human and material.

Generally these discussions have centred on the Atlantic provinces and certain areas of Quebec and Manitoba, but the apparent affluence of the golden horseshoe, which surrounds this legislative building, should not blind us to the fact that Ontario is a microcosm of Canada with its own pockets of poverty, underdeveloped areas and regional disparities in services and wealth.

It is just as important for national unity and the development of a strong and independent Canadian economy that we here in

Ontario work towards the elimination of these disparities. We will not cultivate a sense of Canadian identity if many of our citizens feel that they are left out of the national treasure hunt for higher standards of living or a better quality of life for themselves and their children. Nor will we ensure continuous economic growth for Ontario if we neglect the opportunities in the less developed regions.

I want to draw particular attention to one region of Ontario which as I have stated I feel is definitely underdeveloped. Members may not realize that northern Ontario comprises 80 per cent of the land area of this province—about 330,000 square miles—but it has only 12 per cent of the population. This amounts to a little over 800,000 people. The statisticians who have divided the province into ten economic regions regard it as two areas—northeastern Ontario, and the Lakehead and northwestern section. I would agree with them that the north is not a vast single region of snow and great distances but is an area of considerable diversity and in fact contains a number of subregions. However, my remarks today are I think applicable to the whole area.

Northern Ontario is not the poorest economic region in the province. In fact it produces most of our mineral and forest wealth. In 1965, Ontario's mineral production totalled \$986 million, over one-quarter of the total Canadian mineral production. Since 79 per cent of this output was metallic minerals, most of it came from the north. Ontario's forest-based industries in 1963 made shipments valued at \$1,170 million, which was 30 per cent of the Canadian total. Since this figure includes furniture manufacturing, not all of these shipments originated in the north, but the bulk of them did. The north is also an important producer of electricity and has a vast potential for tourism and recreation.

Unfortunately, not all the wealth which is generated in northern Ontario stays there. The November, 1966, issue of the *Ontario Economic Review* contains some estimates of individual incomes in the various economic regions, based on 1963 tax returns. They show that the average annual income for Ontario as a whole was \$4,052, but for northeastern Ontario it was only \$3,928, and for northwestern Ontario even less, at \$3,787. For the Metro region around Toronto it was \$4,352. Since persons with no taxable income do not have to submit tax returns unless they want a refund, these figures are probably higher than the true average income, but at least they give a basis for comparison.

I want, Mr. Speaker, to point out that the *Financial Post* survey of markets has estimated per capita personal disposable income, which is what is left after you pay your income tax and other direct taxes, for various localities for 1965. It shows Fort William, Port Arthur, Kenora, North Bay and Timmins all about \$200 below Toronto and Hamilton. Yet the survey's estimate of retail sales per capita for these same cities shows them to be higher than for Toronto and Hamilton, indicating that it costs more to live in the north and less can be saved or invested or put into housing or services.

The survey's estimate of the ten-year population growth rate, based on the 1961-to-1966 actual growth rate for these same northern cities, and for Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie, shows that all of them are away below the Toronto rate of 38 per cent, and are also below the Canadian average of 19 per cent. In the period from 1961 to 1966, the population of Timmins and North Bay actually declined, while the ten-year growth rate for Kenora is estimated at only three per cent, for Sudbury and Port Arthur at 11 per cent, for Fort William at 12 per cent, and for Sault Ste. Marie at just under the national average of 19 per cent.

The slower growth rate in the north indicates the failure of the government to recognize that northern development depends on positive government action. We cannot unlock the treasure chest of the north's mineral, forest, water and recreational resources without an integrated set of policies which will provide the physical conditions necessary for growth, incentives for investment, imaginative development policies, and research, to bring modern technology to northern industry. The north has a tremendous potential for contributing substantially to the future economic growth of this province but continuation of the present neglect, and lack of planning for northern development, will deprive the citizens of Ontario of that potential.

What are the policies that are needed to turn this underdeveloped region into a centre of economic growth? The first requirement is the provision of an efficient network of modern services, the building of what our military friends call an infrastructure. Northern resources cannot be fully utilized, or secondary industry opened up, without good communications—roads, telephones, air and rail services.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that while we have spacecraft circling the universe at the present time, and have had for many months—years as a matter of fact—growing more and

more ambitious in their efforts to explore outer space, we in northwestern Ontario have had, up until today, lack of adequate telephone facilities, as close to our larger communities as 25 miles.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister of Mines is not listening.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): No, the Minister of Mines does not want to hear that one.

Mr. Freeman: And I go on—without cheap and reliable power sources, electricity, natural gas and oil, without well organized and accessible government services, municipal and provincial offices and field men, without a well-trained and mobile labour force, schools, colleges, retraining centres, etc., and without adequate health services, more doctors and dentists, public health units, ambulances, and anti-pollution measures. Nor can northern Ontario expect to attract and keep a growing population unless the amenities of life which southern citizens enjoy are more fully available—specialized education, sports arenas, cultural centres, libraries, and so on.

The Speech from the Throne contains only a few references to the north. There is a promise of an educational resource centre for northern Ontario but it is not clear whether the centre will offer specialized education for children with problems, or just diagnosis. Anyway it is ridiculous to consider only one such centre for the whole of northern Ontario.

The promise of portable schools and boarding allowances, for children not served by schools or railway cars, seems pretty nebulous, and only deals with a small group. Nothing is offered which will reduce the heavy burden of school taxes on homeowners, nor guarantee full equality of educational opportunity for our northern children. This will require more assistance for children with special problems, more university aid, speeding up the development of community colleges, northern teacher training, refresher courses, and similar measures. Any development plan for the north which does not include plans for increasing educational opportunities is starting from the wrong base, as it is now recognized that our productivity increases with the level of education.

The only other reference to northern Ontario in the Throne Speech mentions landing strips and airports; but here, too, the wording is so vague that the government has really made no commitment to the people. It may hope that a promise of investigations

will win votes at election time but the citizens of northern Ontario are getting wise to this kind of con game. They want to see a definite improvement in their transportation facilities of all kinds.

The most glaring omission from the Throne Speech is any reference to the pipeline, one of the most important parts of the infrastructure needed for northern development.

Mr. MacDonald: The Cabinet is split on that one.

Mr. Freeman: Very much so.

This government's failure to appear at the national energy board hearings on the original application by Trans-Canada Pipe Lines to build a new line to serve eastern Canada, through the United States, indicates that it is not concerned with the vital question of ensuring adequate supplies of natural gas for northern Ontario. It indicates that it goes along with the Liberal government at Ottawa in seeing no threat to Canada's economic independence by permitting a major transportation link between western and eastern Canada to be located in a foreign country.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Is the member aware his leader is for that?

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): My name is on the first petition objecting to the pipeline going through the United States.

Mr. Whicher: The member's leader is for it. It is right in *Hansard*, January 30, 1964 — right in *Hansard*.

Mr. Freeman: A lot of things have happened since 1964.

Mr. Whicher: It says right in here, through the United States—that is a foreign country.

Mr. Sopha: Well, that is very interesting; what date was that?

Mr. Freeman: 1964.

Mr. Whicher: January 30, 1964.

Mr. MacDonald: We have pronounced ourselves many times since—

Mr. Freeman: I would like to get back to the platform for which this party stands.

It indicates that it goes along with the Liberal government at Ottawa—I dislike having to repeat myself here, but due to the interruptions—in seeing no threat to Canada's economic independence by permitting a major

transportation link between western and eastern Canada to be located in a foreign country. It shows a cavalier disregard on the part of the Ontario government for the loss of economic activity and tax revenues from the construction and operation of a major transportation facility in this country.

The government's silence on this issue is a shocking betrayal of our northern interests and of Canada's control of its economic destiny. It indicates that this government and the Liberals at Ottawa have formed an unholy alliance to promote a policy of continentalism which will reduce our economic—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: What an indictment of the Minister of Mines.

Mr. Bryden: And of the Liberal Party at Ottawa.

Mr. Freeman: Now repeating for the members' knowledge and interest, it indicates that this government and the Liberals at Ottawa have formed an unholy alliance to promote a policy of continentalism which will reduce our economic independence and leave Canada as an undeveloped region in the North American economy.

Mr. Speaker, I am not an isolationist; neither do I reject international trade and the value of interconnections in our transportation and power systems. But if we permit our major transportation links to be subject to the regulation of a foreign power, we are selling out our opportunity to work out terms of international cooperation from a position of considerable strength which we have at this time.

Let me review some of the arguments in the pipeline controversy. The advantages put forward for the Great Lakes project, which is the name given to the proposed second line through the United States from Emerson, Manitoba, to Sarnia, Ontario, are as follows:

(1) Construction and transmission costs: Under that heading it was argued that construction and transmission costs would be lower due to the southern route being 64 miles shorter and in less difficult terrain. However, the national energy board has estimated that the saving over the first ten years would be only \$14 million. Even this low figure has been questioned as the calculation was based on a lower rate of return for the southern line than for the northern one.

(2) Lower prices: It was claimed that the cheaper costs would result in lower prices to

consumers and that this would stimulate more economic activity in eastern Canada. As noted above, it is not clear that the costs are substantially less and there is no guarantee that any cost advantage would be passed on to the consumer. The loss of economic activity from construction of the second pipeline in Canada is a calculable loss which must be offset against the possible gains from a price advantage which may be illusory.

(3) Security of supply: It was suggested that security of supply would be greater from a second line through the United States because of the interconnections with United States lines, proximity to storage fields and separation of the two lines in case of disaster or war. It has been suggested that the northern line could be connected with U.S. lines for back-up purposes at Sault Ste. Marie and Fort Frances when lateral extensions are made to these cities—and such extensions will be necessary if these communities are to be served. As for the argument that two separate lines are better for defence purposes, it is highly questionable whether it helps a country's defence system to have one of its major transportation lines in a foreign country beyond its control.

(4) Foreign exchange: It was claimed that there would be a foreign exchange inflow from the southern route because it involved export sales. However, the national energy board examined this claim in detail and concluded that when the costs of transmission through the U.S. and all other flows were considered, the southern route would take \$133 million more out of the country in foreign exchange than it would bring in.

(5) Speed: It was held that the Great Lakes project could be completed faster because of easier construction and the plans being in a more advanced stage. Even if this claim was valid in terms of construction, the delays arising from the actions of the U.S. regulating authorities have offset any advantage here. The Canadian government is now so concerned that the urgently needed increase in supply for eastern Canada will not be available by next winter that it has asked Trans-Canada Pipe Lines to submit an application for construction of an all-Canadian second line to be started in 1967 in the event that the Great Lakes project remains stalled in U.S. red tape.

It is contended that the capital for the southern route could be raised both more cheaply and more easily, since a great deal of it would come from the U.S. market. However, there is nothing to prevent Trans-Canada borrowing in the U.S. market and

the company expressed confidence to the national energy board that the financing of the Canadian line would be "manageable". If necessary, the federal government could follow the precedent set in 1956 and make loans or cash available for construction of the line should it consider the other arguments for the northern line overriding.

I have shown, therefore, that most of the arguments for the southern line are open to question or are illusory. But the case for the northern line becomes overwhelming if we look at the additional advantages for it. And they are as follows:

Economic activity: The national energy board estimated that construction of the second line through northern Ontario would generate economic activity of from \$700 million to \$1 billion in a ten-year period. This would stem from construction work, purchase of materials, and the "multiplier" effect of this activity.

The future development of the north and northwest depends on an adequate supply of natural gas both for industry and homes. The present 30-inch pipeline of Trans-Canada Pipe Lines is already operating at full capacity and there are still northern communities without gas service and industries which are unable to base expansion plans on assurance of a supply of natural gas. These include at least five pulp mills and a number of iron ore pelletizing plants, some of which are now using the more expensive propane gas. The pelletizing plants are in competition with ones being developed in northern Michigan and Minnesota. This, I think, Mr. Speaker, is particularly important to the people in Ontario and indeed to the people of this nation.

The national energy board accepted Trans-Canada's contention that it will expand its northern service as needed after it completes the Great Lakes project, but it did admit that Trans-Canada's present plans to transfer some compressor stations from the north to western Canada would diminish the capacity in the immediate future. The proposed looping plan which Trans-Canada has undertaken in order to obtain federal support for the Great Lakes project will not start until 1970 and may not be completed for 15 years thereafter. I do not feel that the energy board or the federal government has made an adequate investigation of the extent to which industrial development in the north is being impeded by lack of assurance of supply.

Communities without natural gas or without it in proper quantity include Rainy River, Fort Frances, Atikokan, Schreiber, Terrace Bay, Marathon, Heron Bay, Manitouwadge,

White River, Wawa and Sault Ste. Marie. Both industry and homeowners in these communities are deprived of the alternative of natural gas to reduce fuel costs.

The rates and taxes for an all-Canadian line will be fully under our own control. Under the Great Lakes scheme the rates and taxes on the U.S. section will be subject to decisions of U.S. authorities who will act in the best interests of American consumers and not necessarily in the interests of Canada and Ontario.

Tax revenue: The all-Canadian line will bring in additional corporation and personal income tax from the fact that all construction and operation activities are in Canada. In addition, municipalities in northern Ontario will have more pipeline assessment on which to collect taxes.

In my opinion, any government which ignores these considerations is selling out both the people of northern Ontario and the people of Canada—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Freeman: I am shocked at the failure of this government to make any public statement at the time the federal government did its flip-flop on the Great Lakes project last October. I am further disturbed by its continuing silence on the subject in the Throne Speech. Time is running out on the people of Ontario. Additional supplies of natural gas are urgently needed both for the northern and southern sections of the province. It looks like the Great Lakes project will be tied up in hearings in the United States for at least another year—maybe two.

If the federal government had adhered to its rejection of the southern route last August, work on the northern line could have been commenced this spring. It may not be too late to get something going by summer if Ottawa, in the light of the changed situation arising from the hearing complications in the United States, now takes a firm stand in favour of the northern route. It would not be the first time the Liberal government there has changed its mind.

Mr. Whicher: Like your NDP leader.

Mr. Freeman: Speed in getting the new facilities in place was one of the original arguments in favour of the southern project. That advantage appears now to have been lost.

The Ontario government should go to Ottawa and demand that the national energy board call for hearings as soon as possible on

the new proposal for an all-Canadian scheme, which Mr. Pepin, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, has asked the Trans-Canada Pipe Lines company to prepare. The Ontario government should appear at the hearings, representing the people of both the north and the south, to get the best possible plan for meeting our requirements.

A number of voluntary organizations went to the trouble of going to the original hearings, or submitting representations to the government last fall. They included the Canadian Lakehead industrial commission incorporated, from whom I just read a telegram to the Prime Minister, the Fort William-Port Arthur district labour council, the Fort William, Port Arthur, Rainy River, Kenora, and Thunder Bay New Democratic Party associations, the Cochrane federal Liberal association, the Lakehead chamber of commerce, and a considerable number of northern municipalities. They are to be commended for their initiative and hard work in the preparation of submissions to document the needs of northern and northwestern Ontario.

They produced enough evidences of shortages and unserved areas in the north to convince me, and I think to convince anyone, that more gas is urgently required. How much I cannot say, because neither these groups nor myself have the resources or access to statistical material which the Ontario government has, to make a thorough analysis of the need; and this government should have that information.

The government is also in a position to assess some of the economic advantages stemming from construction of the northern route which, it does not appear, were sufficiently considered by the national energy board. These include anticipated tax revenues, both for the provincial and federal governments and the northern municipalities. They also include savings from the reduction of unemployment in some northern communities due to the economic activity which would be generated by the construction work. And some account must be taken of the potential benefits from further industrial development, which have not been properly assessed as yet.

Even if it appears, after all the facts are in, that there is some extra cost in building the northern line, we must weigh against this the costs of jeopardizing our economic independence. As C. D. Howe said, at the time of the original pipeline controversy in 1956: "There is a price on Canadian nationhood". Certainly the Canadian government has shown

itself willing to pay that price, in the large sum it has voted for the Atlantic development board—some \$150 million—and the generous capital grants it is making to attract industry to designated areas. The Lakehead cities have applied to become designated areas, because of their need for more diversified industry, but the economic activity from an all-Canadian pipeline could make this step unnecessary.

I urge this government therefore to go to Ottawa at once on this matter so that we can get construction work under way this year. Simultaneously, it should start gathering statistical material required to estimate our needs more precisely, so that the interest of the people of this province are adequately presented to the national energy board.

I have dealt at some length with the pipeline issue, because I think it very important to put the facts on the record and let members know how this government has failed the people of Ontario by its silence and inaction on this matter. I want to turn to other policies which should be included in any plan for northern development, but I will only sketch them in at this time because of having devoted so much time to the pipeline question. I hope, however, to be able to speak on these questions later during this session.

Last week the Prime Minister spoke at considerable length on the government's plan for regional development what his public relations men call the design for development. As far as I could see, it consists mainly of a series of committees, councils, boards and researchers reporting to one another. I once heard someone describe what happened at a committee meeting as, "A perfect example of Canadian compromise—the committee met and agreed to meet again." I feel that this is what may be happening at the meetings of all the bodies concerned with regional development.

Certainly I have yet to see the emergence of an integrated policy for northern development. We have not even got an up-to-date economic survey of the northwestern region. The sparse references to any policies for the north in the Speech from the Throne do not add up to a recognition that this potentially rich area needs special attention if the province is to reach its economic potential. To make sure that we do not have to wait for action until all these committees and councils report, I am going to offer a few suggestions for policies which could be adopted immediately.

In the first place, we must look after the rest of the infrastructure. The transportation needs of the north and northwest call for an integrated policy of rail, truck and air facilities. It is time this government considered the operation of a "GO" air transport company to serve remote communities. With the federal government having announced that it is bowing out of the roads-to-resources programme, is the province of Ontario prepared to step into the breach and at least double its expenditures in this field?

This was one of the recommendations of the select committee of this Legislature on mining, which reported last May. The withdrawal of the CNR passenger service from Longlac to the Lakehead and Fort Frances, poses serious problems for working out alternative transportation methods in this area. In the northeast, the Ontario Northland Transportation Company might be converted into an Ontario northland development company, with a broader field of activities. Communications must also be improved. We need an overall policy on radio, television and telephone facilities for the north and northwest. There must be an increase in grants to northern municipalities, to lighten the burden on the property taxpayer and to enable them to provide the kind of services which will stimulate development.

The problems of the so called mining municipalities require special attention. In the last fiscal year, the mining revenue payments amounted to a total of \$5.4 million, for 60 local governments falling into this category. This sum was actually less than was paid in each of the preceding four years, in spite of the fact that municipal costs have been rising steadily. The select committee on mining called for immediate consideration of such increase in these grants as will serve to provide for mining municipalities a financial position comparable to that of like-size non-mining municipalities.

What has the government done since then? As usual it has appointed a committee, which was set up four months after the select committee's recommendation came out. The new committee has not yet reported as far as I know, and in the meantime the plight of the mining municipalities grows more desperate every day. I call on the government to provide interim increases in the grants to these municipalities until such time as the much-needed reform in the system of payments is brought in.

There must be more active participation by the government in the development of the basic industries of the north. With world

demand for forest products increasing—and this is important, Mr. Speaker, to we people in Ontario—with world demand for forest products increasing, and little virgin timber left except in Canada and Russia, we have a tremendous opportunity for new markets. This has been brought to the attention of this House on more than one occasion during the past few years. I would hope that it falls on fallow ground this year and that something of a really well planned nature will be done.

But we must have up-to-date policies for forest management and regeneration. In the mining field I would again urge the government to set up a Crown corporation to undertake active exploration in order to find new mines. The select committee on mining rejected this idea, in favour of a rather weak proposal for another study of prospecting and development financing. The situation has become more urgent, in the face of events at Geraldton, where two mines have recently announced that they are closing.

Other parts of the package of policies for the north, which I am proposing, would include the establishment of a research centre in each of the northern regions to work with the regional councils, and further development of our water resources. Attention must be given to the serious pollution problems in some areas of the north, particularly Red Lake, Dryden, the Lakehead, Elliot Lake, Red Rock and Espanola. Policies to tap the great potential for tourism and recreational facilities in the north and northwest must receive very top priority.

I will make more concrete suggestions in these fields at a later date. For the moment I will content myself with drawing to the attention of the House the observations of the economic council of Canada in its most recent report where it states:

Any overall policy for developing the north must necessarily take adequate account of its diversity, and selective programmes must be adapted to the particular needs and prospects of the varied sub-regions.

It is high time this government took that advice to heart and produced a plan for development of this vitally important region.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like briefly to mention just a few things that I think are of real importance to us in Ontario and certainly in northwestern Ontario. I think perhaps we are fortunate that we have a newly appointed hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), and coincidentally it

happened just a few months before his appointment a new Deputy was appointed to that department.

I would say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members of this House, that this, I hope, aggressive young team will come in with some sound planning with regard to our lands and forests programme in this province, sound planning that will lift it out of the doldrums in which it has been for a long period of time. And when I say "lift it out of the doldrums" I mean not only the growth problems but I mean the administration problems of that department. I think this department's work deserves complete and thorough review and if it does not get it, we people in Ontario are going to be the sufferers in the long run. It is long past time for it to be done.

I did mention the fact, and I would like to mention it again to underline it, that while we are interested as a nation and as part of the civilized world in space exploration, at this time in many parts of Ontario, particularly in the part of Ontario which I have the honour to represent, many of the people who have lived there for decades on farms and have been good citizens, producers of goods and many other things, have been without telephone service except at some distant place from their homes. When some problem arose they would have to drive or get to the telephone in some way to get help. This, I think, is a commentary on today's civilization in this province which should not go unchallenged.

An hon. member: The forgotten people.

Mr. Freeman: The forgotten people is right, and they have been the stepchildren of the Ontario government, of all faiths and partisanships over the years. I trust this will not continue.

Another problem that I think should be touched upon and brought to the attention of the members of this House, and I am sorry that more are not present, is one we have talked about in the House and outside of the House, in our home towns and on the highways and byways—the Indian problem. I am sure the Minister of Mines is well aware of the fact that in Port Arthur at the present time there has been established an Indian youth centre. This is under the control completely of the Indian people—the people themselves and particularly the youth group. The federal government has seen fit in its great generosity to provide them with a grant of \$3,000 against a very meagre budget of

\$6,000 to properly carry out the work of this centre.

I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members present here today that if Ontario would match the federal government's \$3,000 grant for that centre and perhaps other properly organized centres — particularly in northwestern Ontario—for the use of Indian youth to bring them into closer alliance with our mutual thinking—and let us help them to a greater extent than we have been able to do before—such a grant would be money well spent. Over the years we have wasted millions upon millions upon millions of dollars in ineffective work in this area. I suggest that this is an area for The Department of Public Welfare, and I believe, too, The Department of Health to consider as well. They have shown their common interest and spirit earlier today, they almost shook hands and kissed each other, and I would hope that this continues and that they get together on this very pressing problem with regard to Indian youth.

We are at a point in Ontario at this time that if we approach this problem of Indian youth with intelligence and with an aggressive forward-looking, well-planned spirit, we can perform a minor miracle in the next decade. I would ask and hope for your support.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in the Throne Debate, I would like, as usual, to compliment the Speaker of this House for the very fine job he has done in keeping the smooth flow of business, and also the Deputy Speaker, who was re-elected this year. His Irish charm and wisdom make the business of this House so much more pleasant. I would also like to congratulate the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon)—he is not here today—on being elected to that high office. We wish him well but not too well. I would also like to say that it is very regrettable about the illness of the former leader of the Opposition. The hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson) is a gentleman in the finest meaning of the word and I am sure we all hope that his career is only briefly interrupted.

And last but not least I would like to congratulate the new hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), who did such a wonderful job in the last by-election up there. I am sure his stay will be long in this House. I was rather amused at the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. MacDonald) when he got up in this House and said that there is no place in Ontario that this government is detested so much and that is why

they probably elected a Conservative member for that riding. I am sure he will be back time and time again.

During the intervals between the last three sessions, I have had the privilege and indeed the pleasure of serving on the select committee on youth. We have visited 18 centres in Ontario as well as many other jurisdictions in Canada and the United States and heard over 600 briefs—a surely momentous task.

And one of the problems we ran into everywhere we went on this continent, one that concerns responsible people everywhere, is the problem of mental health among our young people—our emotionally disturbed children. We heard many briefs on the subject and discussed it at great lengths in the committee and have made recommendations which will be in the report when it is tabled in this House.

This was an all-party committee—as all select committees are—and all members of this committee found themselves resolved to work towards alleviating the suffering caused by emotional disturbance.

I was particularly impressed earlier this session when the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) presented the government white paper detailing a far-reaching and comprehensive programme of services and facilities for children with emotional and mental disorders. Obviously, the Opposition was impressed also. Why, not even the doom and gloom boys who have been so outspoken in their irresponsible and unwarranted criticism of the government's actions in this particular field could find anything unkind to say about the programme. Indeed, they actually applauded the government for its progressive programme.

But some even had the effrontery to try to claim credit for the plan themselves. One does not have to stay a member of this House for long to come to the realization that certain members of the two Opposition parties honestly believe that they—and only they—have a monopoly on ideas and virtue.

The government members of our select committee, who are in a majority on this committee have also been concerned and have been working to assist these unfortunate children.

As I said, I was impressed by the Minister of Health's explanation of not only what the government has done for children with emotional and mental disorders, but also the giant strides it intends to make in this area during the next two or three years. I was disappointed, however, that what I consider

to be one of the most important points in the Minister's statement was largely ignored and overlooked by both members of this House and the news media.

I am referring to the statement that the government is making arrangements to accredit all facilities providing treatment services for children with mental and emotional disorders—and also to accredit all programmes for the training of personnel in this field.

This is absolutely essential and I would hope that the government will not only make this licensing compulsory, but will set stringent regulations to which operators of these treatment centres must conform if they are to be allowed to remain in business.

Mr. Speaker, I am the first to admit that I am not an expert nor an authority on the treatment of children with emotional and mental disorders. Nor, I suspect, are some of the members of the Opposition who have been speaking out so frequently and vociferously on the subject in recent months.

We have all heard through the news media in the past several months, of the tragedy of Warrendale. I have made a real attempt to look into this matter of Warrendale to try to find out the true situation of these unfortunate children. There is an old saying, Mr. Speaker, that "actions speak louder than words". Well, on the basis of their actions—actions which I consider unbelievably irresponsible—I cannot see how members of the former staff of Warrendale treatment centre can be considered fit persons to care for emotionally disturbed children.

The theories behind the so-called Warrendale or Brown methods of treatment may well be widely accepted—and regarded, professionally, as very good. I might say, however, it is my understanding that they are far from unique and were being practised long before Mr. Brown entered social work. But such theories, by themselves, are not enough. They must be put into practice by qualified, mature, trained personnel—persons who are able to cope with explosive and unexpected situations, persons who are emotionally stable themselves.

Some members of our select committee visited Warrendale—myself among them—and I think it is fair to say we were rather shocked at the filthy conditions we saw; and the actions of some of the staff and youngsters were rather unbelievable.

As I said before, I don't pretend to be an expert, but surely some of the things we saw there were not part of a scientific approach to this serious question of emotional disturbance.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): They are producing the results.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): There will be a reply, do not worry.

Mr. Bryden: This is Tory smear—

Mr. Peck: The member has had his turn. It is starting to bite home a little bit, I think.

And it is on such points that members of the former staff of Warrendale stand condemned, by their actions both before and after September 8, 1966. That was the day when, at the request of the board of directors of Warrendale, the Ontario government assumed responsibility for the operation of the centre.

I am well aware, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. John Brown has been nominated as an NDP candidate in the next provincial election, and members of that party have tried to make the affair into a political football. I am also aware that, in some quarters, my remarks today will be interpreted as an act of political revenge and an attempt to criticize a person and a party primarily because they happen to be political opponents.

Mr. Bryden: That is exactly what it is.

Mr. Peck: Let me stress, and stress very strongly, that this is not the case.

I deplore the fact that certain persons went out of their way to make political capital out of this unfortunate situation, and my feelings would be no less had members of my own party acted in a similar fashion. For this reason, Mr. Speaker, I commend the Minister of Health and his dedicated staff for their self-restraint in refusing to be drawn into the political argument, and for concentrating on the well-being of the children involved.

But there comes a time, Mr. Speaker, when the record should be set straight. From my investigations and observations, it is clear that the general public has, in the main, been given only one side of the Warrendale story—that side which is favourable to Mr. Brown, his staff, and the NDP. It is my hope that the Minister of Health will, during the course of the present session, present a detailed review of the circumstances and events which resulted in so much publicity concerning Warrendale last fall.

In the meantime, I intend raising a number of points and questions concerning the actions of Mr. Brown, his staff and others—actions which I believe fully substantiate my asser-

tion that the former staff of Warrendale are not fit persons to be entrusted with the care and treatment of emotionally disturbed children.

I wish to make it perfectly clear, Mr. Speaker, that I am speaking as an individual, and that my remarks have not been sanctioned by the Minister of Health or any other member of the government. In fact, the Ministers and departments involved declined to give me any information other than that already made public. But there are many other private individuals who are aware of certain facts relating to Warrendale, and both they and I feel these facts should be brought to the public's attention.

An attempt has been made by irresponsible persons to mislead the public grossly as to the true reasons for the collapse of Warrendale as a private treatment centre. The impression has been fostered that:

First, the Ontario government, acting behind the scenes, was primarily responsible for the trouble at the centre, and had it not been for these alleged actions, Warrendale would have continued to operate as it had been.

Second, that the Ontario government and senior civil servants engaged in a plot to remove Mr. Brown because he accepted an NDP nomination for the next election. Indeed, as recently as two months ago, the *Globe and Mail* referred to the Ontario government as having "ousted" Mr. Brown from his post as Warrendale's director.

These charges are patently false. I would like to quote from a letter received from Mr. John Pollock who is now in Switzerland, but who was president of the board of directors from early 1966 up to the collapse of the centre. It is rather a lengthy letter but I intend to quote quite liberally from it in the next few minutes. He says, and I quote:

I became a director of Warrendale about May, 1965.

I had heard comments from other directors that Mr. Brown would not confine himself to policy as determined by the board of directors. I had to see for myself if this were true and to make up my own mind as to whether I could function as a director—or whether it would be necessary to resign if Mr. Brown were allowed to usurp the policy formulating process.

Mr. S. Lewis: To whom did he write the letter?

Mr. Peck: To whom it may concern.

I might interject here, Mr. Speaker, that this is clear proof that the board of directors had already experienced considerable difficulty in dealing with Mr. Brown prior to May, 1965. But to quote again from Mr. Pollock's statement:

By about October-November, 1965, I learned—and I believe it was also a surprise to the other directors—that it was a condition, precedent to being employed by Mr. Brown, that all employees had to agree to regular therapy by Mr. Brown at \$15.10 per session.

An attempt was made to discuss the ethics and morality of this practice with Mr. Brown. The discussion quickly deteriorated as Mr. Brown appeared to be in an uncontrolled rage. These rages occurred on several occasions when the board questioned or disagreed with some action by Mr. Brown.

During the rage, nothing placates him and no one is able to insert a word until the storm has spent itself; rational discourse is completely impossible. As I recall, on this occasion, the subject was dropped and the meeting was adjourned.

The subject of staff therapy came up again at a subsequent meeting. Board members attempted to convey to Mr. Brown that they would not interfere with treatment in any way, nor did they question the merit of staff therapy.

The board's position was that staff therapy was in the nature of on-the-job training and should be provided free of charge. Mr. Brown agreed that he would phase himself out of staff therapy, that he anticipated the arrival of a new staff member who would be competent to administer therapy as one of his duties without charge to the staff.

To the best part of my knowledge, no part of this agreement was ever carried out. The board's interest in the matter was then presented to the staff as an unwarranted interference with, and lack of confidence in, treatment.

I believe the question of staff therapy was so misrepresented to the staff as to deliberately discredit the board of directors. In the subsequent difficulties, staff members constantly referred to the board's interference with treatment, and no explanation could penetrate the wall between staff and board. Nothing will convince me that this was not deliberately created in the therapy process.

Mr. Speaker, this issue of staff therapy alone raises several questions. One of these is: Where did the money, paid for the therapy sessions, go? Warrendale was a privately-operated centre financed by donations from the public, fees from parents and children's aid societies, and grants received from the united appeal.

It is a well-known fact, Mr. Speaker, that Warrendale was not over-endowed with funds. Was the money from the therapy sessions—and on the surface it would seem to have been a sizeable amount—turned over to Warrendale to help defray operating expenses? Or was it used by Mr. Brown to help finance his own private company now known as Brown Camps Limited?

I believe it is vital that the question of where the money went, be answered. I understand that auditors have examined the books of Warrendale. Perhaps the answers can be found there. Mr. Pollock's statement supports the public disclosures by his successor, Mr. Robert McNair, that Mr. Brown continued to usurp the authority of the board and committed the board to the purchase of a fleet of cars without approval. In addition, he raised the salaries for himself, his wife and other staff members, without board approval.

Mr. Pollock's statement goes on to say that it was obvious Mr. Brown had no intention of cooperating with the board, and that although normal business procedure would be to dismiss the former director, the board was reluctant to do this. Again I quote from Mr. Pollock's statement:

Also it was obvious that accounting procedures were inadequate. Brown was expecting the board to make major decisions on uninformative financial statements that were two to four months out of date. The decision was made, despite Brown's objections, to seek the assistance of independent management consultants.

Then, early last year, Mr. Brown advised the board that he was going to seek a political nomination. The board objected because Warrendale was obviously not operating smoothly and required the services of a full-time director, not a part-time one. Tied to this, according to Mr. Pollock, was the fact that the board was just becoming aware "that Brown had a further conflict of interest in Brown Camps Limited." As a result, the board asked for Mr. Brown's resignation. Again I quote Mr. Pollock:

The first point I would make here is that as far as I am concerned, the board had

ample reason to ask for Brown's resignation, because he continually usurped the authority of the board. The decision, in the directors' meeting, to ask for his resignation, was made on that basis—and not on the basis of his political candidature.

Mr. Brown very definitely knew the basis on which his resignation was requested and yet he promptly misinformed his staff that he was being fired because he was an NDP candidate. This inflammatory misinformation, coupled with the misinformation that the board of directors was critical of treatment methods — staff therapy — created an atmosphere of distrust and thwarted all attempts to reach agreement with the staff.

The second point I would make here is that when Brown's resignation was requested and he refused, I advised him that my only alternative was to dismiss him. Brown's response was that if dismissed he would have to be removed feet first and the staff with him.

Surely a reckless, irresponsible and unprofessional attitude.

Faced with this irresponsibility, the board agreed to give Brown his own private treatment centre, in return for his co-operation in a smooth transition of authority and uninterrupted service to the children. During these negotiations, Brown gave every appearance of being pleased with the settlement. Criticism did not appear until several weeks later in the developing campaign to discredit the board of directors as inept do-gooders who had no real interest in the children.

After Mr. Brown left on what appeared to be mutually satisfactory terms, the board tried to ensure that the staff would provide uninterrupted service to the children. Mr. Pollock describes the board's attempts to reach agreement with senior staff remaining at Warrendale as, "futile as shovelling smoke."

There is no doubt in my mind that the board left no stone unturned in its attempts to reach agreement through negotiations and mediation with the remaining staff. Nor is there any doubt in my mind that the staff had no intention of cooperating. The staff then precipitated the crisis by submitting their resignations and by promising to walk out en masse on September 9, 1966. To me, such action by the staff can only be considered incredibly irresponsible.

Here were supposedly professional, trained care workers who, for their own selfish reasons, were prepared to walk out and leave

some 57 defenceless, emotionally disturbed children without proper care or supervision. I again maintain that such persons are not fit to be in charge of these unfortunate children. The board of directors had no alternative but to ask the Ontario government to assume responsibility for the operation of the centre. The board was thinking primarily of the well-being of the children. The staff obviously put their own interests ahead of those of the children.

Yet what happened when the departments of Health and Public Welfare—with the assistance of volunteers from children's aid societies and other private agencies—accepted the responsibility for the operation of the centre? Then the former staff's attitude changed abruptly. They had been "booted" out by an evil and revengeful government; "their" children had been taken away from them by force; the volunteer workers were described as cruel, heartless and having no understanding of problems relating to the treatment of emotionally disturbed children.

I will not go into detail as to the sickening and almost indescribable display of hysteria, emotional instability, physical violence, name-calling and other actions by the former staff in the days and weeks which followed. Those who were present at Warrendale at the time tell me it was an experience they could never have imagined happening, that they and the children were subjected to constant harassment, obscene telephone calls and attempts to lure the children away.

Children who were removed to Brown Camps Limited were cruelly exploited by the former staff. The staff allowed these children to be interviewed and photographed by the press and television and, in some cases, obviously coached them into reciting inflammatory and ridiculous statements of alleged cruelty and mistreatment at the hands of the then volunteer child care workers at Warrendale.

In the light of what occurred, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate to note the comment of an impartial child psychiatrist in an article in *Maclean's* magazine detailing the events which took place at Warrendale on September 8. This psychiatrist was quoted as saying:

The departing staff acted in the way you would expect the parents of emotionally disturbed children to act in cases where the parents were responsible for the disturbance.

Mr. Bryden: Who was this person?

Mr. Peck: He is a child psychiatrist.

Mr. Bryden: No name?

Mr. Peck: I will get the name. Careful research—

Mr. Bryden: Careful research does not even get the name.

Mr. S. Lewis: Which people did the member discuss the statement—

Mr. Peck: We will find out for the member.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Peck: I am equally disturbed and distressed that a political party would stoop so low as to exploit this tragic and unfortunate situation for its own political gain.

An article in a publication called *The New Democrat* purportedly giving the “facts” of the Warrendale situation was the most biased and bitter diatribe I have ever read. It is interesting to note that the article’s author, according to my information, was employed at Warrendale without the board of directors’ knowledge early last year—well before the trouble arose.

The author of this article is also identified as the editor of a publication published by Brown Camps Limited. The first issue of this newsletter was so vitriolic that the deputy superintendent of child welfare for B.C. wrote in part, as quoted in *Maclean’s* magazine:

I am shocked in the extreme that you would resort to such a blatant device, using the children’s confusion, anxiety and fear to propagandize for the purpose of aggrandizing your limited company.

Mr. S. Lewis: Who was that author? Who could that possibly be?

Mr. Peck: It is all recorded in *Maclean’s* magazine.

Here it is interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that while Brown Camps Limited was subsequently allowed to open a centre in Vancouver, permission was only granted with the proviso that the government of that province name a consulting psychiatrist as a “watch-dog” to make sure that adequate treatment was provided.

It is also unbelievable that Mrs. Debby Brown should give members of a political party free access to consult confidential files at Warrendale and indeed make photostats of them—files that were meant only for the eyes of the doctors, psychiatrists and others charged with the treatment of these unfortunate children. The information was to be used,

not to help these youngsters, but for political purposes.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish to stress again that licensing of treatment centres should be careful and stringent, and there should be strict supervision of these centres to ensure that such a tragic situation should never occur again. Only through such measures can we be sure that irresponsible persons who place their own self-interest ahead of the children will not be allowed to operate in the province.

Mr. Bryden: I wonder if the member would permit a question before he sits down?

Mr. Peck: Do you want the name of the child psychiatrist?

Mr. Bryden: No, it is another question.

Mr. Peck: The member can ask it.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if the member was aware that the Minister of Health had his own inquiry into this organization conducted with great detail and found so little that he is unwilling to publish anything about it—

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): That is not a question, it is a speech.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Was he aware of that?

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in the debate in the Speech from the Throne, first I would like to say to you that I am very impressed with your abilities in maintaining the excellent conduct of the House and also how important is your attitude of friendliness and fairness to every member of this assembly. Of course, knowing your efficiency before you were elected to this honourable position, it is no surprise to me that you fill the position in such an able manner.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) who has been re-elected as Deputy Speaker of the Legislature again this year, and chairman of the committee of the whole House. I know that he will carry out his duties in a fair and able manner, as he has in the past.

Since the last session some changes have taken place in the Legislature. A new member from the great riding of Kenora (Mr. Bernier) has taken his seat and I would like to extend my congratulations to him and I know that it will not be too long before he will feel at

home here in the Legislature. As I listened to him as the mover in the reply to the Speech from the Throne I was sure that he would contribute to the debates of this assembly.

Another change that has taken place is the resignation of our former leader (Mr. Thompson). This has come about because of his ill health, which we all very much regret. We all hope that his health will be restored and he will be back in his seat in this Legislature in the very near future. Since that time a new leader has been elected by our party, the member for Brant (Mr. Nixon), who was the unanimous choice of all Liberals across the province of Ontario. Young and able, he will go down in the history of the Legislature as holding the office of leader of the official Opposition for such a short time before being elected premier of the province.

Another change is that since the last session, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has reshuffled his Cabinet. I would like to congratulate the members who have been named as Cabinet Ministers. May I say that I hope they will bask in the glory of their offices because I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, their time is going to be very short.

The Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker, which was read by the Lieutenant-Governor, outlined programmes which are certainly needed in the province. I was impressed with the programme of Home Ownership Made Easy for the people of Ontario. This has certainly been a great need for a long time for people of lesser means and as my leader has said, we will support this programme and will be waiting with great interest to see the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) bring this programme into full effect.

Our towns and villages have long been refused approval to build homes in new subdivisions due to the fact that they have been unable to finance sewage systems. And the reason for the high costs of such financing in our rural areas is the high cost of education.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that in every department of the government there are the ablest and finest groups of people to look after the affairs of the people of the province—men and women who know the problems that exist and who can advise the people. Yet the government, over the years, must rely on studies being made and once again, in the Throne Speech, we find more studies mentioned. The government gives the impression that it is trying to find places to hide rather than coming right out and making firm decisions on problems that, in this day

and age, are creating hardships for property owners in the towns and villages of the province. When these property owners received their tax notices last fall, the cost of education staggered the citizens in many areas, yet they have been told that the cost of education will continue to rise. It is true that the future generations must be educated, and we all believe in that, in order to exist in a changing society, but small towns and villages find it most difficult to afford other services that are also necessary in order to grow—such as sewage systems and sufficient water supply.

With the increased taxes for education, the average wage-earner cannot afford to pay any more taxes. And since they cannot get approval to build homes in new subdivisions, and are without sewage and water systems, new industries will not locate in these rural towns and villages. So these communities in rural Ontario stand still, but they try to educate their children through high school. Then the children, for the most part, have to move to the golden horseshoe or the big city, to complete their education and to seek employment. As you can see, Mr. Speaker, circumstances such as these are depopulating rural Ontario. We certainly do not need any studies to see this trend that is taking place, and we do not need to wait for any report on taxation in order to be aware of what would benefit rural Ontario. It is the cost of education on the property owners that is causing so much hardship.

Mr. Speaker, I was greatly disappointed some time ago to learn about a provincial highway study which recommended handing back provincial highways to the counties of the province. These highways have been in the provincial highway system for years, and it is a great shock to learn that the counties will have the added burden of the cost of maintenance of roads. The counties, years ago, rejoiced that the government had taken over these roads under the provincial highway system, believing that they would be permanently relieved of the cost of keeping the roads in repair. It looks as though the provincial government can repudiate definite commitments at any time, putting more costs on the counties and on the already over-burdened property owners.

Mr. Speaker, just last year the gasoline tax was increased, diesel fuel tax increased, and now we find the government ready to saddle the counties with still more taxes. Perhaps this is a trend that the government is taking, or another warning signal that other government commitments may be forced on the little taxpayers of this province.

The townships cannot hand any of their roads back to any corporations, but this happened when the government increased taxes — more cars on the roads, and more trucks, and also a great increase in the tourist industry. I consider it a backward step for the province to hand back to the counties the additional burden of looking after local roads. So, without waiting for any studies, we consider that the time has come for the government to take over 80 per cent of the cost of education in this province, which my leader has stated he would do in a certain time, after the next election. This would give small rural communities the opportunity to progress and to exist.

Mr. Speaker, another problem that is of great concern is the continual increase in automobile insurance rates for private car owners. Rates have reached the saturation point, and owners are unable to believe that these increases are justified, and we learn that these rates will increase again this year. In 1966, automobile insurance increased 5.8 per cent in the province. In 1965 rates were increased on two occasions—one of 16 per cent and the second of 5 per cent. Again in 1964 rates were increased 19 per cent; in 1963 8 per cent and in 1962 2.7 per cent.

The automobile has become a very necessary part of one's life. Many people depend upon it for a livelihood and most people depend on it for transportation, so the extremely high cost of insurance is a real hardship on many people of the province of Ontario.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention the young man under 25 years of age whom the insurance companies class as in the age group of those most likely to have car accidents. We consider that higher rates for this age group than any other are unfair and unreasonable—because the majority of them have never had an accident. We feel that when such young people drive for a year without an accident then their insurance premiums should be reduced the next year—or that they are given some other incentive to keep on driving with care.

I have been informed that the province of Alberta had set up a committee of the Legislature in that province that made a study of automobile insurance after insurance companies had stated they were losing money on automobile insurance. Investigation showed that the system of bookkeeping of the companies was very complicated and the committee was not satisfied with its findings.

Mr. Speaker, we had in this province a select committee on car insurance in 1960

and we have learned also that another study was carried out by the government. However we have never heard that any of the recommendations of such investigations have ever been implemented by the government.

Continual complaints come from our constituents about the cost of automobile insurance and I daresay, Mr. Speaker, that every member in this House hears these complaints. I would not be in favour of the government taking over automobile insurance of the province because it would put over 5,000 insurance agents out of business, but I suggest that a board should be set up consisting of representatives from the car owners and from insurance agents and companies, and The Department of Insurance to investigate present automobile insurance rates. Thus, before insurance companies can increase rates again this board would have to give its approval.

Another matter that aggravated many citizens of this province is the procedures used in collecting the five per cent sales tax. People know that the government has to have money and they know that there is no other source for money than from the people. The people also know that the federal government imposes a 12 per cent tax on certain articles, and people know that if they buy an article for \$1,000 they must pay the 12 per cent federal tax, which amounts to \$120, and also the five per cent provincial sales tax which amounts to \$50 on a \$1,000 purchase. These two taxes together should be \$170. But the buyer is surprised to find that the total sales tax amounts to \$176, which is \$6 more than he expected to pay and he studies the bill trying to figure it out.

He believes there is a mistake. He believes he has been overcharged. But instead, he discovers for the first time that the 12 per cent federal tax is added to the \$1,000 purchase making it \$1,120, and then it is on this amount that he has to pay the five per cent provincial sales tax making it \$56. So there has been no mistake made and he has learned something that he did not know before—that he pays a tax on tax, a compound tax in other words. This is very upsetting to the people of Ontario. This is a poor method indeed, Mr. Speaker, and appears to me to be a behind-the-curtain approach—an underhanded way of prying money out of people without them knowing it.

I am not a lawyer but it is hard to believe it is legal. This is not done in the United States. Even the Republicans in the United States do not do it. I hear they do not even do it in Viet Nam, where there is a war

going on. I feel that the people of the province should know exactly what per cent of sales tax they have to pay without the use of gimmicks in order to squeeze more money out of the innocent buyer. This seems to me to be an entirely wrong method of taxation and I would hope that the government would correct this and not let it continue to be the practice. I would like to ask the government to produce figures as to how much revenue is generated by this compounded tax—it seems to me that “provincial bilking fund” would be the appropriate title.

It would not be right if I did not say something about agriculture in this Throne Debate. There was great unrest in this industry at the beginning of 1966. For the first time in the history of this province there were tractor demonstrations on our highways opposing the low prices which the farmers receive for their products which is not enough for some farmers to live on. However, by the end of the year, in many areas where weather conditions were favourable the yield from farm crops was up. But of course on the other hand, in other areas crops were disappointing in places where the weather was poor over a long period. Prices did rise for some farm products, and this helped the farmers considerably. The federal and provincial governments also increased the subsidy on milk, which has been of great assistance to the dairy industry. But with these improvements I still feel that the producers of agricultural products in this province should receive more of the consumer's dollar.

I would like to refer to one product, which is wheat grown in southern Ontario and used to make fine pastry, cookies and cakes. Ninety-two per cent of the consumer's dollar for this product goes to the processor and the distributor while the farmer gets only eight per cent.

The agricultural industry is a very important one in the economy of any country. Food is most essential and we have always had an abundance of it in this country and we are therefore very fortunate. Many people earn their livelihood through agriculture, including those people who are engaged in producing farm machinery, fertilizer, chemicals of all kinds, and those engaged in the processing, packaging and marketing of food. It is estimated that 40 per cent of the people in the United States earn a livelihood one way or another in connection with the agriculture industry. So, based on that percentage in the United States, there must be about 30 per

cent of the population of Ontario who earn their living in the same way.

I would say in the past there has been a cheap food policy for the farmer, but what he receives at his farm for his produce does not give him a fair share of the consumer's dollar.

This year I had young farmers approach me and say that they had good yields from their crops, yet when they paid up all debts they had no money left for themselves or their wives and many of them have stated that they were going to try for jobs in car plants where they could get \$2.50 per hour, work eight hours a day and have a much better life. We read in the press that there will be a shortage of food all over the world in a very few years, but if the farmer could receive a reasonable profit he would be more than willing to keep on with the business of producing food so that there would never need to be any shortage of food in this country.

The hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) called a conference at Vineland last October and it was well attended, many farm and agricultural organizations of the province being present along with many farmers. I would like to commend the Minister for this conference and at the meeting we heard excellent speakers from Canada, the United States and England. Many problems facing the agricultural industry were brought to the attention of the conference. A committee was set up to study various ways of achieving income incentives and other techniques to benefit farmers. What concerns me is, will this study take one year, two years or just how long will this study take?

This convention voted in favour of legislation to prohibit the use of gimmicks in the sale of food in the province which have the effect of raising food prices to consumers. I was very disappointed when there was no mention made whatsoever in the Throne Speech of any such legislation to stop the use of gimmicks to promote the sale of food. It seems to me that this government is simply going to ignore the recommendations brought forth at this conference.

In dealing with agriculture in the province, it will be necessary to look at profit and loss as well as other aspects of the agriculture industry in Ontario. In the beef industry there is relative prosperity at the present time, there being a reasonable cost-expense relationship, although there is some question about the cost of beef to the consumer. I believe there is a cost-price squeeze going on at present regarding the hog industry. There

is a hog marketing board and the men on this board do their best to bring their problems to the government and the government should take the lead in assisting the board to provide for better profits in the production of hogs at the present time.

Regarding the white bean industry in southern Ontario, and being aware of the happenings and experiences of last year and taking into consideration the present conditions in the industry, I feel sure that if the government would work as hard this year for this industry as it did last year, there would be fewer problems of marketing the surplus bean crop at satisfactory prices to the producers.

Speaking again about the wheat industry in Ontario, this crop is now under a marketing board organized and supervised by the government. Here again we have a crop that is not as profitable as it should be to the producer. It is a crop that brings the lowest income, yet as far as the prices consumers have to pay it is the highest. It looks as though the government sits idly by and allows these conditions to exist. I would like to ask when we can expect the situation to improve as far as the government is concerned.

I may say that the tobacco industry is in a very healthy state of affairs and very good prices were received in 1966, which I am most pleased to announce. It looks as if next year there will be an increased acreage and these tobacco farmers are concerned that they will not have sufficient labour to take care of increased production in 1967.

I am going to refer to only one other crop and that is the fruit and vegetable crop in the province. This crop is largely under marketing boards and supervised by the government. In some parts of the province we have such bad conditions that the growers are pulling up their fruit trees and the consumer is paying the highest prices in history. Surely the government is aware of this and the people would like to know when steps can be taken to improve the whole situation.

One of the biggest problems facing agriculture today is the scarcity of a labour force and farmers for the most part have had to hire inexperienced labour. The point has been reached where it is almost impossible to hire year-round experienced farm labour. Another thing is that agriculture has become so highly mechanized that with inexperienced labour this has caused considerable loss to the farmer. Those in the labour force would rather get employment in industry or construction than go into agriculture. I would

suggest the grading of farm labour. In industry there are welders, carpenters, bricklayers, and so on, and in agriculture many branches require much more training and expert labour. If employment cannot be found in industry, workers go into agriculture and this is not in the best interests of the producer or the consumer. So I think the government should take immediate and positive action in this regard.

There are other problems that concern agriculture that I have not mentioned today. I do not wish whatsoever to condemn marketing boards but I do think there is a great deal of room for improvement. I suggest that this government should be leading in this respect. May I suggest that the lack of leadership has allowed agriculture to drift into a sad condition and the government apparently has no suggestions to rectify the situation at the present time.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said, this is only part of the agricultural picture and I am sorry that I cannot paint a better one. The farm income in the net is far too low and it is the fault of the government. Much of agriculture is under the supervision of boards but apparently there are no plans to help increase the net income of the farmers of Ontario.

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth) moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George) moves second reading of Bill 8, An Act to amend The Municipal Act.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, in standing to make the motion to have the second reading of this bill passed in this House, I may say to you that there may be some in this House who will wonder why I, of all people in the House, would be here dealing with a topic of which I have so little knowledge.

There are many members in this House, and quite frankly I envy them, who have a great deal of experience in respect to municipal matters. Of course many of them came through the mill of running for municipal office, and later coming into this chamber. I am afraid, and I have always envied it, that I have not had that experience. Therefore, over the years in this chamber, I have not raised my voice too often in regard to matters pertaining to general municipal law in this province.

However, a couple of years ago, in regard to another matter completely, namely the prosecution in the courts of one Mr. Justice Landreville, I became quite perturbed and thought that perhaps something was happening in regard to the general laws of this province of which I was not aware. Therefore I caused some investigation on my own behalf—into this general question of the conflict of interest between the position and the duties and the responsibility of an elected member of a municipal corporation, and an appointed officer of a municipal corporation, with his own personal interest.

Quite frankly, I was more than disturbed when I finally understood that Mr. Justice Landreville, for instance, was being prosecuted in a criminal court under The Criminal Code of Canada, for what was then alleged his wrongdoing, rather than under the general municipal law of this province. It seemed to me, in reading the provisions of the criminal code in respect of what that gentleman was charged with, that obviously the onus on the Crown to prove the case is likely to be an extremely hard one to prove in the courts. As it turned out, of course, the onus was so great in that particular case that the matter eventually was not proceeded with; it did not go beyond the very preliminary stages of a prosecution under the criminal code.

I could not figure out, in the naive and ignorant state of my mind at that time, why that gentleman was prosecuted under the criminal code. Then I began to take a look at the provisions of The Municipal Act which pertain to this conflict-of-interest question, and it soon became quite clear to me why in that case and, as I have since discovered, other cases, there is very little that is done in the way of prosecution under The Municipal Act—in comparison to some of these other measures that may be available to catch some people when they commit a wrongdoing, and when there is a conflict between their own interest and those of the people they are supposed to represent.

Obviously, in the case of Mr. Justice Landreville for instance, the Crown quite rightly decided that they would not proceed under The Municipal Act, because the only penalty under The Municipal Act is a disqualification of office. Here was a particular gentleman, who had left municipal office some years before—as a matter of fact, a number of years before—and was in another very high position of trust in this country. Therefore, to proceed against him under The Municipal Act would have been ridiculous in the extreme, because the only penalty in the Act at the

moment for such an alleged offence, is to disqualify the gentleman from office.

This, I firmly believe, is one reason why some of these provisions in The Municipal Act relating to the conflict of interest are ignored far more than they should be. Solely and simply, the only penalty is disqualification of public office; and in some cases, the particulars and the circumstances of the alleged offence, if any, only come to light when this is hardly a penalty or hardly a remedy any longer in regard to some of these offences.

A further aspect in this whole matter struck me, and that is especially concerning the small municipalities. I think the provisions of The Municipal Act, as they now stand, must do a great deal to dissuade people from running for public office, because if a member has any interest whatsoever in a contract—by member I mean a member of council, Mr. Speaker—if a member of council has any interest at all in a contract with that particular municipal corporation, there is very little that he can do about it as far as his own elected office is concerned. According to the spirit of the Act, he must resign from the municipal council or make very sure that he has no interest in any such contract.

It would appear to me, over the length and breadth of this province—I do not think the matter is quite as urgent in the large municipalities as it must be in some of the smaller municipalities—but it would seem to me that this particular provision in The Municipal Act at the moment would do a great deal to dissuade people from running for public office. I am sure that this is an unintentional result of the legislation as it now exists.

I have had presented to me the stated legislative policy of the general municipal law of the state of New York—and this is a particular statement, Mr. Speaker, with which I am sure we can all agree, and I would like you to hear it. I am quoting:

If government is to attract and hold competent administrators, public service must not require a complete divesting of all proprietary and contractual interests. Real conflict must be rooted out without condemning the inconsequential.

I feel, sir, that there must be some provision in our municipal law to permit people to come to the municipal council, at a time when they are a member of the municipal council, and properly and succinctly, and in detail, spell out exactly what the conflict of interest may be or potentially could be. I feel that as long as they then refrain from voting, and refrain

from discussing the matter, and refrain from attempting to influence any other member of that municipal council, and as long as the cards are on the table and everybody knows where that particular councillor stands, then there should be no reason whatsoever why that particular member cannot complete his stay in the municipal council—and, indeed, play a full part from there on in all matters of the council, except of course matters pertaining to that particular conflict.

But there are those two aspects that this bill of mine—and I am the first to admit that it is a very incomplete bill, and the provisions in it have not been drafted well—but those are two aspects of this particular bill which I feel have been dealt with at least in some sort of fashion.

The third aspect I want to emphasize is the question of the penalty or the remedy. I feel that there should be two ways of attacking this problem, where there is a conflict of interest and where the particular municipal councillor does not pay any attention to that conflict or to the statutes in this regard.

I think, first of all, he should be open to easy disqualification from office. Now that is a very glib phrase that rolls off the tongue in this province very easily, because it is peculiar to this province. It is a peculiarity of the municipal law of this province, as I understand it, that a disqualification of office is available under some of these circumstances. However, I think it is a remedy that should stay in the law and therefore this particular bill has that aspect included in it.

Second, and this is a new aspect, as far as I know in this general field, if there is anyone who makes a profit from the particular contract with which he is involved, then first of all he should be accountable for it to the municipality—and that profit should be returnable to the municipality.

This is something, so far as I know, quite new. It may not be a proper recourse, I do not know, but certainly it would remove any pecuniary gain that exists there at the moment as far as balancing these interests between good government and a person's own interests is concerned. I would feel that this particular bill is put forward for the purpose of having debate, and having opinions expressed by the members; and also, hopefully, perhaps even at some time by the government.

Finally, I think that there should be a criminal implication involved in these matters. That, of course, is covered in the final sections of this particular bill, dealing with The

Summary Procedures Act—whereby a person, at any time, whether he is a member of a municipal council or whether he is a municipal officer, can be prosecuted in the criminal courts by the Crown in the normal way; and if so there is a nominal fine involved.

The fine is nominal in these cases because I am still firmly convinced that the ultimate remedy is disgrace, and the ultimate remedy is disqualification of office. Nevertheless I think there should be provision in case there is no elector or voter in the area who wants to lay the information, or obtain the fiat in the other sections of the Act and proceed in his own way. In case there are circumstances where that is not possible, or no one will come forward to do it, I think the other remedy in The Summary Procedures Act is available so that the Crown itself can proceed.

Those, really, Mr. Speaker, are the only comments I have to make on it. The purpose of this bill, of course, is not at the moment presented to the House in any hope or wish that the House today will adopt it with the approval of the government. The purpose of the bill, of course, is to focus attention on an area of the law at the moment which, at best, can merely be described as a murky mess; and the purpose of the bill is to focus attention on this matter in the hope that we can have some enlightened discussion on the matter so that hopefully the government will see that it is an area in which it itself should move. Perhaps we can then proceed at that time with a more detailed bill and government policy and move correctly along the road that I feel is an area that cries out for legislative reform at the moment.

There is one other matter I do want to discuss. That is, for the first time to my knowledge anyway in this country, much less in this province, we are setting out affirmatively the general duty and the general standard applicable to municipal councillors in this field. I have had it described, in some of the correspondence I have received since this particular bill received some press publicity, as a pious hope. For your elucidation, Mr. Speaker, may I read the first part of the second section of this bill:

Every member of the council of a municipality, and every officer of a municipal corporation, shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties of his office honestly, carefully, diligently, in good faith and in the best interest of the municipality.

Now I have had that criticized in correspondence and perhaps I will hear some

criticism today "as a mere pious hope." A further criticism of it was what court in this land would attempt to make those vague standards stand up in the event of either a prosecution or in the event of a fiat being issued so that someone could be charged under this section.

I feel that there has to be a start somewhere and this is as good a start as anything else that exists on the statutes at the moment in this province or any of the other provinces. I feel that at the moment that particular wording is taken from some of the general precedents that exist in the law today in regard to judicial pronouncements that have been made over the years.

It may be a start, it may be a pious hope, but if there are further refinements needed I am sure the courts of this land are perfectly capable of later exercising and expanding upon those particular standards.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Nothing wrong with a bit of piety.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Absolutely not. The member for Sudbury has interjected that there is nothing wrong with piety and I agree with him especially in this particular field.

In the hope that we can have a discussion and a worthwhile discussion on this bill, and with the intent that it is here to focus public attention and particularly the attention of the government to this matter, I feel that I have said enough about the bill itself, even though it does have wide loopholes and even though there are many refinements which on a more comprehensive study I myself would like to make. I feel, sir, that it does have a bona fide objective—the safeguarding of the interests of the public and of municipal corporations—which must be balanced, and this bill, I feel, is a worthwhile balance.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, it is amazing what an apparent election year will bring forth from some of the backbenchers. I agree with the hon. member for St. George that the law in this field is a murky mess but I ask the member for St. George where he has been in the almost 10 years that he has been in the Legislature and where was his voice when this matter was raised perennially from this side of the House in an effort to correct this murky mess? Where was he in 1960 and 1961 and 1962?

And if he wants references to the various debates, these matters were raised, raised forcefully, and raised intelligently, with a code of law and a series of amendments that

we put forward, and his colleagues hooted them down, led by that eminent gentleman who came from Victoria, Mr. Frost, who said the government did not want to put the man in jail who had an interest in selling a shovel to the municipality. I remember the member for St. George was in the House that day and he applauded Mr. Frost when he was making these statements. I remember that well just as though it were yesterday.

It amazes me that suddenly in his new-found zeal for righting wrongs, he has come to discover these heinous provisions in our municipal law. In one set of debates here, I actually referred to him. He had spoken a few minutes before this topic came up, and I urged him to get up and to join in, knowing his thinking is so clear and so definitive in matters of this sort, but he would not rise from his seat and took no part in the debate at all. I think it would be fair to say that he has sat here for the better part of 10 years listening to these debates, and intelligent a man as he is, up to this moment he discarded any thought of reform in this particular field of law completely from his mind. I do not know what brought him to this sudden discovery, but hopefully a little light is dawning and hopefully a little light will dawn on his colleagues on the government side of the House.

Mr. Sopha: That is doubtful; they are beyond reform.

Mr. Singer: Now he has suggested that the anomalies in the law must be unintentional. Well, I would hardly expect the member for St. George, after the performance he put on on the deposit insurance bill the other night, to be anything other than the apologist for the government, but anyone who can sit in this House for the length of time that he has and suggest that the government's errors in this important field are unintentional just has not been paying attention or could not care less. I know the member for St. George pays attention, so obviously up to this time he just could not care less.

I share with him, as I say, the opinion that the law is a murky mess in this field. In his attempt to nibble at it—and he admits the imperfections of this bill, and I agree with him about that; it is an imperfect bill and it is an incomplete one—he is only putting forward the problem, and I agree with that too because one cannot contemplate this problem by leaving section 35 and section 36 of The Municipal Act as they are and by leaving section 198 and section 198-A of The Municipal Act as they are; one has to put it to-

gether as a package to make some intelligence out of it.

The member for St. George might recall the first interim report that came forth from the select committee on municipal law. I am sorry that he does not but I would have hoped that he would have read it very carefully. It is dated March, 1963, and it had a number of very substantial and valuable recommendations. The member may recall as well that I refused to sign that report and I made quite an issue over the fact that I refused to sign it because the committee at that time refused to come to grips with this very situation.

The hon. member may recall that the year after that I introduced a series of amendments, I think five in number, that would hopefully have remedied the situation to a substantial extent. The hon. member for St. George joined with his colleagues to vote every one of those amendments down. It is a pity, Mr. Speaker, that the light has been so long in dawning and one cannot help but feel it relates somewhat to the circumstances under which this session of the Legislature is convened.

However, be that as it may, I do agree with the principle he makes. The law in this respect is wholly, totally and completely inadequate and I would hope that the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), and the Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts), of the province, would begin at long last to pay some attention to these very serious omissions. It must now be obvious, as it is obvious at least to the member for St. George, that the present provisions we have concerning conflict of interest have little respect. At some points they are stringent to the point of absurdity and at other points they make no sense because they are so easy and lackadaisical.

A very important thing, Mr. Speaker, is that there are other interests in which conflicts are much more important than the ones he deals with. One of the big things that is happening in municipalities today is a change in land use by-laws, and I am sure the hon. member for St. George knows full well that many, many dollars are made if one can anticipate what a change in a land use by-law will be, or having anticipated, could participate in the results. This has been pointed out on many occasions in this House but there is nothing either in the statutes today, or in anything that the hon. member brings forward, that would take care of this.

There has been the suggestion put forward, and I think it has great merit, that at least

some Minister of the Crown should have a responsibility for taking action where a flagrant abuse has become apparent. I would think that the Attorney General, the chief law officer of the province, should have this responsibility as part of his job. But no sir, he will not move. He will not move until he gets into a situation as flagrant as the one that the hon. member referred to, and then he moves into a field of law which is, I quite agree, completely inadequate.

The criminal code is not designed to deal with this. But there is no Minister of the Crown, neither the Attorney General nor the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who is charged with the responsibility of making sure that the provisions of the law, as bad as they are, are enforced, or that any Crown official takes action. It is left, by and large, up to an individual ratepayer who must be very brave and very wealthy and very determined to follow one of these things through and to produce any effect, and in most cases we have seen, this is the only time in which such an action is taken.

I have brought many of them before the House, urged the responsible Ministers to take action, but they will not move. There was one recently in the Metropolitan Toronto area that found its way through all the courts up to the Supreme Court of Canada, and a very determined ratepayer took the initiative. Without that very determined ratepayer the government of the day would have sat until kingdom come and nothing would have happened.

This just should not be. The laws are there to be enforced. If we believe that there is a conflict of interest—that a member of a council voting in conflict of interest is doing wrong—then surely the law enforcement of government should have something to say about it, and to do about it, but they have not.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on at some very substantial length in detail outlining the faults of the present system. The statutes in New South Wales, in Great Britain, in some of the American jurisdictions, have come to grips with these problems and I can well remember Mr. Frost poking fun at the statute in New South Wales and saying this going to drive everybody out of municipal life. What sense does it make when Mr. Frost, the leader of the government at that time—and all his colleagues many of whom are sitting there today—went along with this thinking and have done absolutely nothing about it in the intervening years. What sense does it make?

Even when the select committee went further than the present law, the Minister of Municipal Affairs has chosen as yet not to do anything about it. In the sophistication of the modern business world many acts are done through limited companies, but there is no provision in the law today—nor does the hon. member attempt to wrestle with this—about companies benefiting as distinct from an individual benefiting.

There was an addition to the statute in 1962 which said if there was substantial control then it was a conflict of interest. But what is substantial control? Despite urgings from this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, no one bothered to spell out what a substantial control is, so presumably it still means 51 per cent. Our law is so ridiculous that, theoretically at least, a councillor who owns one share of Bell Telephone and refrains from disclosing his interest, is unseated if the municipality has a contract with Bell Telephone. But a councillor who could have a 20 per cent or 30 per cent or a 40 per cent interest in a limited company, or whose wife could have a controlling interest in that limited company, can gaily vote in favour of a land use change that will benefit that limited company and make them hundreds of thousands of dollars, and the law does not deal with that in any way.

My friend talks about pious hopes, yes he does express pious hopes in his bill. There is nothing wrong, as my colleague from Sudbury says, in expressing pious hopes, but I would think that the standards he sets up in the first clause of his bill are standards that any court would accept automatically. What greater importance the words mean by putting them into a statute quite escapes me. But I wonder why, having gone this far, he did not bother to go through the debates and he would have found abundant evidence of what is really wrong with this law.

Why he did not bother to examine these reports of the select committee on municipal affairs; why he did not bother to examine the debates that have been put on the record year after year, so that we would get some real and proper understanding. I wonder, too, Mr. Speaker, how loud his voice has been in the caucus of his party—or whether this has ever been raised by him as the Conservative Party meets in caucus as one of the objectives that his government should reach for.

He talks about a new concept, in that there should be a recovery from the person who has benefited. Well, my friend is a good enough lawyer to recognize the laws relating to fiduciary relationships as part of the common law; and there is no doubt that a common

law action would lie in this sort of an instance; and that the court would interpret the misuse of a fiduciary relationship in such a way that the profits, if they could be traced, would be recoverable in favour of the municipality, or whoever had suffered as a result of these profits having been made.

My friend has attempted—and I admire his courage because I know, in a committee that we both sit on, we are attempting to spell some of these things out in a more exact way—but my friend, in a very cursory way, has attempted to codify the common law in this regard and say he suddenly has made a great discovery.

Mr. Speaker, having thrown enough criticism at the hon. member for St. George, let me say that the principle he espouses is a good one, albeit the vehicle that he brings forward is pretty well broken down. I wish he would look to his own colleagues and to his own government to convince them of the importance of the idea he brings forward. There is abundant material before the government this time which would indicate how this job can be done properly. All that is needed is the desire of government to do it. If that desire is forthcoming, let me assure you, Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House will eagerly and anxiously support this type of legislation.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, as usual, after the member for Downsview has spoken, I am quite confused. On the one hand he has informed us that there are serious deficiencies in the law and on the other hand he simply told us a few minutes ago that at common law there was quite an adequate remedy for any such breach of duty that might occur or take place, as a result of the actions of a member of a council.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to speak briefly about the principle of the bill. I do not think anyone can object to the principle, or certainly the idea which is behind the principle of this bill, but I am concerned as to whether or not, in attempting to translate into statutory form the obligations of persons who hold public office, we may in fact, if we do not do it carefully, eliminate part of the common law and part of the rules of equity which have been generally taken to apply to persons who hold public office.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the fault lies in two areas. One is the inability of these matters to be brought readily before the courts of the province. I think the second, it is equally fair to say, is the lack of confidence which has gradually developed over the

interest of our courts in enforcing the rules or the standards of equity, which are well known and are such an important part of the English law and of the law in the province of Ontario.

I took a few minutes to try to find out where the prohibitions against voting first appeared in The Municipal Act of the province of Ontario, and I find that in 1913 the actual prohibition against voting appeared for the first time in the Act relating to municipal institutions. Up to that time the focus of the attention of the provision, as a good part of the focus of the attention of the provision is at the present time, was on the question of the eligibility to hold office, the eligibility to be elected, the eligibility to continue to be a member.

The actual question of the obligations of a person as to his voting rights, or any curtailment of his voting rights, was introduced, as I state, in 1913. I think this has confused the statutory provision of the law by introducing the term "vote" in the section of the Act. At that time, it appeared to indicate that the statute now provided an all-inclusive procedure and remedy for any misuse of public office which might take place. I think by this introduction at that particular time it appeared to preclude the general principle as to the obligations of persons holding a fiduciary position.

Whether or not that is so, I cannot tell, but it did seem to me that where you prohibited a person from voting simply by inserting the words without giving any added guidance as to what would happen if the person did vote, or what the result would be of his failure to vote in a given instance, or whether he was under any obligation to declare his interest, it left a very real gap in the statutory provision.

I think it is trite law, but it is also very clear law, that the position held by a person may itself involve confidence so as to impress him with a fiduciary character. Mr. Speaker, I think we would all agree that a person who holds elected office in a municipal council, as indeed in this Legislature and in other public bodies, is a person who holds an office which involves confidence; so he is impressed with a fiduciary character.

It is also trite law to state that it is the settled rule of equity that no one having duties of a fiduciary nature to discharge shall be allowed to enter into engagements in which he has, or can have, a personal interest conflicting, or which may possibly conflict with the interests of those whom he is bound

to protect. It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that that in fact is the law as it applies to persons who hold public office at the present time in the province of Ontario, without the necessity of any codification of that law.

Mr. Singer: That is what the member said he could not understand.

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Speaker, the member for Downsview indicated that the statutory code should be substantially amended and that the common law itself was adequate—and it was this inconsistency which I had difficulty in understanding.

Mr. Singer: The member was not listening then.

Mr. Renwick: I am sure that may well be the case, Mr. Speaker. But if we assume that those are the basic principles which must govern a person who holds public office, we are immediately placed in the position as to whether or not, by setting out a series of rules, we limit their applications to specific circumstances, and whether the specific rules might not in fact curtail the operation of the general principle of equity which applies to the holding of public office.

I have, for example, the situation which occurred in England in the case of the Marconi scandal—which appears in the report of Mr. Justice Rand on the question of Mr. Justice Landreville's right to continue in office on the bench. I think the House, Mr. Speaker, will realize that it is necessary to retain a very flexible position as to what the obligation at law is on a person in public office, to make certain that in stating the rules in statutory form we do not restrict the ambit of their operations.

In the House of Commons in England, at the time of the Marconi scandal, the then David Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the then Attorney General, along with the chief government Whip, were involved in allegations that they had misused their positions of trust. The matter finally came before the House of Commons and, while the matter was dismissed so far as they were concerned, in the debate the Prime Minister of England at that time, Mr. Asquith, made the following comments in the House—and I think this will give some indication of the difficulty of attempting to compress into a few words the problem which is involved in the obligation of people who hold public office and possible misuse of their office for private purposes.

I think it should be recorded, as it probably has on other occasions been recorded in this House, that for the purposes of this debate I think it is peculiarly significant to the problem which the member for St. George has introduced in bringing this bill before us. Mr. Asquith said:

The first, of course, and the most obvious is that Ministers ought not to enter into any transaction whereby their private pecuniary interests might, even conceivably, come into conflict with their public duty. There is no dispute about that.

Again, no Minister is justified under any circumstances in using official information, information that has come to him as a Minister, for his own private profit or for that of his friends. Further, no Minister ought to allow or put himself in a position to be tempted to use his official influence in support of any scheme or in furtherance of any contract in regard to which he has an undisclosed private interest. That again is beyond dispute.

Again, no Minister ought to accept from persons who are in negotiation with, or seeking to enter into contractual or proprietary relations with the state, any kind of favour. That, I think, is also beyond dispute. I will add a further proposition, which I am not sure has been completely formulated, though it has no doubt been adumbrated in the course of these debates, and that is that Ministers should scrupulously avoid speculative investments in securities as to which, from their position and their special means of early or confidential information, they have or may have an advantage over other people in anticipating market changes.

He goes on to then indicate that there may well be further rules which have not, as yet, been articulated. But in stating those four or five propositions, which the then Prime Minister of England put before the House of Commons, it will be readily apparent to the members of the House that the grave difficulty of putting into a statutory code the obligations of persons who hold public office is something which would require a great deal of care.

But I would leave the question, Mr. Speaker, by saying that the law itself does not appear to be unclear. It seems to me that if the matter in fact can be brought before a court, the court has before it ample opportunity to relate the general statements of principle, and the specific rules which have been articulated, to the facts of any

particular case which comes before it. In many ways I tend to believe that this is the proper procedure which should be followed.

It does, however, leave open the very real question—I am not a procedural expert in court matters—but I would certainly indicate that at the present time there appears to be a very real question in people's minds as to just how, in the particular case of a municipality, a ratepayer can bring such a matter before the court in a speedy, procedural way—what his right to bring it before the court is, and how he can get it before the court.

I would suggest, rather than confuse the actual substance of law, consideration should be given to the specific procedures by which a ratepayer can bring such a question before the court, and leave it to the court to deal with under the rules of equity as it sees fit. It seems to me that this would be a much more satisfactory result than to attempt, as the member for St. George has attempted, to specify what exactly the duties of elected members of municipal councils may be.

Now, having considered that question of the procedure which could be followed in order to bring such a matter before a court, my only further comments on the bill are these. The member for St. George has already said it lacks something in procedural application, but certainly if this particular procedure is to be followed, then it would be necessary to provide that not only can the matter be brought before a judge while the person who is subject to the investigation is a member of council, but it should also provide, in my view, that he should be brought to account after he has ceased to be a member of council, if in fact the declaration had not been made while he was a member of council—as this particular statutory provision would require.

I do however agree entirely with the member for St. George in that a person should not be disqualified simply because he may be entering into contractual arrangements with the corporation of the municipality on whose board he sits, provided the person does make full and complete disclosure of the nature of his interest and any advantage which he may likely obtain because of the matter which is in discussion before the council. If, having made that declaration, and refraining from voting or absenting himself from the meeting at which further consideration will be given the matter in which he has disclosed his interest, then I see no reason why council could not deal with the matter—having regard to the declaration of that interest and if it was in the interest of

the municipality to allow such a contract to stand.

I leave the debate, Mr. Speaker, simply on the basis that I am concerned about attempting to put into statutory form the rules which have been articulated in other places, to which I have referred, under which people in public office are to be guided. But there is a serious procedural vacuum in the province of Ontario as to how at the present time these matters can be brought before the court.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, if I may join in by making a few comments that occurred to me in connection with this, I take the opportunity to commend the member for St. George for that fearless determination, fortitude, and courage which he always displays in coming forward as a government backbencher with an important matter such as this for the consideration of the House. Of course, that courage and determination in him, one of his most splendid qualities, is the very one that has inhibited his progress to the higher Olympian heights of success in government, where the paths of more reticent supplicants are attended with success. However, we like him all the more for it.

Having said that, I want to say to him with the greatest respect that I think that subsection 1 is incredibly naive in its words, and that word "naive" is not suitable when subsection 1 is read with subsection 8. Then the word becomes "heinous" or "oppressive". Mr. Speaker, I ask rhetorically: How any Parliament can ever legislate that a person in political office will carry out his duties "carefully", "diligently" and "in the best interest of the municipality," is entirely beyond my rational comprehension.

If a Legislature can set a precedent in telling those elected to political office to do that, then is not the same principle valid for the Senate of Canada? Is it not valid for the Legislature of Ontario? And if we sought to inhibit carelessness, lack of diligence, and absence of good faith in the interest of the municipality, then I fear that if this were on the statute books in respect of the Legislature a great many of us, perhaps myself included, would be in the magistrate's court every day of the week. We would soon run out of \$500s—to torture language a bit—provided in subsection 8, and we would be in a state of utter bankruptcy.

The point I make, of course, is that diligence, care, and the conception of the best interests of the community, are not legal matters at all. They are not the concern of the Legislature or the courts, they are political

determinations. It is for the electorate to decide whether the elected representative, in my respectful opinion, has departed from standards of care, diligence and a proper conception of the best interest of the municipality.

I do not quarrel with the adverb "honestly." I believe with Mr. Frost, as he used to say it, as the hands expanded and he showed us the palms—that is when he was in the full flight of oratory:

The dishonest the police will catch and they will put them in jail.

You do not need to legislate that.

We have plenty of laws to capture dishonesty and give it its proper punishment, but we ought to have no laws at all—in fact they would be to our discredit—that compel or coerce any person elected to public office to act with care, diligence, and in the best interest of the municipality.

Which leads me to ask rhetorically: In whose opinion is it in the best interest of the municipality? The elected councillor—in his opinion? Or is the test objective? Is it the opinion of the judge, the magistrate, the county court judge? If it is the judicial officer's opinion, then we commit almost a crime of the same enormity as we did in giving over to Mr. Justice Spence the investigation into the Munsinger affair; almost the same enormity of the brutality and violence and the excess of the opinions of Mr. Justice Rand in the Landreville affair. We get the judge in the political arena where he ought not to be.

What the best interest of the municipality—and the Minister of Municipal Affairs would be the first to agree with me—what is in the best interests of the municipality is no business of the judge. It is not his business; that is the business of the mayor and the council. The objective test applied to what is in the best interest—I say to my friend, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs who attends me—is the test of the electorate. They determine at the end of the year when the councillors go to the polls for endorsement of their conduct. They determine whether these 6 or 12 or 20 people have acted in the best interests of the municipality.

The business of a judge, a magistrate, or a judicial officer is to interpret the law and no more than that, but we must never take him into a maelstrom of the arena of politics. In doing that, we dirty him. Once he gets down into the gladiatorial arena of politics, he becomes covered with the dust of politics and

it impairs his office and discredits him in the way—as I say and I say without hesitation—that Mr. Justice Spence became discredited when he sought to review the conduct of a Prime Minister of this country that was none of his business, and in the way Mr. Justice Rand got discredited with the brutality and the excess of his opinions and condemnation of Leo Landreville when he went far beyond the task to which he had been assigned and condemned a man because he speaks three languages. I would hesitate to appear before him in his Royal commission on labour in case he discovered that when in my teens I was better than an average snooker shot and that might lead to some encomiums on his part, but that is the point I make and it is a good one. I believe that it is none of his concern.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, would the member permit a question?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I have been following this argument with some interest and I just wondered whether the fact that a justice of the court has retired would affect the argument?

Mr. Sopha: The fact he had retired?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Mr. Sopha: Oh no, I do not think so. Once a judge, always a judge, I suppose. He applied his judicial faculties. If the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is interested, I think what happened there, if he will permit me, is that we had a strict Methodist from New Brunswick who was condemning all the things in life of which he disapproved. He was using his report as a vehicle to condemn all those manifestations of the modern culture that he did not like and then he seemed to find them in Landreville.

Let me say I agree with his conclusion that Landreville's ability as a judge was impaired, that he is not qualified to sit on the bench. I agree with that, but I think he went far beyond what was required in the circumstances in condemning a man because he owned a villa in Mexico, for example. What is wrong with that? Nothing wrong with that. And I know there is a wide measure of agreement with me in the House when I say that he used excessive language.

I think I have made my point that in connection with those phrases, this is no business

of the courts and it seems to me to be the antithesis of democracy that in subsection 8, one would impose a penalty for lack of care. Goodness gracious, if one imposed a penalty for lack of care and diligence, the Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope), would never be out of the courts. He would be in all the time, daily. All the lawyers in the House would be busy defending him.

Now I want to make two more points. On this matter of legislating piety, I remember very well Lincoln Steffens saying that you can never make men better by legislation. You never make them better. You will not improve their moral quality. The best you can hope to do is put enough impediments in their way and enough dangers of bad conduct, enough roadblocks that they will resist temptation. You get the point, Mr. Speaker. You will never make them better, but if you make it uncomfortable enough for them to be bad, they will not be bad because they do not like to be in jail and they do not like to be harried by the law. You cannot make them better by legislation. And I do not think you can make them better by adopting subsection 1.

The other point I want to make is that one that appears in the magnificent volume of Sir George James Frazer—or pardon me, it might be Sir James George Frazer—*The Golden Bough*. I recall that in that monumental work he gives, incredibly, his survey of human history which was really profound. He wrote 27 volumes, I believe, in that one series, a really profound knowledge of the human equation. He said it is a strange thing that history shows that the scoundrel, when he turns his attention to public affairs, and comes into the public place and devotes his talents, is often a better servant of the people than the pious honest fool.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That is the only alternative.

Mr. Sopha: That is the people—without citing them—but the example he used was, would that we had had a scoundrel at the time of the revolt of the American colonies in charge of the affairs in England rather than the honest dullard and idiot, George III. He was an honest man, and that is the illustration he used.

In that regard, I am not inviting scoundrels to come into public life, but then on the other hand, the puritan revolution and Cromwell's succession to power in Britain demonstrate that if we get too much piety in public life, too much righteousness—as often attends

the member for Woodbine, one sees it in him—then we would all be oppressed, we would all suffer, the member for Woodbine being the last man since Sir Francis Bacon who made all knowledge his province. We would be too oppressed. These people are the ones that are guided by the doctrine of the elect, righteousness, purity, piety and so on.

So I am not against—I have to be very careful the way I put this—

Mr. Bryden: He is not against piety, is he?

Mr. Sopha: I am suspicious of righteousness as I am distrustful of the scoundrel, and I think the best public servant is the one that hits the happy medium in between.

Mr. Bryden: The righteous scoundrel. How about that?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, the righteous scoundrel. That is perhaps what we are aiming for.

I have come to the end of my remarks, hoping I have made my point clear and I am not persecuted by the press for having said that. I am utterly against the way it is put in subsection 1, and it will not work. It could not work. We have to leave these matters to the jury of the people, for them to determine

and drive the malefactors—those that lack diligence, the careless—out of office by the best democratic device ever invented, the ballot.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, there will be a night session, and later in the day tomorrow we will be continuing with the Throne Debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, before that motion carries, is there anything going to be introduced subsequent to the Budget, other than the continuance of this debate?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is our intention to proceed with the Throne Debate, to give everyone an opportunity to express his views and opinions in the House.

Mr. Singer: That is most democratic.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 14, 1967
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Courtice secondary school, Courtice; and in the west gallery, Bedford Park public school, Toronto, St. Edward's separate school, Willowdale and St. Bonaventure separate school, Don Mills.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills presented the committee's third report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment: Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district; Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie; Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments: Bill Pr20, An Act respecting the township of Murray; Bill Pr21, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the following reports:

1. The annual report of the Minister of Lands and Forests for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1966.

2. The annual report for 1966 of the Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE SECURITIES ACT, 1966

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: This bill would make it unlawful for any member of the commission or any officer appointed by the commission to own or have any pecuniary interest in any securities which are regulated under the Act.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) has asked me to express his regrets to you and to the Provincial Treasurer for his absence from the House today.

About two weeks ago it was necessary for him to take to his bed because of a bout of flu. He thought he had fully recovered, but after a busy week end and a busy week last week he again became ill with the flu and is now in hospital in London for a thorough physical checkup on his doctor's advice.

I am pleased today to announce that Mr. Douglas W. Ambridge has been appointed chairman of the Ontario deposit insurance corporation. Mr. Ambridge is well known to many of the members of the Legislature and he will bring to his new post his vast knowledge gained through long experience in the business world.

He has also established an enviable record of public service, having been chairman of the Canadian heart fund in 1960 and 1961, and president of the Canadian heart foundation in 1963. He is a member of the board of governors of McGill University and a member of the board of trustees of the Toronto general hospital.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, I should like to rise before the orders of the day to make a statement reflecting the forthcoming operation of the government of Ontario transit rail commuter service and table certain documents in connection with this matter. I wish to announce to the House that this service will commence operations on May 23, almost two years from the day that the government's decision to undertake this project was first announced to this House by Prime Minister Robarts.

A remarkable amount of planning, engineering and development work has had to be

carried out in that period. I am informed by knowledgeable people in the railway field that to get a service of this magnitude and complexity into operation in such a short period represents a commendable accomplishment. Because of the complexities involved it will be necessary from the standpoint of operational considerations to introduce the service in four phases. The first phase will provide for a total of 17 trains daily, Monday through Friday, to and from union station. Four of these trains will be a replacement of the four trains that presently operate on the commuter service between Hamilton and Toronto. The remaining 13 will provide an increased service, between Oakville and Toronto only on the west, and a totally new service for persons living between Pickering and Toronto on the east. Trains will operate at intervals of three hours during off-peak periods, and at intervals of 20 and 40 minutes during peak periods.

The service will begin operation on inauguration day, May 23, after the arrival of the last CNR commuter train from Hamilton that morning. After that date the daily service will commence at 6 a.m. and the last train will go out of service close to midnight. I might point out that the schedules which are being offered to the public reflect some distinct savings in travelling times in comparison with alternate forms of public transportation. In a great number of cases, travel times are reduced by almost one-half.

The second phase of the service will commence June 26. This will increase the number of trains to 25 per day, Monday through Friday. These additional trains will be added to the schedule to improve morning and evening peak period service in both directions. In addition, a weekend and holiday service schedule will be implemented, with a total of 37 trains operating in both directions at hourly intervals.

The third phase will be implemented on July 17. At that time an additional 14 trains will be added to the Monday-to-Friday schedule to provide full hourly off-peak service between 6 a.m. and midnight.

The fourth and final phase will commence at the beginning of September with the addition of six trains to the Monday-Friday schedule to provide full peak service of trains arriving at union station at 20-minute intervals between the hours of 6.30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and between 4.15 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. for departures. These schedules represent an improvement over the concept that was originally announced, in that off-peak service will

be hourly instead of being at 90-minute intervals.

At the conclusion of my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I shall be tabling copies of the full schedule in various phases. Accompanying these schedules, I shall be tabling a copy of the fare structure. Four categories of fares will be applied to the GO transit service—single strip, children's rates, multiple ride, commuter rates. As it is anticipated that most of the users will be commuters to and from employment in the Toronto area, I shall briefly describe the range of these fares and explain how the rates were developed.

In considering a formula for setting a fare structure, the following principles were adopted:

1. That the cost of rail commuting must be competitive with the high cost of automobile commuting, to attract drivers off our highways. To accomplish this, the government undertook to subsidize annual rail commuting operating costs.

2. That in order to preserve a viable alternative mode of public transportation within the area, the fares should be comparable with cost of other modes—with slight consideration given to the increased frequency and reduced travel time—as well as the improved conditions of travel being offered.

In the light of these considerations, a formula of 3.5 cents per mile with a 42-cent minimum was arrived at for commuter fares. In two instances, it was necessary to slightly weight this formula to bring certain rates to a more comparable level with existing public transport fares. In the case of a single fare, a premium of 25 per cent was added to the commuter rate and the figures rounded to the nearest five cents. Children's fares were set at 25 cents with no restriction as to destination.

As a matter of interest, GO transit also does not intend to impose any time restriction on the use of its commuter tickets as in the case with the majority of other modes of commuter transportation.

Under this commuter rate structure, the 42-cent minimum fare will apply to all stations between union station and Long Branch on the west and the new Eglinton station on the east. The cost of commuting between Toronto and Pickering will be 71 cents per trip and the cost to Hamilton on the extreme will be \$1.36 per trip. In the case of Hamilton, Burlington, and Bronte, rail commuter services are being extended to these areas for the first time and this will result in reduced fares from those charged on long-haul passenger trains.

For the basis of comparison with the cost of automobile commuting, only the out-of-pocket cost of four cents per mile was used and the trip cost calculated on the mileage from the origin station to the union station. An additional 50 cents was added to represent one-half of the daily minimum commercial parking cost in the Toronto area, a cost that a rail commuter will not have to face as there will be no charge for parking at commuter stations.

Using this formula for comparison with the proposed GO transit rates, the automobile commuter will be in pocket in every instance with savings ranging from 29 cents to 71 cents per trip. Of course, these savings would be greatly multiplied if the calculations were based on the total cost of automobile commuting, involving such additional costs as finance charges, licensing and depreciation, to mention only a few.

I want to emphasize this service is primarily designed to attract automobile commuters off the highways. In addition, there is the incalculable cost on physical wear and tear that a driver faces in facing daily traffic jams, getting into and out of the Metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I have devoted a few extra minutes to explaining the true nature of these documents that I now propose to table so that the hon. members will have a clear understanding of them and possibly resolve a great many questions on these matters at a future date.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, could I ask the Minister a question relating to the statement he just made, for clarification?

Mr. Speaker: I think perhaps it would be better, at some future time, for questions to be asked on this statement.

Mr. Gisborn: With all respect, sir, I detect a misunderstanding as to what was understood the programme would be when it was first introduced, and I would ask clarification at this time.

Mr. Speaker: I think that matter could be discussed at a later date.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the other day the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) asked a question: How many children are being treated in Ontario by Brown Camps Limited?

The answer is: The most current knowledge of the child welfare branch is that there are 132 children in the care of Brown Camps in the province of Ontario.

The member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) asked a question: What projects have begun, and by that I mean—are in the construction stage, under the new Rest Home Act?

The answer is: None are in the construction stage, although discussions are being concluded with a number of interested municipalities. Some sites have been approved. Moneys have been provided in the estimates for the coming year and the regulations under the amended Act will soon be published.

The member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) asked a question yesterday, which I have already taken as notice.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to have a Minister reply without even the question being asked. Could I ask a supplementary?

Is the Minister at liberty to inform the Legislature which municipalities are being negotiated with for construction of rest homes under the Act?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That information is within the department. Two or three were given to me loosely this morning, but I did not get a list of them.

Mr. S. Lewis: Would you give us that information at a later date, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes, that information will be forthcoming.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the Minister took as notice my question some days ago about the audit of Warrendale after the government of Ontario took over its management. I wonder if he has an answer to that question?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am sorry, a report is being prepared for me with respect to that.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a rather lengthy question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, relating to Prudential Finance Corporation Limited.

Referring to the meeting on June 13, 1963, attended by the chairman of the Ontario securities commission, the chief auditor, Mr. Brown, the registrar, Mr. Knox-Leet, the president of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited, Mr. Brien, the auditor of Prudential, Mr. Stein, Mr. Eyton of the solicitors for Prudential, Messrs. Tory, Arnold, DesLauriers and Binington, and Mr. Betts, an associate of the firm of Messrs. Carrothers, Fox, Roberts and Betts, at which the Minister has advised

that the question of the wording on the facing page of the prospectus for the short-term promissory notes of Prudential, to be dated June 14, 1963, was the subject matter of discussion:

(a) Did the staff of the commission and/or specifically the chief auditor, Mr. Brown, or Mr. Knox-Leet, the registrar, advise, suggest, recommend or instruct Prudential that the statement, "these securities are speculative securities," or words to like effect, would have to be included on the facing page of the prospectus for the short-term promissory notes of Prudential dated June 14, 1963?

(b) Was it as a result of this advice, suggestion, recommendation or instruction that Prudential requested a meeting with the chairman of the securities commission in order to make representations so that these words would not be required on the facing page of that prospectus, and were these representations made at this meeting?

(c) Was the question of whether or not the words, "these securities are speculative securities", or words to like effect, should be included on the facing page of the prospectus discussed at this meeting?

(d) Why would the statement, "these securities are speculative securities", or words to like effect, not be included on the facing page of this prospectus?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, with respect to this question, it will require some detailed checking with the members of the securities commission. I have referred the matter to them and will take the question as notice.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health.

1. Is the 12-year-old boy admitted to the Hamilton Ontario hospital January 13, still confined to the adult ward at the Hamilton Ontario hospital? If so, has the Minister any plans to find more suitable accommodation?

2. How many patients, 15 years and under, are confined to the adult ward at the Hamilton Ontario hospital at the present time?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I find now that there is a great deal of misunderstanding with respect to the meaning of this word "ward." My staff refers to a ward as the total floor of a hospital. In my own view, and I think in the view of the average layman, ward refers to the room occupied at the time by the patient.

I now learn that a very short time after the boy in question was admitted to the

hospital, he was admitted to a single private room, although it was part of a ward in the connotation applied to it by my staff. But the boy himself has occupied a private room, with the exception of periods of time when, in the view of his medical supervisors, it was deemed in his therapeutic interest to spend time with others.

I have to repeat here, sir, that the care and treatment of this boy is a medical responsibility and not subject to the dictates of government or the dictates of The Department of Health.

The answer to the second part of the hon. member's question is, "None". There is one other patient, 15 years or under, confined to hospital—but under the same conditions that apply in the foregoing case.

Mr. Speaker: Has the member for Riverdale a second question?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Public Welfare has taken it on notice.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I have here two messages from the hon. Lieutenant-Governor, signed by his own hand.

Mr. Speaker: W. Earl Rowe, the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, transmits estimates of certain sums required for the services of the province for the year ending March 31, 1968, and recommends them to the legislative assembly, Toronto, February 13, 1967.

And the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor transmits supplementary estimates of certain additional sums required for the services of the province for the year ending March 31, 1967, and recommends them to the legislative assembly, Toronto, February 13, 1967.

Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 14th order.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

BUDGET ADDRESS

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great privilege to bring down the Budget of Ontario for 1967—a Budget which, I believe, is itself a measure of the economic and social progress of this province in our Centennial year. I am conscious of an added degree of responsibility, indeed of honour,

as I take over the task from so able and distinguished a predecessor as the hon. Minister from Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan). In fact, now that I have prepared my first Budget, I find that I am in a position to appreciate even more the great contribution he made to this province in his eight years as Provincial Treasurer.

Before launching into my statement, let me comment briefly upon the organization of this Budget document and the direction in which our economic and financial planning is moving. You will be happy to hear that my formal statement will be much shorter than traditional practice would dictate. This greater brevity has been achieved by a curtailment of the detailed facts and figures of departmental programmes presented in the Budget statement in previous years. However, all essential facts and figures will still be made available to the hon. members of this House.

In the first place, the detailed description of all the programmes which make up this Budget will be presented during the departmental estimates.

Secondly, the supporting analysis and background to the form and direction of the Budget will be even more extensive but, this year, it will be contained in Budget papers which I intend to table at the conclusion of my speech.

This combination of Budget statement and Budget papers represents the first step in a new format which we plan to develop in a more comprehensive manner next year. The new format and the preparation upon which it is based reflect the substantially changed position of the provincial government in the economic and financial life of this country.

The Budget itself is a delicate instrument of economic and fiscal policy which has a profound influence on the character, direction, and extent of economic growth and on the financial markets of the country. At the same time, we tread the slender tightrope between the reasonable expectations of our people for government services and a constant awareness of the burdens on the taxpayer.

As a reflection of our determination to proceed purposefully towards overall short-term and long-term goals of an economic and financial nature, the government has established the necessary machinery to coordinate all matters relating to fiscal, budgetary, economic, and inter-governmental policy.

Such a procedure requires extensive insight into the characteristics and circumstances of the whole provincial economy, as well as an

awareness of the limitations within which we must work in a federal system of government. We have made a beginning on a task that is both compelling and demanding.

Success in such a venture requires a deep probing of current economic conditions along with an appraisal of the prospects for the coming years. Analysis of this nature provides us with guidance on the means of reaching our economic goals through the two avenues available to us: First, the pattern of our expenditure programme designed to remove economic bottlenecks and to contribute to productivity throughout the private sector of the economy; second, the effect of our fiscal policy in terms of the total budgetary impact upon the economy. In both cases, our overriding purpose is the achievement of a high degree of economic development and, at the same time, the most rapid rate of economic growth.

However, it is clear that the fiscal policy role of the province is limited by the federal-provincial framework. With ever-increasing proportions of governmental expenditure taking place in the provinces and municipalities, we believe that joint federal-provincial action is required to achieve truly effective fiscal policy, and to ensure stable economic growth and full employment without inflation.

Perhaps the greatest task confronting economic and fiscal policy-makers in Canada today is to summon up the will to coordinate fiscal policy measures and then to devise the way to implement such coordination.

The material presented in the Budget papers this year provides a detailed portrayal of three sets of information:

1. A panoramic view of the economic background and economic conditions upon which our budgetary policy has been based;
2. A description of the main areas of emphasis in this year's Budget through documentation of the expenditure themes which I will outline later in this speech;
3. A presentation of the financial statements of the provincial government and of this Budget.

I would like first to review briefly the outcome of our budgeting for 1966-1967. On the basis of eight months' actual and four months' forecast, our position appears as follows: Net ordinary expenditures, excluding provision of \$42 million for sinking funds, will amount to \$1,496 million. This amount includes supplementary estimates totalling \$9.9 million which the House will be asked to approve. Details of this amount are shown

in the Budget papers and in the printed estimates which will be placed before you.

Net capital disbursements on physical assets are estimated to total \$336 million. This means combined net expenditures will amount to \$1,832 million for 1966-1967. Because of the remarkably high level of economic activity, our revenues will be considerably above last year's expectations. Net ordinary revenue plus net capital receipts are estimated at \$1,781 million.

Thus, we will end the current year in a considerably stronger position than was forecast a year ago. Our net capital debt at March 31, 1967, is estimated at \$1,429 million, only \$49 million higher than at March 31, 1966. This represents a real achievement, particularly when one considers the huge capital programmes that we have carried out during the past year.

We have attained this position by a combination of good financial planning and favourable economic conditions. However, the point remains, as demonstrated by the projections of the tax structure committee, that our requirements will grow heavily over the next five years. This is the position in which all of the provinces find themselves, and it is a position which will require major federal assistance.

For our part, it provides further justification of the need for clearly defined expenditure priorities and the introduction of programmes on a carefully planned basis. Timing is as significant as the basic decision to initiate new programmes. Adequate consideration of the effect on social and economic development is no less important.

The scope and emphasis of the Budget for 1967-1968 must be viewed against our assessment of the prospects and requirements for the provincial economy this year. Therefore, let me begin with a brief report on the performance of the economy in 1966 and the prospects for 1967.

The past year was a very good one for the Ontario economy. Our gross provincial product increased by more than 9 per cent, to a total of \$22.8 billion. The number of our people employed rose by 102,000 while unemployment was held down to a rate of 2.5 per cent of the labour force. Total salaries and wages climbed by 12 per cent to \$11.6 billion. The trend was strongly up throughout the provincial economy as a whole.

While the economy performed well in the aggregate in 1966, the pace of activity was uneven. Beginning in the late spring and

continuing through the rest of the year, the boom began to slow down. As is normal when the crest of the business cycle is reached, this slower pace of economic advancement was accompanied by higher prices and a substantial decline in the rate of increase of productivity.

The effects of the slowing down in 1966 will carry over into 1967, with the result that the economy is unlikely to match last year's record performance. Nevertheless, the prospects for this Centennial year are good. With an early and strong revival in residential construction and a continuing increase in business investment, we can reasonably anticipate that our gross provincial product will rise by at least 7 per cent this year. This 7 per cent rate of growth, which is the overall basis for our revenue and expenditure projections, is made up of a 4 per cent growth rate in real terms, with a prospective 3 per cent increase in prices this is close to the long-term average growth rate of the province.

However, I believe that even a 7 per cent growth rate is less than the full capacity of this province for expansion in 1967. In fact, our potential output should be considerably above the rate of increase in either the United States or the European industrial nations. In great measure, our ability to attract large numbers of highly skilled immigrants will determine the extent to which a substantial increase in the labour force becomes possible and, in turn, the extent to which we experience an even higher rate of economic growth. The challenge to policy-making this year is to assist in the creation of conditions that will enable us to fulfil this greater potential as far as possible. We are, therefore, proceeding with a number of policies which are designated:

1. To relieve serious bottlenecks such as the shortage of housing.
2. To improve further the quality of our labour force so that productivity can be increased.
3. To encourage and assist industries to export and to engage in essential research.
4. To build up yet further our stock of social capital.
5. To bring into the mainstream of our economic life those individuals and families who have been left behind by the rapid changes in our society.

The expenditure programmes in the Budget this year have been designed to meet many of these requirements, and at the same time

provide an expansionary stimulus to the overall level of economic activity. In addition, to the extent that our provincial Budget will, through borrowing, return a larger flow of funds to the economy than is withdrawn, we shall add a positive thrust to the prolongation of the economic boom which has prevailed since early in 1961.

These provincial actions, by themselves, cannot ensure that our full potential is reached. We believe that the federal government should also design its fiscal and monetary policies with a view to stimulating economic expansion. Since coordination of the whole range of economic policies between the two levels of government is a prerequisite to success, the existing federal-provincial arrangements require continuing scrutiny.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS: After long and careful preparation, Ontario sat down with the federal government and the other provinces last year to renegotiate the federal-provincial financial arrangements. The position which we put forward in these negotiations was based on the work of the tax structure committee which demonstrated that the expenditure responsibilities of the provinces would far outpace their revenue resources over the next five years. The financial position of the federal government, on the other hand, was shown to be far more favourable. Thus, we argued for a substantial transfer of taxing resources to the provinces to bring their revenue-raising capacity more in line with readily discernible long-term needs.

Ultimately, a new arrangement was decided upon, to go into effect on April 1, 1967, but to be reviewed within two years. Under the new arrangement, Ontario gains four additional points of personal income tax plus one additional point of corporation income tax. For its part, the federal government will withdraw from a direct role in university financing and will phase out its capital assistance under the technical and vocational training agreement. Instead, the federal government has offered to share 50 per cent of our operating costs for post-secondary education. The additional fiscal transfer of 4+1, however, is included in the federal government's 50 per cent share and will make up the great bulk of what we can expect to receive. The new arrangements also resulted in an equalization formula which provides substantial increases in payments to the provinces east of Ontario.

These results fall far short of our expectations and our needs. The new arrangement merely provides a minor improvement in the

basic fiscal imbalance between our two levels of government. It does little to match revenue sources to expenditure responsibilities over the long term. As a result, we shall be obliged to undertake the same exercise again within the next two years.

In approaching the problem of federal-provincial coordination, we believe that there are three possible ways in which the federal government and the provinces can share control over fiscal policy. The first is for the provincial and municipal governments to develop a stable set of growth policies on a long-term planning basis. The federal government would then assume the responsibility for making the required tactical adjustments, within its own growth strategy, through the use of the economic levers of commercial, fiscal, monetary, and exchange rate policies. This option depends on a more appropriate method of sharing revenues so that the provincial and municipal governments can effectively plan their expenditures on a longer term basis.

The second option is to continue, as in the past, to see provincial-municipal programmes adjusted in accordance with the cyclical variations in their revenue capacity. The effect is to encourage a reduction of expenditures at the very time expansion is required, thus aggravating the business cycle and frustrating the policies recommended by the economic council of Canada.

The third option is for provincial-municipal governments, as well as the federal government, to adopt contra-cyclical budgeting programmes of their own, through stabilizing their growth programmes and accepting the large deficits that will result from cyclical variations in their revenues. This option would imply that the provincial and municipal governments should play the major role in fiscal policy because of their greater expenditures. Such a suggestion immediately introduces the problem of Bank of Canada support for provincial debt operations similar to that given to the federal government. It would also raise the problem of differential fiscal policies in the various regions of Canada.

In our view, the preferable option is the first wherein the federal government is primarily responsible for short-term contra-cyclical policy. The provinces, on the other hand, should gear their budgets around a longer-term growth policy, taking care not to aggravate business cycles by intensifying the trend of private investment. The choice of this option means that the Ontario government will continue to press for a redistribution of revenue sources after the reports of

the Royal commission on taxation and our Ontario committee on taxation have been studied.

In the meantime, whatever additional revenues we need must be generated by our provincial economy. For this reason, the emphasis which we have placed in the Budget on devices to remove economic bottlenecks, to increase productivity, and to stimulate economic growth, is clearly warranted.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES: The expenditure programme, which I am presenting to you today, reflects expanded activity on six broad fronts. It provides for new and expanded programmes to meet more fully the needs and aspirations of our people. It calls for greatly increased investments to strengthen the underlying sources of our capacity to grow. It seeks to do all that is necessary to achieve the full potential of our human and physical resources.

Human Development: Ontario's one overriding goal is the creation of the opportunity for every individual to develop to his fullest potential, thereby enriching his own life and benefiting the province at large. Education is our principal instrument for working towards this goal of maximum human development. For many years now we have sought to provide the best possible education and training facilities for all the youth and for adults in every part of the province. We have broadened our overall programme into new areas, developed new techniques and created new institutions. We have striven to make education a creative adventure for its participants at the same as training them to work effectively in the modern world.

The cost of this commitment to human development is heavy. In the current year, \$785 million of our provincial revenues have gone for education and training programmes. The returns, however, are many times greater. Our efforts in education have raised the knowledge and skills of our people and contributed greatly to Ontario's rapid economic growth.

Indeed, the high standard of living and generally good life enjoyed by Ontario people today is due in large measure to our past investment in education.

The Budget provides for still further provincial resources to be devoted to human development. In 1967-1968 Ontario proposes to spend \$878 million on education and training programmes and to provide \$185 million on capital aid to universities for a total of \$1,063 million—an increase of 35 per cent

over 1966-1967. In addition, our Ontario education capital aid corporation will lend \$150 million to municipalities and school boards for construction of elementary and secondary schools.

Large-scale capital investment in new buildings and facilities is an important feature of our education programme for the coming year. University expansion alone will require \$165 million in 1967-1968 if we are to ensure that a place is available for every student capable of higher education.

Continued expansion of technical and vocational schools will require \$50 million and \$20 million has been allocated for construction of colleges of applied arts and technology. As well, substantial capital outlays are planned for Ryerson, the Hamilton technical centre, and other provincial institutions.

In total, these capital expenditures on education and training facilities will amount to some \$260 million, \$85 million more than was invested by the province in 1966-1967. In addition to these expenditures, a substantial proportion of the legislative grants to school boards covers debt charges relating to past construction.

In the forthcoming fiscal year, we propose to increase our legislative grants to school boards by \$60 million. This will bring the province's total financial assistance to local school boards to \$444 million in 1967-1968, an increase of 90 per cent since the Ontario foundation tax plan was started four years ago.

The gradual assumption by the province of a larger proportion of education costs has been broadly beneficial. It has increased the financial resources of local boards, thereby helping to improve and expand education opportunities.

In the year ahead our universities will need massive financial support. Again this fall they are preparing for an enrolment increase of over 10,000 students, which will bring Ontario's total university population to 74,000. I believe this government can be justifiably proud of the part it has played in making this possible.

On the recommendation of the committee on university affairs, we are doubling our university operating grants to \$161 million in 1967-1968. These grants will be distributed among the universities according to a formula developed jointly by the committee on university affairs, the committee of university presidents, and The Department of University Affairs. After analyzing needs and studying costs incurred in previous years, the com-

mittee on university affairs has recommended that a basic income unit of \$1,320 be provided under the formula for 1967-1968.

Translated into terms of actual enrolment, this means that our universities will receive an average of \$2,181 per full-time student to meet operating costs during the next academic session. New and emerging universities will also receive special operating assistance in recognition of their high initial costs.

The education and training budget for 1967-1968 embodies many other important changes. We have increased the appropriation for the Ontario institute for studies in education by 60 per cent to a total of \$8 million so that it can undertake a greatly expanded programme of research and post-graduate education.

Funds for student awards have also been virtually doubled—from \$10 million in 1966-1967 to \$19 million for the coming year. We have also planned for significant expansion of our educational television effort and our language training programme for immigrants. As well, we intend to broaden the apprenticeship training programme into a variety of new trades and to continue our efforts in the short-term training area.

To me, the large increases in education and training expenditure we have provided in 1967-1968 make good sense. Use of resources to round out and broaden our already comprehensive education programme is one of the most productive investments Ontario can make. It leads to expanded opportunities, more complete use of the diverse skills and intellectual resources of our people, and a higher level of educational achievement in this province.

The Ontario government is vitally interested in improving the well-being of every person and every family in this province. To this end, we are undertaking a substantial extension and strengthening of our health, housing and welfare programmes in 1967-1968.

In the coming year we propose to spend \$430 million on these basic public services and to provide additional assistance of \$59 million through loans and advances for a total of \$489 million—an increase of 35 per cent over 1966-1967. As well, we shall have at our disposal in 1967-1968 a substantial increase in federal contributions for these purposes.

In addition to capital financing for our housing activities through central mortgage and housing corporation, we shall receive an

estimated \$128 million through the Canada assistance plan, the health resources fund, and other agreements. This additional federal money plus our own larger commitment will make possible significant improvements and an extensive broadening of our health, housing and welfare activities.

In the coming year, the Ontario housing corporation will greatly expand its programme. It plans to accelerate its buildup of a stock of public housing units in order to reduce the backlog of public housing needs that presently exists. As well, this pioneering public agency will be developing residential accommodation for students attending our universities and other post-secondary institutions.

As announced in the Speech from the Throne, the Ontario housing corporation is also embarking on a major new HOME programme. The HOME programme is designed to alleviate the present severe shortage of accommodation in many parts of the province and to bring home ownership within the reach of a substantially larger segment of our people.

To carry out this ambitious and comprehensive housing programme, we have increased the Ontario housing corporation Budget by nearly 63 per cent—from \$16 million in 1966-1967 to \$26 million in 1967-1968. These amounts include the provision for the Ontario student housing corporation. This level of spending will result in central mortgage and housing corporation providing more than \$170 million in capital financing. Thus, the overall extent of our housing programme for the coming year will be in the order of \$200 million.

We are undertaking in the year ahead an unprecedented expansion and improvement in our health services and facilities. Accordingly, there is included in this Budget some \$311 million for health expenditures, an increase of 32 per cent over the current year's outlay. Mental health services receive particular emphasis in next year's programme. An increase of \$16 million is being provided in our mental health budget, bringing the total outlay on mental health to over \$100 million.

As announced in the Speech from the Throne, a new Mental Health Act will be introduced in the House for your consideration. We intend to establish eight regional diagnostic and treatment centres to care for and treat children with mental and emotional disorders. The proposed reception and diagnostic centre for children admitted to training schools from juvenile and family courts is another innovation.

The Ontario medical services insurance plan accounts for a considerable part of our health expenditure. This plan has already had an impressive beginning and, for all practical purposes, it will be capable of achieving universality. As recommended in the Hall report, we have taken steps to enlarge our health facilities, particularly the facilities for teaching and training doctors, dentists, nurses, and other essential health personnel. In the coming year, \$30 million will be invested in university and hospital facilities for health sciences education and research. Of this amount, an estimated \$7.5 million will be recovered from the federal government in the coming year through the health resources fund. We have also doubled to \$1 million the amount of bursary funds available to medical and dental students and other health personnel.

Support of our hospital insurance plan and of new hospital construction will also demand substantially higher expenditure in 1967-1968. We are planning to add 2,400 new beds to our hospital supply in 1967, including 1,400 in suburban Toronto where the demand has continued to grow rapidly. To offset the rapidly rising cost of operating our Ontario hospital insurance plan, we are providing for an increase of \$40 million this coming year in our subsidization of the plan. Our total contribution for this purpose, therefore, will be \$90 million in 1967-1968. These, and other measures involving substantially increased expenditure, will ensure that Ontario remains a leader in the provision of health care for its citizens.

We have a new philosophy and a new approach to welfare in Ontario, as is evident by the proposed name for the department—The Department of Social and Family Services. Our approach recognizes the importance of the family as the key institution in the operation of welfare services. The programme also emphasizes the positive role of assessment, counselling and rehabilitation. A needs criterion will replace the various means tests for determining levels of assistance, and benefits will be substantially increased. To put this new and broader programme of social and family services into effect, the department anticipates recruiting 300 additional social workers and welfare personnel.

A broadened welfare programme of this nature necessarily means higher expenditure. In 1967-1968 we estimate our total spending on social and family services will amount to \$208 million, of which \$100 million will be recovered from the federal government

through the Canada assistance plan and other agreements. This expenditure may be expected to yield substantial benefits in the years to come. Our families will have greater security against hardship, greater assistance to overcome problems and greater opportunity to achieve a better life.

Aid to the farming community: I now turn to another very important area of our provincial economy. I refer to our measures to assist farmers. It seems to me that it is difficult to overemphasize the important role played by the farming community in this province. Year in and year out, the farming sector has recorded the largest productivity gains in the entire economy. This rapidly rising agricultural productivity contributes materially to Ontario's overall economic growth.

In this Budget, we have provided substantially higher aid to the farming community. In the first place, we have increased the net appropriation for The Department of Agriculture and Food by 24 per cent, bringing it to \$40 million for next year. As previously announced, we also intend to establish a bursary scheme in veterinary medicine. Every veterinary student will receive a \$500 bursary each semester or \$1,000 each year, which will be forgiven if he remains in farm practice for an equivalent number of years after graduation. As well, our newly created crop insurance commission will be in full operation in 1967. It intends to build up a complete umbrella of policies covering a broad range of major crops, including forages. Rates will be subsidized by Ontario and the federal government so that our farmers can protect their insurable crops at very reasonable costs.

A highlight of our plans for next year is the extension of our capital grants programme to cover wells, drainage, and certain types of buildings. Over the next 12 years we will make available \$129 million for these grants to farmers. From the province's point of view, these grants are really long-run investments. This stimulus to the continued and increasing use of modern technology will result in higher farm productivity in the years ahead.

Protection of the individual and the investment climate: In the past year or two, a special set of problems relating to individual protection and investor confidence has emerged. The government has taken a number of actions to meet these problems.

In the coming fiscal year, the new Securities Act will be in force. The Ontario securities commission will be provided with additional resources to strengthen its super-

vision and inspection activities. To safeguard our people's savings, this House has approved legislation to complement the new federal deposit insurance programme. Responsibility for such essential measures has been placed in the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs. For the department's administrative purposes, a budget of \$2.6 million will be required. I am certain that these actions will engender a high degree of public confidence in our financial institutions. Our sound fiscal and development policies will continue to ensure that investment is attracted to this province.

We have taken other major initiatives in the general area of protection. In cooperation with the legal profession, we have established a comprehensive legal aid plan which gives every person in Ontario, regardless of his means, access to legal counsel. Funds are being provided for this purpose next year. As well, we are setting up a consumer protection bureau to look after the interests of consumers. A new labour standards code, supported by more enforcement and inspection personnel, will provide better protection to our workers on their jobs. These plans are vital to the interests of every citizen of our province. In the coming year, we propose to spend a total of \$59 million on protection of the individual and investment climate.

Development and conservation programmes: Past budgets of the government indicate the importance that we have always attached to the task of developing the rich physical resources of this province. Hand in hand with development, of course, we have pursued vigorous and far-seeing conservation measures. This Budget continues in these traditions.

We plan to spend \$485 million in the coming year to carry forward our development and conservation programmes and to provide additional assistance through loans and advances of \$73 million for a total of \$558 million. This consists of the ordinary and capital outlays for The Departments of Highways, Mines, Lands and Forests, Energy and Resources Management, and for the Ontario water resources commission.

Good roads and modern highways are absolutely essential in today's world of fast-moving trade and commerce. Without them our resources would be immobilized and our productivity greatly diminished. To maintain and improve the fine roads system in this province, we are providing \$406 million for next year—\$282 million of which represents capital spending.

Among our numerous other development and conservation programmes, several stand out in terms of increased emphasis next year. The capital budget of the Ontario water resources commission will be more than doubled to \$65 million to enable it to accelerate its programmes in abating pollution, obtaining adequate supplies of water, and providing for sewage disposal systems. In this session, we also intend to take determined steps to combat air pollution. A new air pollution control Act is being drafted to replace municipal regulation in this vital field. In 1967, development will be started on still more provincial parks and recreational facilities. The benefits from these kinds of policies will accrue to the people of Ontario not just next year but for many years in the future.

Aid to local authorities: Finally, I come to our programmes and expenditures to assist municipalities. This is a matter of extreme importance to our government. We know that municipalities and school boards are hard pressed to finance their urgent responsibilities and vital needs. The impact of rapid economic growth is always felt first at the local level—in the demand for new schools, new roads and streets, new water and sewage facilities, and for a host of other needs. Consequently, the municipalities are looking to us for assistance.

We already provide such assistance through 13 different departments of government. In the current year, our total financial aid to municipalities is estimated to reach \$796 million—an increase of 27 per cent over 1965-1966. This means that fully 44 per cent of our revenues are being turned over to municipalities to help finance local services. This Budget calls for another very large increase. We expect to provide \$880 million to our local authorities in 1967-1968 and \$298 million in additional assistance through loans and advances for a total of \$1,178 million.

As I have already mentioned, education grants alone will be increased by \$60 million next year, to a total of \$444 million. This will assist the municipalities and their rate-payers in offsetting the impact of rising education costs.

Road subsidies, coupled with direct assistance, will increase to \$165 million to keep pace with rising needs in the field of transportation. We are also stepping up the unconditional grant to municipalities by \$1.50 per capita, involving additional expenditures in excess of \$10 million. As well, municipalities will be helped by substantially higher subsidies for welfare purposes, and by the

greatly expanded activities of the Ontario water resources commission. A good number of other forms of aid to municipalities will also show increases in 1967-1968. In the accompanying Budget papers, the facts and figures on all these forms of aid are set out in greater detail.

Our Ontario education capital aid corporation is proving to be of great value to municipalities and school boards. The corporation lends capital funds to the municipalities at 5.5 per cent. This is based on the rate at which it presently borrows from the Canada pension plan. This arrangement is convenient and it saves the municipalities substantial amounts in interest and underwriting costs.

The savings to municipal taxpayers in interest charges alone on the \$170 million borrowed this year from the Ontario education capital aid corporation will amount to \$1.7 million in the first year and more than \$24 million over the lifetime of the debentures. This saving is based on an estimated average cost of 6.5 per cent on municipal borrowing in 1966. In the tight conditions in the capital market last year, this new source of funds enabled many municipalities to obtain financing which otherwise might not have been available. During the coming year, we anticipate that this corporation will purchase \$150 million in municipal debentures.

We have always recognized the need of the municipalities; the evidence set out in this Budget statement is a clear demonstration that we are striving to meet that need. We are presently awaiting the report of the Ontario committee on taxation in order to assess the future roles of the two levels of government. We are hopeful that this document will assist us to focus not only on financial need but also on matters of equity.

Having outlined these six broad themes of our programme for the coming year, I shall now summarize the overall extent of our expenditures. I am forecasting total budgetary expenditures for 1967-1968 at \$2,193 million. This excludes provision for sinking funds of \$43 million but includes \$358 million of net capital disbursements on physical assets. The Budget, therefore, is \$361 million larger than the estimated expenditures for the current year.

This expenditure programme is necessary to meet the social and economic objectives of this bustling province. We have consciously striven to direct our expenditures in a manner that will give the greatest effect to the productivity and growth of the economy. Given the approval of the members of this

House, this programme will serve Ontario well.

I am pleased to announce that there will be no new taxes and no increases in taxes for the coming year.

Interjections by some hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to remind the members of the House that it is the tradition of this Parliament, as well as all other Parliaments, that there be no interjections or interruptions during the Budget address.

Mr. MacNaughton: A year ago it appeared that we would have to raise our personal income tax this year by four points. However, the present delicate poise of the economy suggests an expansionary fiscal policy rather than one of contraction.

Moreover, the burden of taxation on our people is already heavy. Governments cannot continue to take more without dulling incentive and undermining our ability to compete. Yet, they must continue to provide the essential public services and facilities on which our growth and advancement depend. This means that all governments must strive for the utmost efficiency and economy within their own operations. I can assure you that this is a continuing objective of the government.

Since there will be no tax increases in 1967-1968, any revenue increases that we can anticipate, over and above the 4 + 1 fiscal transfer from the federal government, will depend on the growth in the economy itself. As I have already said, the outlook for 1967 is good. Moreover, the programmes I have outlined are designed to maintain a stable rate of growth and will make a positive contribution to this condition. Hence, I feel justified in basing my forecast on a continued high plane of economic activity.

I expect our total revenues to rise by 14 per cent in 1967-1968 to reach \$2,031 million. Revenues from personal income tax should rise by \$142 million, as a result both of continued economic growth and the increase in our share of this tax field from 24 to 28 per cent. I expect the retail sales tax to yield \$25 million more, corporation taxes \$21 million more, and the gasoline tax an additional \$15 million. Revenue from all other sources will add another \$47 million, bringing our total revenue increase expected for next year to \$250 million.

I am now in a position to lay before you our overall Budget position for next year.

Net ordinary expenditure (excluding provision for sinking funds) plus net capital

disbursements on physical assets are expected to amount to \$2,193 million. Against this we expect to take in \$2,031 million in net ordinary revenues and net capital receipts. This means our expenditures will exceed our revenues by \$162 million.

Though larger than in some past years, I do not regard this as unreasonable in view of the immense programme we are undertaking and the investments we are making in the future. Today, we have a number of requirements, particularly for social capital, pressing upon us as a result of a young and rapidly growing population. It seems both reasonable and equitable that part of the costs of this investment should be shared by our citizens of the future.

I would emphasize that we are going ahead with our expenditure plans despite the fact that we shall not receive any substantial net revenue gain from the federal government. Nor have we raised our own taxes. Yet, I am convinced that the increase in net debt entailed in this Budget is not unmanageable. As I have suggested, that there is an increase at all is due to our very large investment in social capital—capital on which the future prosperity and progress of this province depends.

Moreover, the burden of our debt is not increasing; just the reverse, in fact. Our total net debt this year represents only 6.3 per cent of our gross provincial product as against 6.7 per cent in 1958-1959. In terms of revenue, the position is even more favourable. Today only ten months' revenue would be required to retire our debt. When my predecessor became Provincial Treasurer it would have taken 17 months.

Mr. Speaker, I have presented to this House the largest Budget in the history of Ontario. It provides for unparalleled expenditures to meet the needs and aspirations of our people. It lays aside vast funds for investment in physical assets and for development of the human and natural resources of this province. It meets as far as possible the pressing needs of our municipalities. It does all these desirable things without raising taxes, yet at the same time maintaining our sound financial position.

The Budget carries on the sound financial management and sensible economic planning characteristic of this government. I was fortunate in this regard in taking over a Treasury which enjoyed a high credit standing and widespread public confidence in its securities.

The total impact of the Budget on the economy will be expansionary. In the light of the economic conditions we face, this is an appropriate policy for next year. The measures I have proposed will reinforce our economy and ensure a high level of growth in 1967 and beyond.

Finally, let me highlight the major features of the 1967 Budget for the people of Ontario:

Expenditures will rise by \$361 million to a total of \$2,193 million to produce an expansionary impact on the provincial economy.

Spending on education and training programmes will rise by 35 per cent to reach almost \$1.1 billion.

Health expenditures will increase by 32 per cent to a total of \$311 million.

Our total spending on social and family services will rise to \$208 million, of which \$100 million is recoverable from the federal government.

The Ontario housing corporation budget will be expanded by nearly 63 per cent.

Financial aid to local authorities will be raised substantially to reach a level of almost \$1.2 billion.

The first step of a 12 year \$129 million programme of capital grants to farmers will be undertaken through a \$10 million outlay in 1967-1968.

There will be expanded programmes and higher expenditure for development and conservation activities and for protection to individuals.

A total of \$358 million in capital funds will be invested in roads, schools, hospitals and other physical assets essential to Ontario's future progress and prosperity.

There will be no new taxes and no tax increases.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition) Mr. Speaker, while I cannot compliment the Provincial Treasurer on his Budget, I do admire his stamina in labouring through this ten-pound opus. We on this side do not fully agree with his conclusions, nor the financial course he has set for the province. Nevertheless, I feel I would like a short time to consider our points of disagreement and, with this in mind, I would move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable,

the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to take part in this Throne Debate in our Centennial year. I feel that I am very fortunate in having the privilege and the opportunity of representing the constituents of the great riding of Wentworth in this Legislature at this historic period of our province's and our country's history.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to join with the others who have preceded me in offering my congratulations to you on your election once again as our Speaker and guide throughout this session. I realize what a great honour it is for you but it is one which you have fully merited by the wise and impartial judgments you have rendered in the past and will, I know, continue as long as you may be called upon to act in the capacity of Speaker.

I would also like to congratulate our newest recruit to this assembly, the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). He has already shown himself to be a true Nor'Wester in every sense of the word. He has already indicated that he will be making a significant contribution to the deliberations of this House and that he will represent his constituents in a manner they will not forget on the next election day in that riding.

I would also like to congratulate those who have been given the responsibility of departments within this government and those who have been elevated to Cabinet rank. I hope you will forgive me, Mr. Speaker, if from this group, I single out the member for Lincoln (Hon. Mr. Welch) for particular mention. I know that my constituents are as pleased as I am myself with the appointment of this young, vigorous, amiable and talented member as our Provincial Secretary. We wish the member for Lincoln and the others the very best of health and success with their new and onerous duties.

I would also be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not express the appreciation of my constituents for the diligent effort on behalf of all the people of Ontario of the Cabinet Ministers, the Minister from Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan), and the hon. member for Prescott (Mr. Cecile), and for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts), who have stepped aside in order to make room for young men. And once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to single out the member for St. Patrick who, after 21 years in

this Legislature and over 11 years as a Minister of the Cabinet, has seen fit to participate actively in our deliberations as a private member of the government party.

I would like to contrast this, Mr. Speaker, with the performance of another Minister, this time a federal Liberal Minister, who resigned not too long ago from the Cabinet in Ottawa over what I assumed to be economic policy differences.

Douglas Fisher has told us in his daily column that, once out of the Cabinet, this individual did not see fit to participate in the deliberations of the federal House as a private member. Perhaps he considered it beneath his dignity. Perhaps he felt that there is no role for a private member of the government party in Ottawa. Presumably now that he is back within the Cabinet, for unexplained reasons, he will be more active once again. For myself, however, and I feel for the vast majority of Canadians, we were less apprehensive about the future of this country when he was outside the Cabinet altogether.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that the performance of the member for St. Patrick provides clear evidence of the devotion to duty, and to the people of Ontario, of the Ministers of the Crown here in Ontario, present and past. His performance also, Mr. Speaker, is an inspiring example to all of the private members of the government party. We are proud to have him as an active participant with us in these debates and we hope that he will continue to be with us for a good many years.

Mr. Speaker, this is the last occasion on which I will participate in the Throne Debate as the representative of the old riding of Wentworth, as such. In the redistribution, as you know, Mr. Speaker, a large portion of Wentworth will now become known as the Hamilton mountain; and my own township will become part of the new riding of Wentworth North. I would like the residents of this area to know that it has been a privilege for me to serve them over these past few years and that I will continue to do my best on their behalf until this present session concludes. At the same time, my riding is being increased by the inclusion of the township of Saltfleet and that portion of Hamilton which lies east of Nash and Pottriff Roads and Albion Road, and by that historic town of Stoney Creek.

I feel quite confident that the decision which the voters of this new riding may be called upon to give this year will be similar to the decision given in 1963, and I look

forward to the contest with confidence and relish. For a great number of years the Liberal Party of Ontario has been dominated by their federal organization. Never has this been so clearly demonstrated before, as at the recent convention of the Liberal Party of Ontario when the member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) was acclaimed leader of the official Opposition within this House. At that time Mr. Speaker, I could not help but feel sorry for the member because it seemed to me that the federal Ministers who graced that platform were more interested in furthering their own leadership image than they were in the welfare of the Ontario Liberal Party and the member for Brant. I feel certain that the people of this province will be most reluctant to exchange their Prime Minister—whose national stature was aptly illustrated by the Toronto *Daily Star* of February 8—for one so completely overshadowed by his federal colleagues.

I believe the people of Ontario will once again proclaim their satisfaction and confidence in the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts). If anyone had any doubts as to his ability, I think the recent exchange of letters between Toronto and Ottawa, which were tabled recently in this House, would dispel them. In this exchange our Prime Minister has been judged, not by members of this House, but by the leading newspapers of this province, including the Toronto *Daily Star*, as the greater statesman.

I would like to endorse the remarks of the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier), when he said that he was proud to be a member of the government with the initiative to suggest this Confederation of tomorrow conference. I believe that this meeting, which our Prime Minister has proposed, could well mark the turning point in the history of our Confederation.

I believe the situation within Canada is somewhat akin to the position of Great Britain within the Commonwealth. Initiative on the part of the federal government, however well meaning that initiative may be, is suspect by the provinces and particularly by the province of Quebec—just as within the Commonwealth, any initiative by Great Britain is suspect by the newly independent nations. Ontario's initiative within our Confederation will I think be welcomed by all provinces, if not by the federal government. For that reason, I hope that our government will pursue this proposal with vigour and that, in this endeavour, it will receive the support of all parties and all members of this House.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to welcome as most appropriate the creation of the Ontario heritage foundation, which was announced in the Throne Speech of January 25 last. It is entirely fitting that we should place greater emphasis, in this Centennial year than ever before, upon the acquisition and development of those properties which have historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest for all of our people.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the area which I represent is an old one by our province's standards. It has had a long history of which every resident is justly and exceedingly proud. It is fitting that we should ever be conscious of our history, and of the tremendous debt we owe to our ancestors, those pioneers who laboured under the most primitive and difficult conditions to build for themselves a better life in this new land. In fact, these pioneers charted the route, cleared the right-of-way, and laid the foundation of the road along which we travel today.

It is fitting also that we should seek to preserve our most historic sites, to restore and develop them as reminders of the work which went into the building of this nation. Such areas may, at the same time, be used as public parks and provide additional recreational facilities for us. In this way, they fulfil two most worthwhile requirements.

I would like to mention one such project in my own riding. This is the site of the Albion Falls gristmill, on the Niagara escarpment. This was originally the site of a sawmill built in 1795. It was this mill that was referred to in that famous ballad, "When You and I Were Young Maggie." Later in the early 1800s, a three-story gristmill was constructed and operated, first with water-power and later steam. It served the community until 1907. Today, little remains of this historic mill and its 30-foot waterwheel, except for one large mill stone.

The Albion Falls Centennial committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Harold Keeton, has been working very hard for some time now to have this area developed as a historic site—also John Fletcher, a pioneer of this project. As a result of their initiative, the Hamilton parks board intends to salvage and preserve the mill stone referred to above. In addition, the Albion Falls Centennial committee has requested that the archeological and historic sites board erect a commemorative plaque at or near the site of the original Albion mill.

I sincerely hope, Mr. Speaker, that the government will look favourably upon this

project and see fit to approve this modest request without delay so that this portion of the committee's project may be completed in our Centennial year.

In the 2,000 or more days of this government, we have witnessed increasing concern and preoccupation with the problems faced by our elderly citizens. We are, in fact, awaiting the report of the select committee on aging, which has been studying this whole area for some two years. No doubt the recommendations of this report, which may have already appeared in print, will form the basis for further Legislature action in this area.

It is an area of concern to all members of this Legislature, Mr. Speaker. In fact, our order paper at present contains no less than three resolutions calling for extension of health services for the elderly and chronically ill. I would, however, like to call your attention, Mr. Speaker, to one particular aspect of this problem which, I believe, has been overlooked to some degree.

I refer to the care of those elderly citizens who are financially able to look after themselves, but who are physically unable to do so. I recognize the wisdom of giving first priority to those in need. No one would argue otherwise. But we must not, Mr. Speaker, overlook the category of people who are physically dependent yet financially independent.

I feel that these people require three types of care:

(a) Home Care: By this I mean care, either in apartments specially constructed for this purpose, or in their own private homes. Here varying degrees of care would be provided for these citizens, from very general supervision to housekeeping attention and meal service. The method of payment and charges for this range of service would have to be worked out. This should not be difficult or costly, provided the service is rendered by a non-profit organization;

(b) Domiciliary Care: This would apply to those individuals unable or unwilling to look after themselves in their own homes or in apartments. It might be where only the single partner of the family is left and needs some care and supervision while still able to be up and around each day. Here, all meals, housekeeping, laundering, etc. would be provided, and close and constant supervision available as required.

(c) Nursing Home Care: This would be one step beyond domiciliary care in which skilled nursing service would be available under medical supervision. I think too, Mr. Speaker,

our aim must be to preserve the independence of our senior citizens for as long as possible.

By that I mean we must avoid institutionalizing these people simply because it may be more convenient from the service standpoint. All of us can appreciate the reluctance of our senior citizens to leave their homes and familiar surroundings unless such a move is absolutely essential.

Our ultimate objective, therefore, must be the provision of adequate facilities of each of the above mentioned types to be operated on a non-profit basis by municipalities or voluntary non-profit organizations.

At this point I would like to mention the Hamilton health association—a truly dedicated group with a long history of concern for and devoted efforts in meeting the health and social needs of the people in that area.

This is the organization which established and has operated the mountain sanatorium now for some 61 years. Some 20 years ago, when the then director, Dr. Hugo Ewart, and his board saw they were nearing their original goal—the control of tuberculosis—they vigorously searched out other useful channels in which to direct their efforts.

That they have been successful is most evident in that now they operate a sanatorium still caring for a few cases of tuberculosis; a general and children's hospital; a convalescent and chronic hospital; a school of nursing; a school of medical technology; and a rehabilitation hospital. Our Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) has often referred to this complex as "the most complete health centre in Ontario".

I am certain that other organizations such as this could be challenged to undertake the establishment of facilities for "physically dependent and financially independent" citizens.

The financing of a programme of this nature should not be difficult. I believe that domiciliary and nursing home accommodation will qualify for approximately 50 per cent of the cost through provincial grants. The remaining funds could be provided through gifts to the voluntary association, coupled perhaps with low interest, long term mortgage money.

I suggest that The Departments of Health, Public Welfare, Economics and Development should study this proposal in greater detail. I am sure that an excellent and inexpensive programme could be devised for those who are physically dependent in varying degrees, though financially able to provide accommodation for themselves and to meet reasonable charges for health services.

At this point I would like to direct the attention of this House to another subject which affects each one of us personally and directly. In fact, because of the amount of travelling we are called upon to do it is perhaps of greater concern to members of this House than to many of our constituents. I refer, of course, to highway safety.

I would like to draw to the attention of members of this Legislature a recent publication by the Ontario motor league, entitled: *A Blueprint for Traffic Safety for Ontario*.

This is an excellent document which suggests a number of specific steps that can and should be taken to reduce the mounting toll of traffic fatalities and injuries on our highways and streets. I would like to pay tribute to all those members of the OML who assisted in the preparation of this excellent booklet and in particular to the Hamilton automobile club under their dynamic managing director, Alfred U. Oakie.

As already mentioned, Mr. Speaker, this document contains many important recommendations which should be carefully studied by our Transport and Highways departments.

I would like to single out two recommendations from this booklet for particular emphasis and to add a further point which I feel merits attention.

First is the extension of the driver education programme now offered through our secondary schools. This is an excellent programme and should be expanded further, not only to high school students but to all applicants for driver's licences within this province. In other words, driver education training of this standard should be made mandatory for all future applicants for driver's licences.

The second point concerns pedestrians. I feel that we must insist on stricter pedestrian controls in our urban centres and that educational programmes should be organized to improve our walking habits and to develop in each of us a sense of personal responsibility.

Thirdly, I feel we must post and enforce reasonable and realistic traffic speed limits on our highways and our streets.

Cars travelling today on our super highways in particular—that is, Highway 401 and the Queen Elizabeth Way or any of our other four-lane highways—cars travelling at the legal speed limit of 60 miles an hour, as posted on these highways, are, I would venture to say, in the minority. The average speed on these highways, as I believe all members are aware, is closer to 65 or even 70 miles per hour, especially in daylight.

In other words we can ignore the posted legal limit almost every time we drive on these roads. My point is not that this is dangerous or that it necessarily increases the number of accidents on these super highways. Rather, the danger here is that all of us are being encouraged to ignore, and do ignore, the posted, legal speed limit on these roads. We are disobeying the law of the province and getting away with it.

Consequently, speed limit signs are ignored in other areas where the likelihood of accidents is much much greater. I feel that this situation must be changed. It is absolutely essential either to remove the speed limit signs altogether from our super highways, as is the case in England, or to replace these with signs indicating the maximum limit which we intend rigidly to enforce.

This situation should, I feel, be rectified and can be rectified immediately. Our speed limit signs must no longer be regarded as guide lines or disregarded altogether; they must represent the maximum legal speed limit permissible on that particular stretch of highway or street and all drivers must be taught to obey them at all times.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to turn to another project dear to the hearts of the residents of my area.

For many years now the counties of Lincoln, Welland and Wentworth, and the people whom they represent, have recognized the great heritage possessed in the form of the Niagara escarpment. We are concerned at the increasing residential encroachment upon this area and the possibility of losing or spoiling this heritage.

In October of 1964, these counties established a committee to investigate the possibility of creating a scenic drive along this escarpment to run from Queenston to Hamilton. Should such a route become a reality, as I hope it will, it would preserve for all time an area which has almost unlimited potential for recreation for both local residents and tourists.

This committee, called the tri-county scenic drive committee, under the able chairmanship of William Brooks, has been extremely active since that date. They have met with almost every local municipality, conservation organization and club which might be concerned with this scenic drive, and they have secured endorsement of their proposal from these various agencies.

Following this, they approached the provincial government where they solicited the

support of the then Minister of Highways (Mr. MacNaughton), and Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Roberts), with the result that a committee was set up comprising representatives of the provincial Departments of Highways, Lands and Forests, Tourism and Information and the Niagara parks commission to investigate this proposal further. This interdepartmental committee recommended that the project should receive the support of the provincial government.

The next step in the development of this programme is the conduct of a conceptual study by a consortium of parkway consultants, bringing together specialists in the fields of engineering, planning and landscape architecture. Each of the three counties involved has agreed to raise \$20,000 to assist with the cost of this study, provided the provincial government will subsidize the expenditure to the extent of 50 per cent.

I would like at this time to remind the government that this project is entirely in keeping with the programme for people announced in the Throne Speech on January 25 last. For that reason I hope and feel certain that our government will see fit to approve the expenditure of the necessary funds so that this most worthwhile project for our Centennial year may go forward without any further delay.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention scheme No. 13 of the newly formed Hamilton and region conservation authority. It is called the flood plain and conservation land mapping scheme and is aimed at halting the dumping of refuse in the ravine land of the Red Hill Creek.

In order to control or to prevent indiscriminate dumping of fill and construction of buildings on flood plain lands, this authority is now engaged in preparing maps which will indicate those areas where no dumping of fill or construction of buildings can take place without prior approval from the conservation authority.

The areas to be defined as flood plain and conservation lands will include flood plain lands, swamps, and so on. A 75 per cent subsidy to undertake this project has recently been obtained, and it is anticipated that this project will be completed during 1967. Copies of maps outlining these restricted areas will be distributed to planning organizations for municipal councils, and so on.

This programme will undoubtedly halt the city of Hamilton's indiscriminate land fill programme in the valley and flood lands of the Red Hill Creek. The site of the upper Ottawa Street disposal site has been recog-

nized as an area of water and air pollution for some time. Already the Red Hill Creek has been re-aligned at the dump causing considerable leaching under the water course. Continued burning poses a danger to neighbouring homes. The East Mountain home owners association was formed to combat the problems of the dump.

I am pleased at this opportunity to lend my support to the endeavours of the Hamilton and region conservation authority and to commend them for their efforts in conserving these lands.

Mr. G. T. Gordon (Brantford): Mr. Speaker, I first wish to bring to the attention of the hon. members an event that took place in the city of Brantford this past weekend.

This organization established a world's record and I think you will agree with me that covers a lot of territory. This organization I speak of is the band of the Salvation Army, who have conducted a musical programme for a half hour every Sunday for the past 34 years without interruption. I think you will agree with me that it is a splendid record of service to the citizens of Brantford and the surrounding area, and we offer the band master and his band our congratulations.

Congratulations also to the management, owners and staff of radio station CKPC who have made this programme possible.

I wish to speak for a few moments about a condition that will, if implemented, affect the citizens of Brantford financially for many, many years to come. I suggest to the members that they just bear with me a few moments while I cover points leading up to my main point.

As you know the Grand River flows through the city of Brantford and in days gone by our municipalities and industries had no respect for this splendid river. They just emptied their sewage and waste into the river. So much so that in the early 50's the medical officer of health refused the farmers and gardeners south of Brantford to use the water from the river to irrigate their crops.

As you will realize, this could cause a great deal of hardship to these farmers and gardeners. So I, along with a delegation, came to Toronto and met with the Minister of Health and they allowed these gentlemen to use the water eight days before they took off their crops such as strawberries, cauliflowers, cabbages, and so on.

Now, after representations made by many delegations from Brantford, from the Grand River area, who came to Toronto here to see if something could be done in clearing up

this situation, the Minister of Health, then the Hon. Mackinnon Phillips, made arrangements for a survey of the river. I remember being on that, with the gentleman who made the survey. There were members from all the various municipalities on the river; and, as we came down the river, there were check-points. At each check-point, there would be one or two men, each with a couple of pails of water taken from the river. This survey ended at Brantford.

After we had completed the tour in Brantford, we all went back to Preston for a dinner meeting. The result of that meeting was that they all agreed that the river was polluted.

Soon after this, Mr. Speaker, an ultimatum was given to all the municipalities that they had to have a sewage disposal plant, that they had to put their house in order. They had to have a sewage disposal plant, or arrangements made to build one within three years. This, as you know, has been done; and the river has shown great improvement. But the river is still polluted and this, of course, is from industry. When the Ontario water resources commission issues the same ultimatum to industry as was issued to the municipalities, we can in the days ahead expect to have a river that we can call a Grand River.

In 1946, Mr. Speaker, we did experience difficulties in Brantford. I remember I was chairman of the utilities commission at that time and a terrible taste occurred in our water. We could not use it for tea. It did not taste too bad in coffee, but when you heated it the odour was terrible.

We found out that this was phenol. We engaged a chemist who came to our plant and stayed, 24 hours a day and, by trial and error, eventually controlled this. Inspectors were sent up from The Department of Health and it was found that, in one of our tributaries to the Grand, a chemical plant was putting their effluent into the water. That was the cause of this terrible taste. Of course they removed the cause and the effect was corrected.

At that time, Mr. Speaker, many of the citizens of Brantford suggested to the commission that there should be some other source of water supply for Brantford. The commission engaged a very eminent firm of water engineers, to come to Brantford, to survey to see if it was not possible to have another source of water supply. This was done. After many months we received a report that said there was no other source

of water supply for Brantford, we would have to depend on the river, and we were very, very fortunate to have the river which would supply our water for many years to come.

They did suggest another source. That was a pipeline from Lake Erie which, as they stated in their report, would be impossible for the taxpayers of Brantford to pay. Now, Mr. Speaker, we find that the Ontario water resources commission has made a proposal to bring water to Brantford by pipeline. If ever there was a case of bringing coals to Newcastle, this is one—bringing water to Brantford.

Let us just for a moment examine what has been suggested for the city of Brantford. This pipeline would, of course, service the villages of Cayuga, Hagersville, Jarvis, Caledonia, and the township of Brantford. Lake Erie will be utilized as the supply for the proposed system. The construction of a water treatment plant at Lake Erie will be initiated in 1972, and there would be 30 miles of pipeline. The cost of this pipeline, Mr. Speaker, would be \$20.6 million.

The water supply facilities described under the proposed scheme can be financed, constructed, and operated by the province of Ontario. The associated cost of supplying these works, including amortization of capital costs, together with operating and maintaining charges, will be recovered by rates determined on a usage basis. The works will be owned by the province of Ontario and operated at cost, with an appropriate provision for adjustments in rates.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention that when this pipeline is built and brought to the city of Brantford, the existing treatment plant, which cost \$1.7 million, would be scrapped. It would not be needed.

I have shown, I hope, that the river from where Brantford takes its municipal water supply is a good supply. The engineer says, as a matter of record:

A report is available from Dr. A. V. Delaporte, formerly with The Ontario Department of Health, indicating that in his opinion the water supply being provided by the Brantford PUC through its present treatment plant is as safe, if not safer, than any public water supply in the province of Ontario.

The mayor of the city of Brantford is very concerned about this, and this is what the quote says: "This would be an expensive way of doing things."

I would add that mayor Beckett is very friendly to this government. He added that there would be one great disadvantage in the fact that potential new industries might be lost because of the water rate structure if they were heavy users of water. Because, Mr. Speaker, this \$20.6 million, as I have pointed out, will be recovered through the users of water, which will mean that for the next probably 50 years the citizens of Brantford would have to pay double water rates.

Now, just for a moment, let us consider what this pipeline would mean, what they are suggesting. They want to bring better water, more potable water than they have at present—which I hope I have explained to you is of the best quality—yet this report proposes to bring water from Lake Erie, which is said to be a better water.

We will talk about Lake Erie for a moment, and here is a study on pollution in Ontario. I will just quote one or two excerpts from it.

An excellent description of this pollution—

It is Lake Erie I am talking about—

—was provided by federal MP Harold Danforth (PC, Kent) when he said that the bottom of Lake Erie is becoming covered with a sludge carried down by the Detroit River. Underneath the surface there is a mass of insoluble sludge and slime, no one knows exactly how many feet deep, coming down the Detroit River and rolling over the bottom of Lake Erie.

When fishermen drop their nets, they become covered with this slime. This makes fishing a terrible job and is causing many fish to die. The lake is becoming a terrible place to fish. It has become so contaminated that bathing beaches are being closed down.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that because Lake Erie is bounded by a large area of the United States, Ontario has no control over Lake Erie. Now we will continue with the quote from our friend, Mr. Harold Danforth:

They are talking about it as the dead lake, and people are asking me if I realize that Lake Erie has now become a dead lake. The boats which go out and return are covered with an inch of slime on bottoms and keels. The condition is getting worse.

Experts state that if the Great Lakes, Lake Erie in particular, continue to deteriorate at the present rate, in only ten years there will be no bathing or fishing.

Boaters will plough through green and red algae, and municipal water plants will

have to use twice the chemicals now needed to purify lake waters, and manufacturers will have to treat raw water before using it.

Mr. Speaker, this is the water that the Ontario water resources commission is suggesting they bring to Brantford.

According to David Hahn, MP (Toronto-Broadview), Lakes Erie and Michigan are now so polluted they are beyond repair. The causes of pollution are many but the result is always the same: Water unfit for drinking, unfit to support life, unfit for industry, and unfit for any purpose.

And this is the water, Mr. Speaker, that it is suggested be brought to Brantford.

I have so many clippings here, Mr. Speaker, that if I read them all you would be saying that I was starting a filibuster; but here is one of February 8 from the *London Free Press*: An MP Raps Disunited Pollution Fight—Says Lake Erie Becoming a Sewer:

"Lake Erie is fast becoming a large septic tank and an open, venomous sewer," a Liberal MP told the Commons yesterday. Donald Tolmie, member for Welland, also said, "The conflicting jurisdictions are turning the war on pollution into a welter of confusion and ambiguity".

Mr. J. H. White (London South): If a Liberal MP said it, it must be right.

Mr. Gordon: I just remind my hon. friend that I quoted from a PC too.

Lake Erie Pollution a Real Threat — this comes from the *Hamilton Spectator*. Quoting again from the mayor of the city of Brantford, he says:

If the new water resources commission's policy is carried out, we will have to be relieved of our large share of costs on the Grand River conservation authority then, because we will no longer be dependent on the Grand River for water.

In that connection, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that, instead of spending \$20 million to bring polluted water from Lake Erie, a fraction of that money could be spent on building five dams on tributaries to the river, which would hold back water. And when I say "hold back water," in the spring of the year, when the water rushes down the river from the run-off, there is enough water going down that river to supply two Brantfords. With dams built on the various tributaries, this water could be held back and Brantford would have a supply of water second to none

--both in quantity and quality. That is just a suggestion.

There is one here from the *Evening Reporter* from Galt: Lake Erie Pollution to be Permanent. I will just read one paragraph of this:

Outrageously abused for years, Lake Erie became so polluted with municipal and industrial waste—

Now listen to this, Mr. Speaker:

—that midgeworms gradually replaced its whitefish, ciscoes and blue pike; walleyes and yellow perch became scarce; and at one point not long ago a million dead mooneyes and gizzards floated on the surface and piled up on Pennsylvania beaches, where they rotted and smelled.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Is this under the jurisdiction of the water resources?

Mr. Gordon: I would say so. I am just suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that this water I am speaking of now is the water it has been suggested to bring to Brantford.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gordon: In the *Globe and Mail* of November 30, their headline is, No Words Will Smooth Lake Erie's Troubled Waters. It reads:

No matter what our friends of the water resources commission say, no words will smooth Lake Erie's troubled waters. It is not an opinion in which many other lake authorities have been heard to concur.

The international joint commission, early this year, reported on a two-year study of pollution in Lake Erie. It found that waste being poured in was feeding algae into phenomenal growth. Algae growth, it pointed out, curtailed commercial fishing and recreational activities, imparted obnoxious odours, impaired filtering operations of industrial and municipal water treatment plants—

It goes on and on, and this is from a very responsible newspaper: Lake Erie pollution starving fish; Lake Erie pollution almost beyond control.

Mr. Whicher: Do they get paid for that advice?

Mr. Gordon: Oh, I could go on, Mr. Speaker—and on and on—but I believe that I have pointed out that we have, in Brantford today, in our Grand River, a water supply

that is good, potable water. The suggestion I have given—and I make that suggestion I might say from my leader, who mentioned this in a speech just recently—is, that if these five dams were built we would be able to hold back this water that goes rushing down the river in the spring, from the spring run-off, and we would have water that would supply us for many many years, in fact for all time. Yet, Mr. Speaker, this commission wants to bring this pipeline to the city of Brantford. I say again, if ever there was a case of bringing coals to Newcastle, this is one.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Would the hon. member accept a question?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: The next speaker on our list is the member for Armourdale.

Mr. G. R. Carton (Armourdale): Mr. Speaker, may I commend you on your excellence in the performance of your duties as Speaker of the 27th Legislature. It takes a rare combination of qualities to preside efficiently over this assembly and I, for one, experience a great deal of pride as I witness you exercising fair but firm control over the debates in this House.

I am especially pleased, sir, that your Deputy this year is again the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly), the riding adjacent to Armourdale. I had known the member by reputation for many years prior to my association with him in this House, and I can only say that he is a man of high principles and firm convictions, a man possessed of many fine qualities, and a credit to this Legislature.

May I offer my welcome to the member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). As I heard him give his maiden speech, in moving the address in reply, and as I see him scurrying hither and thither on his parliamentary duties, I feel that the good citizens of that riding have chosen a worthy successor to the late member for Kenora—for whom I had formed a genuine admiration in the too short time that I knew him. I also wish to commend the member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yaka-buski), for so ably seconding the address in reply.

I would like to congratulate the young and able recent appointees to the Cabinet, who represent an infusion of new blood, and who, together with the experience and wisdom of seasoned veterans, augur well for the conduct of the affairs of this province of opportunity.

I wish to congratulate the new leader of the official Opposition, the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon). Were I a Liberal, I would have no hesitation in following this young man of high character and great ability. It is indeed unfortunate for him that he takes over at a time when this province is headed by a likewise young man who possesses outstanding proven leadership qualities, extraordinary abilities, plus stability and voter appeal—which in the past have been, and in the future will continue to be, so appealing to the electorate of this province as a whole, our leader, the present and future Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts).

In congratulating the hon. member for Brant, I am mindful of the continued absence of his predecessor, and I know that I speak for this whole assembly when I say that I look forward to his restoration to good health so that he might once again occupy his seat in this House. I feel that he has much to contribute to the business of this assembly, and look upon him as a very able, sincere, and dedicated young man.

Housing by headlines!

Mr. Speaker, this is the oft-repeated accusation hurled by the Opposition at the Ontario government. Like many of the criticisms levelled at the Conservative regime, this is simply a political attack without foundation. I would like to present to you a few facts and figures which undeniably show that Ontario has been, is, and will continue to remain Canada's leader in the field of housing.

The province of Ontario first entered the post-war housing field with the passing of The Housing Development Act in April, 1948. This Act had four main features:

1. It provided for a reduction in the down-payment of lower-cost houses by setting up a provincial "housing corporation limited" under which second-mortgage loans were made to first occupants of newly-built, single-family houses in the \$10,000 category. Bear in mind, sir, that this was at a time, some 20 years ago, when one could purchase a house for the \$10,000 price.

2. It aimed to reduce the burden on municipalities in respect of houses erected by CMHC under direct dominion-municipal agreements in 1948, and subsequently by a provincial grant of half the cost of land and services to a maximum of \$300 per house.

3. It also provided provincial grants to stimulate new methods of house construction with substantial savings in costs.

It is rather ironical, sir, but I am informed there were no grants made under this particular phase.

4. It provided assistance to municipalities for redevelopment housing projects: for example, a grant of \$1,000 per suite was made to the city of Toronto for Regent Park north, which comprised some 1,397 units.

There was established, at that time, a housing branch of The Department of Planning and Development—now The Department of Economics and Development—to administer The Housing Development Act.

In 1950, The Housing Development Act was amended to complement S.35 of The National Housing Act, and this enabled the federal and the provincial governments to join in projects for the acquisition and development of land for housing purposes, and the construction of houses for sale or rent on an agreed cost, profit and loss sharing basis of 75 per cent federal and 25 per cent provincial.

During the years 1950 to 1959, a total of 4,673 dwelling units were developed under federal-provincial partnership arrangements. These projects fell into two categories:

1. Full recovery where economical rents are charged;

2. Subsidized—where rentals are based on a percentage of the family income.

The subsidies were met by the federal and provincial governments in a ratio of 75 per cent to 25 per cent, and the municipal contribution was a reduction of municipal taxes. In 1953, the first federal-provincial redevelopment housing project took place at Regent Park south.

By early 1960, the cost of construction and materials, together with interest rates, had risen to a level where it was no longer economically feasible to develop full-recovery projects for housing lower-income families. In October, 1960, a new form of housing was undertaken, which combined many of the best features of the earlier full-recovery and subsidized schemes and provided for rentals on a geared-to-income basis approximating 22 per cent of family income—full taxes to be paid to the municipalities concerned; capital costs and any operating profits or losses to be shared 75 per cent federal, 17.5 per cent provincial and 7.5 per cent municipal.

During the period, 1960-1962, a further 1,016 fully serviced lots were developed, and a number of projects of major proportions reached advanced planning stages. These included the \$22 million Thistletown project

in Metro Toronto, and similar developments at Ottawa, Kingston, St. Thomas, Trenton and Brockville.

In February, 1962, a 12-point programme was announced, including a continuing, more flexible, and accelerated programme of land assembly and rental housing, a rent certificate plan which contemplated the leasing of privately-owned dwellings and their re-allocation to low-income families on a rent-to-income basis, certain mortgage guarantees and grants, and the formation of a housing advisory committee to examine and comment upon the broader aspects of housing as it affected all parts of the province.

Subsequent legislative changes at both federal and provincial levels have recognized the validity of the programme. The housing advisory committee, Mr. Speaker, mentioned a moment earlier, recommended the formation of a Crown corporation which would be responsible for all aspects of the province's housing programme.

Thus, on May 8, 1964, the Ontario housing corporation came into being with the following powers:

1. To make loans, grants, guarantees or advances for housing purposes;
2. To enter into agreement with other agencies;
3. To acquire and hold real property.

The changed status from a functioning branch of a provincial government department to a quasi-independent organization established the legal framework for a more flexible approach to housing problems.

In 1964, significant changes occurred in The National Housing Act, allowing the making of a loan up to 90 per cent of the cost. Thus CMHC assumes more the role of a banker, and less that of a doer in the public-housing field. The province provides the further 10 per cent.

In Ontario, municipal involvement in terms of dollars is now limited to a 7.5 per cent sharing of such operating losses or profits as may occur in any family project, and a tax ceiling of \$25 per suite per annum where the project is for senior citizens. Unlike previous programmes, there is now no sharing of capital costs by the municipal level of government.

The Ontario housing corporation is well up on its schedule to provide public housing in Metro. In its most recent report OHC stated it had 5,055 units under administration in Metro at the end of 1966, a further 3,837 under construction or due to be started

in 1967, and 611 units under preliminary planning or awaiting signing of contracts.

This makes a total of 9,503 units built or in the works, compared to a total Metro request to date of 8,500 units.

Metro's first bid to OHC in February 1965, was for 4,500 family units by the end of 1967. A later request for a further 4,000 units had no deadline.

Some of the factors responsible for the housing situation include a federal policy of high immigration which landed 200,000 newcomers in the country last year, and a high proportion came to Metro. There is an ever-increasing migration from farm to city, there is a surge of marriages as children of the postwar baby boom reach the marriage age, and ironically the province's economic prosperity is partly a cause because:

1. People are earning more and consequently the cost of living, which includes the cost of shelter, is higher.
2. The downtown core of our cities is becoming too expensive in terms of land cost to support low-density family dwellings.
3. Couples whose children have grown up and left home are moving back to the city centre, but into luxury high-rise, high-density apartments.

That the Ontario housing corporation to date has been a success is recognized by leading newspaper comments.

I quote from the *Hamilton Spectator*, January 7, 1966:

On the whole, OHC has been a success story any business man would be proud to show off. When it was formed a little more than a year ago, its three-year target was 12,000 public-housing units for the province. At the end of the first year it already had all but 500 of them in the works. A remarkable achievement.

Toronto Daily Star, January 29, 1966:

At the end of this year the number of units either available or under way through OHC equals the total production of subsidized housing in all of Canada during the 15 years before OHC went into business.

One cannot, however, rest on one's oars for a moment, and on January 25 last, the government of Ontario announced in the Speech from the Throne a radically new and comprehensive programme for encouraging home ownership through OHC. The HOME plan will complement the present housing programme of rent-to-income accommodation and incorporate a number of new techniques

designed to remove obstacles inhibiting the development of housing in Ontario.

I will not take up the time of the members of this House in explaining the outline of this plan, because I am sure you are all equally as well informed as I am.

However, I think it is important to record some of the reaction to the HOME plan, now that there has been time to digest the meat of it. Obviously there have been some criticisms by special interest groups and this is understandable. The Toronto real estate board, for example, said in the brief, and I quote: "The board rejects in the strongest terms the principle of unlimited government involvement in the private real estate market." With respect it is not unlimited governmental involvement. It is directed only to those areas where private enterprise cannot keep pace.

One of the Toronto newspapers, in a recent editorial, is critical because in its opinion the plan is helping the wrong group of our citizens. With respect, they are forgetting that the OHC is not suddenly going to cease all its present activities and devote itself exclusively to the HOME plan. It is just one phase of a many-pronged attack on the housing problem, and public housing programmes shall continue to be the first priority.

Notwithstanding the criticism, the same paper started a lead editorial, and I quote:

The zeal with which the Ontario government has pitched itself into the battle to overcome the housing problem in the province comes as a striking contrast to the muddled and ineffectual adventures of local authorities in the same field.

The *Toronto Daily Star* in an editorial the day after the opening of the Legislature said, and I quote:

There is promise of effective action to deal with Metro Toronto's housing crisis in the provincial government programme laid before the Ontario Legislature yesterday.

And of course in a speech by federal Labour Minister Nicholson, delivered to the national housebuilders' association in Toronto, he said that the example set by Ontario was a good one for the other provinces to follow. He said, and I quote:

I have no hesitation in commending the Ontario example and in pointing out the success that has been achieved in Ontario by exploiting the creative initiative of private developers and builders in getting projects put into place.

To illustrate, Mr. Speaker, the multiplicity and divergence of opinions relating to the housing problems and its causes and cures, I would point out as an example that Labour Minister Nicholson, mayor Campbell of the borough of Scarborough, and countless other experts say the provision of mortgage money is the answer, while David Mansur the former head of CMHC said that more mortgage moneys would not help. Completely divergent opinions from equally well informed sources.

I have taken the time to spend several hours with OHC officials, with elected municipal representatives and with several builders, as well as reading as many articles on the subject as I could find, and although I certainly do not profess to be an expert, I am vitally concerned. I have categorized the problems historically in housing in three main headings—namely, land, mortgages, and sales.

The problem of land is the most eye-opening of all the cumulative problems affecting the housing industry. In 1965-66, land sold for \$7,500-\$8,500 per lot in Metro. Now the same lot would bring \$11,500 plus. Why? The answer is land speculation, the artificial demands for lots because no new lots come on the market.

What costs are involved in a building lot? Servicing a lot costs \$4,500 more or less. Other costs are raw land, overhead, interest and profit. It is the raw-land costs which have pushed the cost of a lot in Toronto beyond \$10,000.

The problem of mortgages is one supposedly tied to government fiscal policy. There has been no scarcity of money in the past two years if the purchaser wished to pay enough for it.

Uncontrolled inflation triggered by the 11 per cent sales tax applicable to construction materials has increased construction costs by 30 per cent in the last three years. The unit that sold for \$28,000 in 1964, with a \$20,000 mortgage, today sells for \$38,000 with a \$28,000 mortgage. The rate has been 7.5 per cent to 8 per cent instead of 6.75 per cent.

Lenders, of course, under these circumstances must become more highly selective when so much mortgage money is assigned to one unit. Another factor in the mortgage market is the boom in apartment construction—20,000 units plus, in Toronto, necessitating an unprecedented total of mortgage capital. This meant a scarcity of funds for single-family units. Compounding all these problems, of course, was the collapse of Atlantic

Acceptance, causing financial uncertainty and increased lending caution.

Sales is the last of the three major problems and, in my opinion, should be determined by the market, not by government. In the past, sir, the federal government has attempted to use the housing inadequacy as a counter-depression tool—to accelerate the economy in low periods. Federal government “pump-priming” has resulted in surplus housing in some periods and a scarcity of adequate housing in others.

The current problem, in a large measure, is to be attributed to the federal government fiscal policy of “tight money”. How can banks afford to invest in bonds if a true “tight money” situation exists? Is there indeed a game of politics involved in the situation over the proposed bank Act? If so, the public are the losers and will be paying the bill for years to come.

Having discussed these problems briefly, what are the solutions? With respect I submit these.

1. Land costs can be kept down if the Ontario government provides serviced land outside Metro at cost. This would provide a necessary ingredient to the housing package in sufficient quantities to minimize speculation.

2. The Ontario government should hasten its research and introduce legislation on condominium, legislation geared in particular to attached town houses. The houses are cheaper to build and more economical to heat and maintain. In group housing, heat, hydro and maintenance are far less for 100 group homes than for 100 individual homes. Taxes are cheaper because less land is involved.

In condominium housing, by way of explanation, the homeowner owns his living unit outright, and shares in the ownership of common portions of the building such as hallways, laundry rooms, lawns, etc.

It differs from cooperative apartment building ownership in that owners own a specific part of the building instead of sharing ownership in the entire building.

3. In building new housing in outlying areas, the province must be extremely careful to ensure sufficient schools, transportation facilities and other services are adequately integrated by the municipalities into the project.

However, having said this I suggest that planning procedures should be re-examined and undergo a comprehensive revision. The shuttling back and forth from the local-muni-

cipalities to provincial offices to the OMB involves services and costly delays in my opinion, and delays mean added costs through interest charges.

Planning and zoning regulations could be revised to allow greater densities in downtown areas. Urban renewals could perhaps be delayed pending suitable relocation of present owners. There is nothing sacred in my view about a lot having a 50 ft. frontage by 120 ft. depth. Why not a 25 ft. or 35 ft. frontage by a depth of 60 ft.? Then utilize the remaining depth for a community park.

4. A provincial second-mortgage scheme should be devised, which would help those wishing to relocate.

5. The federal government should expand the NHA mortgage limit beyond the present \$18,000 for new houses, and \$10,000 for older homes. Both are ridiculously inadequate. Much more substantial amounts of mortgage moneys must be made readily available.

6. Sales tax should be abolished on home-construction materials.

In closing, I repeat that the Ontario government has been and is a leader in the field of housing. The bold new concept of the HOME plan is recognition by this government that housing, like food and clothing, is a basic human need and is indeed the right of all persons.

Our goals must be set high—but this is not enough. We must have the full support of elected officials involved with the programme at all levels of government, and the citizens of Ontario must be willing to help the Ontario housing corporation reach its objectives and make its programme effective and workable.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, in rising to make some brief remarks in regard to the Speech from the Throne, I would say first, I have sensed an air of expediency in the first three weeks of this session. If the promises and announcements are any indication, I would say that we in the New Democratic Party are looking forward to the adventure into the periodic unknown of a provincial election.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): In 1967.

Mr. Gisborn: Well, time will tell and there will be lesser numbers on my right to make the comments about numbers.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, this is probably the last time that I will speak in the Throne Speech debate as a member for Wentworth

East. That riding will exist no more when Parliament prorogues.

Mr. Sopha: And you may not, too.

Mr. Gisborn: I would say very sincerely it has been an honour and a pleasure to represent Wentworth East. Lest members fear that I may not be here after the next election, let me set their minds at rest immediately, because I shall seek the nomination in the new riding of Hamilton East and look forward to representing the people of Hamilton East for many years to come.

Just to set everyone's mind at rest, this is no announcement of a power struggle between the present member for Hamilton East and myself. My colleague has already accepted nomination in the new riding of Hamilton Centre.

Though I have no quarrel with the results of the redistribution, I cannot help but feel some regret at the disappearance of Wentworth East. It is a diversified riding, with light and heavy industry and commerce in Hamilton proper. Historic Stoney Creek and the sprawling Saltfleet township from beyond the escarpment to the shores of Lake Ontario. During the many years I have represented Wentworth East, I have taken a deep interest in the conservation and preservation for all the people of Ontario of our greatest natural resources, the lakes and rivers, the wilderness areas, and the parklands. Mr. Speaker, I have appealed to the government year after year to acquire Lake Ontario's shore lands for public use—lands for greenbelt development as a buffer zone to the sprawling unplanned development of the Niagara peninsula to the east.

I have supported, Mr. Speaker, the logical and reasonable requests of the tri-counties committee to have the government acquire and control the use of lands of the Niagara escarpment for the preservation and the development of a public scenic route. Mr. Speaker, I shall come back to this subject during the estimates, because I feel very strongly, unless action is taken immediately, that the people of Ontario will have lost one of its most beautiful areas of this province to some selfish private groups.

Mr. Speaker, I want to touch just briefly on labour because there will be other times during this session to elaborate on some of the more serious problems. I think, Mr. Speaker, we have to agree that the year 1966 can rightly be called the year of discontent, in terms of labour-management relations. It was a year of labour unrest, of unscrupulous

use of injunctions and of wildcat strikes. It was also, Mr. Speaker, the year when a new Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) was appointed.

Either the new Minister of Labour is completely unaware of the general labour unrest in this province, or he hopes that it may all go away if he ignores it. Certainly that is the only rational explanation for his complete silence on this subject. Approximately one month after his appointment to the labour portfolio, the Minister issued his first statement. It ran on for four pages, announcing, Mr. Speaker, the revised regulations to The Athletic Control Act. He stated and I quote:

Since becoming Minister of Labour, one of my preoccupations has been with safety particularly in the area of construction and industry. It is with pleasure, therefore, for me today to be able to announce new safety regulations in the field of professional and amateur boxing.

The statement goes on, Mr. Speaker, to detail the new weight of boxing gloves, and other matters in connection with that sport. I might say that the statement also emphasized the fact that we had not had an accident or a fatality in this sport for 20 years. So why emphasize the change in regulations in this particular area? That is beyond me. But the Minister said not a word about labour matters, including safety in construction and industry where accidents, many of them fatal, occur almost daily.

The Minister's first statement could be dismissed as a joke, were it not for the fact that he heads a department which has a profound effect on the daily lives of the working population. And if he fails to appreciate the importance of his office, I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that he ask the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) to relieve him of his duties and appoint him, instead, athletic commissioner.

The government's Throne Speech tried to make up for the Minister's lack of interest with its promise of a new labour standards code. Now Mr. Speaker, this is a belated recognition of the fact that Ontario is away behind the other provinces in its standards for hours of work, vacations with pay, and statutory holidays. The government has given no details of what standards it proposes, but I hope they will be such that will put Ontario, the leading industrial province, in the forefront in this field. However, Mr. Speaker, no mention was made in the Throne Speech of the vitally important question of improved minimum wages. The present top minimum

of \$1.25 an hour produces an annual income of only \$2,600 for a 40-hour week, well below the poverty line for a family.

I would like to pause, Mr. Speaker, for a moment. I picked up a clipping from the *Globe and Mail* of February 4, which says: Remanded in Strike Case at Stratford, and I quote:

Seven employees at Listowel's Spinrite Yarns and Dyers Limited were remanded without plea one week in magistrate's court here yesterday. The men are members of the textile workers union of America. They were released on bail of \$250. Two others also charged have not been found by the police.

Now Mr. Speaker, the charges were for intimidation, violence and property damage.

I, as well as the rest of the hon. members of this House, and the public at large, do not condone this sort of thing in labour disputes. But what was the strike about, Mr. Speaker? They tell me that the union had been asking for a 30-cent hourly wage boost, and of course when they went on strike there was a strike-breaking situation.

But the present rates in that plant are \$1.44 an hour for male employees, and \$1.22 for women employees. What does this give us, Mr. Speaker? For the male employees, just about \$3,000 a year, and for the female employees about \$2,500. It is a shame and a disgrace to that great area of this province. Certainly, I would have thought that the hon. member representing that area would have made some statement to indicate his attempt to bring about a settlement there, with the kind of wages that people need and deserve if they are going to take part in this industrial province.

The New Democratic Party, Mr. Speaker, recommended a minimum of \$1.75 per hour at its 1966 convention. Nothing less than this should be considered in any labour code.

In dealing with this question of minimum wages—and I just related what the situation is in the Spinrite Yarns and Dyers Limited in Stratford—I think it would be well that the government would make a study of all the employment situations which provide such inadequate levels of income. And in their study they should determine if the continued operation of such industries are economically and socially justified. Then ways must be found to make them capable of providing and maintaining adequate standards of living for the employees and families.

One of our first, long-term objectives in this area should be, Mr. Speaker, to create

an income policy that will ensure that all Canadians have a fair share of the rapidly rising productivity of modern technology and with an adequate minimum wage, as I suggested, of \$1.75 an hour. If we find that industry cannot pay it, then they should have government assistance to make sure that those employees are receiving in industry an adequate wage to maintain themselves at the standards that are needed for both themselves and their families. It is nothing but a disgrace to hear that people come into an industry and work for such miserable wages.

Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech proposed that a new body representing management, labour and government be set up to consider the whole field of industrial relations, recognizing that all three groups should be increasingly involved in a dialogue to develop new approaches to collective bargaining and to share in our economic growth. But the establishment of this new body, Mr. Speaker, must not be used as another delaying tactic for putting off urgently needed reform in our present Labour Relations Act.

Immediate action is needed in the field of certification requirements, particularly the undemocratic voting rules; the conciliation procedures—which are archaic and used by employers to stall bargaining. It is discontentment with these archaic conciliation procedures which produced a rash of wildcat strikes last year. Workers are no longer content to wait around for months after the termination of their collective agreement, while the employer uses every loophole in the Act to slow down negotiations to a standstill. If this government wants workers to respect the law then, Mr. Speaker, it must pass laws which respect the rights of workers.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to infer that I am in favour of a great deal of government intervention in labour-management disputes. I have always said, "The least intervention by government the better." But I mean that in the sense that we should not have intervention by the government in statute regulations, as well as in the spirit of intervention. We cannot say there is no government intervention if we have statutes that do favour management and set up obstacles in the road of good industrial cooperation.

Conciliation services should only be provided when both management and union agree that the services would be of some value in bringing about an agreement. If conciliation services are requested, they should be established some time prior to the termination of the collective agreement—maybe 30 or 60 days. It would not matter,

as long as there was a definite period of establishing the opening of conciliation procedures. But, in any case, a fixed date should be established when both sides would know a legal strike may take place. This date should only change when both sides agree upon an extension. The allowable strike date could be at contract termination date, or 30 or 60 days after; but it should be a fixed date.

There seems to be no logical reason, Mr. Speaker, in forcing one side or the other to use a procedure that they feel will have no value in helping to bring about a settlement. Conciliation allows for long-drawn-out, time-consuming, and costly delay which frustrates and agitates the members involved. Most management and unions are now experienced in the bargaining technique and it must be put to the test of getting down to business with a deadline to meet.

It is said that "all is fair in love and war," Mr. Speaker, and I am convinced that management often procrastinates to no end, in many cases, to bring negotiations to the crisis point—a strike deadline—to bring full public attention to the dispute so that they will only reach a settlement to avoid a strike. Mr. Speaker, this is the crux of the matter. This attitude often backfires. The members are incensed and agitated by the long delays, they become harder to satisfy and antagonistic to their leaders, and the wildcat strike is then on.

Mr. Speaker, no one knows, nor do I, that this approach would help, but collective bargaining is with us to stay so new methods must be tried when the present fail to work. I would hope that the new Minister of Labour would give attention to some of these areas. I am convinced that he alone is not going to be able to solve this problem, because we are going to have collective bargaining in an ever-increasing scale. Next year more large industries are opening collective bargaining agreements. The ever-increasing growth in certification is going to demand a more enlightened look at the question of collective bargaining. I would put these two proposals to the Minister for consideration.

I would like to say a few words about the government-sponsored car insurance programme. The hon. member for Waterloo North (Mr. Butler) made his perennial speech about the virtues of private automobile insurance. Again this year I listened with some interest, but I feel, Mr. Speaker, that this year he did so with a lot less enthusiasm. I think I detected some doubt that he is on the right track, that maybe now he feels there is really some merit in the government taking a real

look at this whole serious question of car insurance.

Instead of emphasizing this year, as he has in the past, that the philosophical approach of the government and the Conservative Party is that they are opposed to anything that smells of compulsion, his emphasis was on the number of agents, salesmen in this industry, who would be displaced. Certainly he has given us some figures, and I do not dispute them. He has indicated that something like 20,000 agents would be out of work. I do not really think that would be the case if we turned it over into a government-sponsored automobile insurance. There would be many. Let us say there would be 10,000 or 20,000. But, Mr. Speaker, we have to put these people in the same position as many others in our society find themselves when technological improvements, automation, and progress take over. Someone has to be relocated, and these people would have to take their place in the new training programmes.

I would feel that if they are very good salesmen, they must have some knowledge of meeting the public, so there is a field for them to re-establish themselves. But they have to take the brunt of these changes, as well as many other workers in industry.

I did not hear the member say anything about the problem of the 20,000 automobile workers who are out of work in the province of Ontario at the present time because of the auto pact—because it has not worked in their interest, even though we may have to agree that it has done something for the province. But 20,000 automobile workers are still without jobs, and I have not heard of anything concrete being done at the present time in their behalf; and nothing has been said in their behalf by this government.

I intend to ask the Minister of Labour a question tomorrow in regard to the plight of the automobile workers who are displaced because of the operation of the automobile pact. As far as compulsion goes, I think certainly that that whole question has been dropped by the government and the Conservative Party, because I think they realize now that if anything is compulsory it is the system we have today. That is where you have to either buy your insurance from the private industry, and have a certificate, or you have to pay \$25 and join the motor vehicles accident claims fund. If that is not compulsion—and, of course, it is compulsion in favour of the private car insurance companies and that argument has now been reduced to meaninglessness.

Mr. Speaker, in the ever-increasing use of the automobile in this province and across this country, there are many factors causing automobile accidents where the driver has no control. I give some examples such as the poorly engineered roads; and one of the best examples to refer to is the approach from Highway 403 to the Queen Elizabeth Highway west of Toronto, where there have been several accidents—two very serious ones in the past few weeks.

A few days ago a car went out of control on that cut-off and two young children died. Then there is the recklessness of other drivers that contributes to accidents, mechanical failures, and, of course, the inclement weather.

We all have to agree that in the winter season in this province our wide concrete highways can become a death trap within minutes when we get rain or sleet at this time of the year.

The private car insurance is no longer an economic or fair way to compensate the public for property damage or injury. We have the ridiculous financial situation where car owners 25 years and younger are paying up to \$500 for their insurance coverage. And this in many cases is more than the cost of the automobile they are purchasing.

This just does not seem right—I do not know why we cannot give insurance coverage to youth at the same premium coverage as anyone else. I do not see why we have to throw them all into one package because statistics say that the majority of accidents are caused by those in the age group of 16 to 25. Why throw them all into one group?

There are many responsible and expert drivers in that age bracket and they should receive their coverage at the same rate as anyone else, and as their records deteriorate then they could be charged a higher premium. I do not think we should discriminate against them all because of a few.

The automobile insurance rates have increased 84 per cent in the period from 1955 to 1965, and this fact alone should be enough to convince the government that the time has come for it to step into the car insurance field.

But there are other facts just as pressing, if not more so. The Osgoode Hall study on compensation for victims of automobile accidents pointed out that only partial coverage for both persons and property damage is available. Even worse, victims of car accidents often have to wait months, if not years, before their claims are settled. And they found, just for the sake of figures, that only

about 57 per cent of people injured collect any insurance at all, and 28 per cent get partial coverage and some get nothing at all.

Why is it so impossible to get it through the government's thick skull that a public car insurance plan is cheaper, because the volume of business it conducts permits lower rates. It is more efficient because one agency handles everything. It is more humane because victims of accidents can be compensated quickly without waiting for long court procedures.

It is my frank opinion, Mr. Speaker, that the public has accepted the necessity for a government run plan, and would welcome a move by the government into the field.

About the only sector of the community unhappy with this proposal is the insurance companies. I recognize that the Prime Minister of this province hails from the insurance capital of Ontario, and no doubt he is under great pressure to keep the government out of the car insurance field.

But the Prime Minister will have to make up his mind whether he wants history to record him as the insurance companies' man, who used his power to delay medicare, to oppose car insurance, or whether history will record him as the true representative of the people handling the government which, to use his own terms, exists to serve the community.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Which car insurance companies are in London?

Mr. Gisborn: Does it really matter whether or not there are any car insurance companies in London?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Well, you are making an issue of that.

Mr. Gisborn: I understand from one of the experts in the House that the car business in the car insurance field is only 50 per cent of the business and the other 50 per cent is in general insurance.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Is the member suggesting the Prime Minister is being influenced by the fact that he represents a riding in which life insurance companies operate and therefore is distorting facts?

Mr. Gisborn: The Minister is nit-picking with facts.

An hon. member: He is nit-picking with nits.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, this is the last session before an election is called and this may be his last chance to prove to the people of Ontario that he is aware of their needs. I challenge him to introduce and guide through this session of the Legislature an Act to establish a government-sponsored car insurance plan.

It is not something new. We have seen that it can work in Saskatchewan, albeit under a CCF government. The Liberal government there has been trying its best to wreck it. No great research, no studies or Royal commissions are required. The facts are available and all we need now is action.

I suggest we get down to business and that other members of the House, both from the Liberal side and the government side, join with this party in making sure that we go into the next election with a car insurance programme sponsored by this government for the benefit of all the people in this province.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Speaker, in rising to make some remarks regarding the Speech from the Throne—first of all I would like to congratulate you and your Deputy for the continuing good work you are doing in keeping peace and harmony in this Legislature. Also, I would like to congratulate the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) for the wonderful contribution he is giving to this Legislature. I would also like to congratulate our new Ministers of the Crown and especially the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) for the wonderful job that he did here today in presenting the Budget to the Legislature. Mr. Speaker, as a man and an MPP with a long background in the labour movement, I am particularly pleased to be able to speak to you on some of the dynamic achievements of the Robarts government in the field of labour.

Before I begin, I cannot resist telling you a little story, aimed at our socialist opponents, the NDP. As you well know, the NDP makes much of the fact of its connection with the labour movement. In fact, the NDP usually acts as though it was the only possible spokesman by some divine right. That is why it was amusing to note in the recent Kenora by-election, which our party won handily, that our candidate's campaign manager was the chairman of the Dryden and district labour council, Mr. Lyle Stuart.

Historically, our great party has consistently pressed for legislation which would offer to the industrial worker a share of the province's income and programmes which offer security to himself and his family.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): \$1.44 an hour.

Mr. Morningstar: The Progressive-Conservative governments have not hesitated to use the full power of legislative action to meet the needs of the province's work force. Our record speaks for itself. In Ontario, every major piece of labour legislation has been passed under a Progressive Conservative administration. These include the setting up in 1914 of The Workmen's Compensation Act and the workmen's compensation board which has for more than 50 years been the model for such legislation in other jurisdictions throughout the world.

I might mention that at the federal level, it was the Conservative governments who passed legislation which made it possible for labour to organize unions and to strike without offending provisions of the criminal code.

It was also a Progressive Conservative administration which created Labour Day and appointed the first trade union member as the federal Minister of Labour. Ontario, in 1943, was the first province to establish a labour relations board and the certification procedure for the establishment of union bargaining rights. At the same time legislation was passed for the 48-hour week and vacations with pay. We are also the first provincial jurisdiction in Canada to have province-wide minimum wage legislation.

More recently has been the establishment of The Ontario Human Rights Code and, at the last session of the Ontario Legislature, The Vacations with Pay Act was changed by providing for two weeks vacation with pay after 36 months employment with one employer.

In addition to this major change, the government introduced what is known as The Age Discrimination Act, whereby the government prohibits discrimination in employment in connection with hiring, treatment and separation for persons between 40 and 65 years of age. This legislation will be administered by the Ontario human rights commission.

The Labour Relations Act has undergone major revisions. Some of these include: Trade unions and employers are now given the freedom to make their own arrangements in disputes between trade unions to protect both the union and employer and ensure stability. A union may not challenge the bargaining rights of a different union until the end of the 30th month of a three-year agreement. The new Act also ensures that the trade unionist, if he refuses to take part in

an unlawful strike, will not be deprived of union benefits for doing so. A great government!

In addition, the labour relations board is empowered to certify a council of trade unions as a bargaining agent. Under the new legislation, section 89 of The Labour Relations Act has been repealed so that a municipality, including a local school board, commission, or other local authorities, may no longer declare that The Labour Relations Act, its protections, and obligations apply to it and its employees. Municipal employees are now to be treated on the same basis as employees of any other employers. This then, is a part of the Progressive Conservative government's record in the area of labour legislation.

Of particular importance has been the establishment of the women's bureau of The Department of Labour. This bureau keeps constantly aware of the prevailing situation in the job market, and especially of any problems relating to women in the labour force.

Mr. Speaker, the women's bureau also works closely with the province's secondary schools, providing vocational guidance which takes a long look into the working future of the average girl student. At the present time, there are more than 850,000 women working in Ontario. This represents 30 per cent of the province's entire work force and 60 per cent of the women working in the whole of Canada. In Ontario, through the human rights code, it states, and I quote:

No employer or person acting on behalf of an employer shall discriminate against his male and female employees by paying a female employee at a rate of pay less than the rate of pay paid to the male employees by him for the same work in the same establishment.

In Ontario we are attempting to bring about equalization for both men and women in our province's work force, and to assure that women will have a substantial take home pay for their efforts. This is considerably different to what prevails under a socialistic government, as an example, in Sweden.

I was interested the other day to find on my desk a report from Reuters news services with regard to working wives in Sweden. This dispatch said, and I quote:

Many married Swedish women are finding that going out to supplement the family income is increasingly uneconomic. They are wives who, after paying crippling in-

come taxes, nursery school fees and travelling expenses, find themselves with no more than about \$14 a month in their pockets. While the government wants more women at work to increase production, many wives are wondering whether taking a job is really worthwhile.

As an example, a senior foreman who earns an average of about \$6,860 a year, pays 31 per cent income tax leaving him with a net income of about \$4,480 a year. If his wife works and earns about \$2,800 a year the husband's taxes raise to 40 per cent while she pays 28 per cent. Thus the family's net income would be about \$5,980, only about \$1,422 more than if the husband were the sole breadwinner.

This extra income is further reduced because the family has to pay an average of about \$392 a year to put a child in a nursery. No income tax rebate is obtainable on this. In a professional sphere, where income is roughly about \$14,280 a year, direct tax is 43 per cent with an even higher proportion if the wife works.

In the Speech from the Throne, opening the session, the government introduced a further progressive programme for the people of Ontario.

As we begin our second century, it included the new labour standards code. The construction safety programme will be strengthened by additional staff, and an extension of the training programme for enforcement personnel. Steps will be taken to bring labour and management and government closer together, to deal formally with matters of mutual concern in the broad field of industrial relations. A body will be established, consisting of representatives of labour and management and government, to explore and report on the issues which may be raised by any of these three parties.

Let me turn now to the important field of on-the-job training and apprenticeship training. There is growing recognition, among our industrial and business leaders, of the mounting need for increased investment in human resources and improved knowledge and skills. The economic council of Canada, in its second annual review, published in December 1965, dealt extensively with the contribution of education and training to economic growth.

One of the major recommendations of the council in this particular report was the development and implementation of greatly expanded programmes to upgrade and bring up to date the education and skill qualifications of the existing labour force, including

professional workers and management. The council stressed that continuing education and retraining must play an ever-increasing role in the future.

Ontario has one of the fastest growing labour forces in the world. It is estimated that our Canadian industrial and manufacturing enterprises could absorb 70,000 professional and skilled craftsmen almost immediately. Ontario currently requires 30,000 trained workers.

Mr. Gisborn: Who says that?

Mr. Morningstar: This great government. As a direct and forthright answer to this challenge, The Ontario Department of Labour is sponsoring what is generally conceded to be one of the most progressive and productive occupational training schemes in Canada. Responsibility for implementing this important legislation has been vested with the department's industrial training branch.

Basically, the programme, which embraces both apprenticeship and short-term skill training, is aiming at assisting Ontario industries to develop their skill requirements on the job. It is also designed to help tradesmen to retrain or upgrade their existing skills to meet the requirements of our changing technology. It has another purpose, too, that of opening up new doors of opportunity to young people, and to the unskilled and the unemployed.

Apprenticeship training is currently available in more than 100 trades to any man or woman, 16 years of age or over, who has acquired at least grade 10 level of education. This educational minimum has been set as part of a government plan to ensure that apprentices have sufficient ability and formal education to absorb the necessary technical details of trade training. This qualification, we believe, will also help ultimately to raise the status and prestige of tradesmen.

But let me emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that it need not and should not be considered a deterrent to participation in a job apprenticeship programme. Older workers who lack the educational requirements may be accepted for training in some trades on the basis of suitable experience in work related to the trade, so that no man or woman is deprived of their right to learn a trade. The new Act has eliminated the upper age limit.

As part of our expanded programme, we have introduced what we call short-term, on-the-job training to help industry meet its less involved skill requirements. I might mention that The Ontario Department of Education is participating actively and effectively in these training programmes.

There are generally two ten-week programmes of classroom instruction associated with apprenticeship training. The first is a basic course at the beginning of the training period—which varies from two to five years depending on the trade—and an advanced one towards the end. These courses are arranged through cooperation with The Department of Education, at the nearest provincial institute of trades or Ontario vocational centre. The Department of Labour provides tuition fees, transportation costs to and from the school at the beginning and at the end of each course, and a weekly allowance to cover food and accommodation while the apprentice is attending school. Great work being done by this government!

Mr. Speaker: Could I suggest to the member that he adjourn the debate?

Mr. Morningstar: I will be half an hour yet.

It being 6 o'clock p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 14, 1967
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE (Continued)

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Speaker, when we adjourned for the dinner hour I was discussing a training programme which this government has instituted; and I might say in continuing, Mr. Speaker, that two weeks ago the government announced that it intended to increase the weekly allowances for the training programme from a range of \$20 to \$45, to \$35 and to \$90. That is a step in the right direction. I am sure we will all agree to this, even the members in the Opposition must agree that was a move in the right direction.

Under the new scale, which will take effect on January 30 this year—it is already in effect—an apprentice who is living at home while taking formal education instruction will receive a weekly allowance of \$35 instead of \$20 as at present. If the apprentice is living away from home at the time he or she will be paid \$50. Apprentices with dependents will be eligible for correspondingly higher allowances; \$55 or \$70 for those with one dependent, \$65 or \$80 for two dependents, and \$75 or \$90 for a person with three dependents.

Great work! Quite apart from the favourable effect of these training plans in helping to meet accelerating skill needs of Ontario industries, it is important to recognize that these on-the-job programmes are helping numerous unemployed people to regain their dignity through learning a useful, productive skill. Simultaneously, many individuals are being assisted in improving their employment opportunities and earnings.

Mr. Speaker, I think you will readily agree with my view that the investment of public funds in helping to develop skilled tradesmen is definitely wiser and more profitable than paying unemployment insurance or providing welfare assistance.

I also believe you will see, even on the basis of my brief outline, that the Ontario Progressive Conservative government is second to none in providing modern and

enlightened labour legislation for the province of Ontario, the province of opportunity.

Now Mr. Speaker, I want to mention the great county of Welland, the city of Welland.

An hon. member: Never heard of it!

Mr. Morningstar: Oh the member must have. The growth of the great Welland riding not only continues at the accelerated pace maintained in the last few decades, but through 1966 and up until the present time offered some rather significant features.

Perhaps the most important was the decision to locate in Welland one of the new Ontario colleges of applied arts and technology. In just about every respect, Welland is the ideal location for establishment of a college of this nature. The decision brought me great personal pleasure because I have been going all out for several years in advocating Welland as a site for one of these much needed institutions. I have had splendid support from the council and the chamber of commerce.

An hon. member: When are they going to start to build that college?

Mr. Morningstar: They have started already; they are going ahead with it.

Mr. Paul Forestell is the chairman of the board of governors down there, there are great people on this board of governors.

The pledge is to have work commence next year on bringing Highway 406—the member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator) would be interested in this, he was in the county council some years ago—to Welland and building a new bridge over the Welland River; this will go a long way towards serving the needs of the area. Realignment and widening of Highway 20 will tie in most advantageously with the highway planning as will a tunnel under the Welland canal proposed between Allanburg and Port Robinson.

Seldom does a city the size of Welland open two new secondary schools in a single year; yet this was accomplished by the opening of Centennial and Sacred Heart secondary schools, with the Centennial school providing the city of Welland with a long-needed auditorium suitable for drama and stage presentations.

The cultural life of the community has quickened. The national ballet of Canada made its first visit to the city last November and sold out in one day. It will be back towards the end of Centennial year and there will be no doubt of another quick sellout.

Also noteworthy during 1966 was the fact that Welland was one of the few cities in Canada to be favoured by a visit from the Russian olympic gymnastic team.

Industrial activity continues brisk throughout the riding. The new Hayes Steel auto assembly plant is about to start operations in Thorold township. The Welland Forge Limited became an addition to the Welland industrial scene and a third research building is under construction at the International Nickel Company in Port Colborne.

Determination to continue to provide adequate hospital care for the people in Welland riding is shown in the fact that new facilities are being provided at the Port Colborne general hospital and that a 68-bed addition is being planned for the Welland county general hospital. Only a few years ago this most modern facility opened.

The Welland area has the unique distinction of reporting more starts on new housing in 1966—Mr. Speaker, no doubt this is very interesting to the members of the House here—than in the previous year, going against the general downward trend in the housing started last year. We had not only housing and apartment activity but the building of new credit union centres, office buildings and churches as well.

Work has begun on what will be the greatest physical transportation the Welland area will experience in modern history. This will come from the construction of the new Welland canal by-pass, extending roughly eight miles from Port Robinson to Port Colborne. The new route is now being cleared and excavation is due to start this spring.

It will keep Welland a bee hive of construction for the next five or six years and will call for vast undertakings in relocating of highways and railways and provision of tunnels to carry land traffic under the new stretch of its waterways. It will also remove one of the most acute traffic problems from the centre of Welland by moving the canal from the city's heart to its eastern outskirts.

It will not only be a unifying physical force in the city, but will offer splendid opportunity for recreational development along the abandoned channel. It is my sincere hope that we all live long enough to see the great

new and improved Welland that is bound to emerge.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to both you and the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) for the fair and dignified manner in which you conduct the debates and proceedings of the House and the committee of the whole.

To the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) I would say "welcome". For just over a year the member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben) and myself were the junior members of this House and now the member has taken our place. We, however, the member for Bracondale and myself are now looking forward to the next few months when at least 45 new members will join with us as we move to the other side of the House.

I listened with great interest as the member for Kenora spoke about his section of northern Ontario, which again indicated to this Legislature the problems of that area. He stated that the people of the north should not be penalized in economic, social and educational benefits because of the area in which they live. He well knows, however, Mr. Speaker, that this is the case and much of the responsibility lies with the government party of which he is a member.

The natural resources of the north have contributed more than their share to the economic stability of our province and our country. Almost one billion dollars in mine and forest products are produced annually in northeastern Ontario, the greater percentage of which is exported to foreign countries. No other part of the province has per capita export sales to match that area, but no other part of the province enjoys less of the return from these sales.

For example, the Adams mine at Kirkland Lake and the Sherman mines at Timagami, will produce iron ore pellets which will be shipped in total to the steel mills of Hamilton and the United States. It is estimated that for every job created at the mine and pelletizing site, eight jobs will be created in the steel mills and subsequent manufacturing of products. The people of the north are becoming very tired of seeing their natural resources moving out to produce eight jobs elsewhere when they are benefiting by the employment of only one person and that usually at lower wages. They are becoming restless and the time is coming when they will say no more.

The Minister of Mines must surely be aware of the unrest in his area, as expressed by a brief that we received yesterday and also by

a recent suggestion of a federal member from that area, who has suggested a new province in northern Ontario. Similar suggestions have been made by municipal leaders—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Make it part of Quebec!

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): He is not prepared to do anything about it, I feel sure, nor would I agree with it.

Mr. Smith: Maybe they would remove the Berlin wall that exists between the south and the north of this province. Similar suggestions have been made by municipal leaders in northeastern Ontario, as they become increasingly frustrated for the lack of a provincial programme of assistance and tired of hearing of designs for regional development that produce nothing but headlines in our newspapers.

Mr. Speaker, I am not one of those who believes that a separate province is required at the present time in northern Ontario to achieve equal economic, social and educational opportunity with the rest of the province, but I do believe that the time has arrived when this government must replace words and promises with action in regional development or be replaced itself.

During the visit of the Cabinet last fall to northeastern Ontario, and particularly to our district, representations were made to them by a group interested in the feasibility study to forward the establishment of a steel mill to process the undeveloped magnetite iron of our area. Could this government, within the framework of The Department of Economics and Development and regional development not further this study with grants and technical assistance? When the study has proven feasible, as I am sure it would, private industry should then be urged by the government to act with financial assistance from the government if need be, before this resource is totally exploited by the present industrial community to the benefit of people far removed from the natural resource, and in many cases in foreign countries.

The Ontario development corporation since its reorganization last June, has made two loans in the whole area of northeastern Ontario. Both these were in the Sault Ste. Marie and the Wawa area to the grand total of \$165,000. No direct loans have been made to establish new secondary or manufacturing industries.

Although I realize that to organize and plan a new service takes time, surely some-

thing can be done to push more quickly when the need is so critical. I would like to again refer to the Cabinet visit last fall and in particular to the speech made by the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) in North Bay at the end of the trip.

The Minister cited many facts about productivity and salesmanship in regards to the north, and again told us just how good things were for us. But some of the facts he failed to give were that in northeastern Ontario the percentage of the labour force employed in manufacturing has decreased from 22 per cent in 1951 to 16.3 per cent in 1966, when growth in this area and in the rest of the province has been phenomenal. Per capita personal income increased by 9 per cent over the province from 1960 to 1963. The increase in our area was 4 per cent in that same period or less than half the provincial average.

The cost of living has increased during this period at a greater rate and is considerably higher in the northeastern part of the province because of weather conditions, higher transportation costs and ever increasing municipal tax rates. These are the economic facts, Mr. Speaker, a 25 per cent decrease in the percentage of people employed in manufacturing, a lower rate of increase in per capita income, coupled with the faster rise in the already high cost of living. It does not require a government economist or other provincial authority to tell us we are suffering from an ever decreasing standard of living as compared to the rest of the province. This is the record of this government's previous programmes for people in northern Ontario, and it is the record about which northern Conservative members, and I suspect even some Cabinet Ministers, and candidates, are becoming increasingly uneasy and apologetic.

I would like now, Mr. Speaker, to mention the health service needs and to quote from the northeastern Ontario survey 1966 to show the inferior services that are now available in the north.

The ratio of doctors to population in northeastern Ontario is 1 to 1,103, whereas the provincial ratio is 1 to 776. The ratio of dentists to population is 1 to 4,478, whereas the provincial ratio is 1 to 2,463. In other words there is available more than 40 per cent less medical service and almost 100 per cent less dental service than in the rest of the province.

There are no public convalescent hospitals or hospitals for the chronically ill in the whole region. There are also no private

chronic care hospitals. Some general hospitals provide an inadequate number of beds for the chronically ill but in some large areas none are available whatsoever. The Ontario hospital in North Bay is continually overcrowded with little opportunity for proper treatment. A new psychiatric hospital at Porcupine is completed or nearing completion, but I understand the problem remains as to where staff will be found to open it. Most areas have no private psychiatric treatment available at all.

The provision of medical services and personnel in the whole province is of major concern, but in northeastern Ontario it has reached acute proportions. The present programme of extending educational facilities in these fields will not be met for some years and within a short time the southern parts of the province will well understand the critical conditions that have existed in the north for years.

In the field of regional government and taxation municipalities of the north face similar problems to those of the rest of the province. All the members of this Legislature are aware of the tax burden the homeowner is now carrying, and this or the succeeding government must formulate policy to relieve them of 80 per cent of the cost of education and all the costs of welfare.

The costs of welfare to the municipality and the application of the provincial regulations by municipal welfare departments varies greatly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Statistics show that in my city their application is very stringent, to say the least, whereas other municipalities make full use of the 80 per cent of the cost available from the province to provide welfare wherever possible within the broadest meaning of the regulations.

The government must move to take over completely the costs and administration of this general welfare and provide trained, or at least semi-trained, personnel to equalize the availability across the province.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer to the situation within the city of North Bay that is creating a hardship and a problem to many of the people who should be receiving welfare and are not. Both the provincial welfare department and the council of the city of North Bay are fully aware of the situation that exists in the administration of welfare in the city of North Bay, but both bodies find it difficult to deal with. The following figures, Mr. Speaker, indicate the wide difference of payments made by different municipalities across the province. The

figures are those of The Department of Public Welfare for the calendar year 1966. I will name some municipalities as well as the amounts they are paying in welfare.

Fort Frances spent \$36,945, with a per capita expenditure of \$3.98 for last year.

Fort William, \$232,380 for a per capita expenditure of \$4.91.

Port Arthur, with a population of 46,000 and some, spent \$184,930 for a per capita expenditure of \$4.

Sudbury, \$331,879 for \$4.10 per capita expenditure.

Timmins, \$246,828 for a per capita expenditure of \$8.51.

Cornwall, a per capita expenditure of \$15.09.

Kingston, a per capita expenditure of \$7.98.

Pembroke, a per capita expenditure of \$7.18 for ten months only.

The city of North Bay spent \$18,304 for a per capita expenditure of 81 cents.

The above figures, Mr. Speaker, indicate the point I am trying to make. Welfare payments under general welfare assistance and supplementary assistance within the city of North Bay are niggardly to say the least.

Why the city of North Bay, with a per capita personal income of \$2,170 and an unemployment ratio higher than the city of Sudbury, which has a per capita personal income of \$2,390, should have a per capita expenditure on general welfare assistance of 81 cents, compared to the \$4.10 expenditure of Sudbury, is beyond comprehension. When one compares the city of North Bay with any of the other municipalities that I have listed, as well as many others across the province, the same comparison holds true. The problem must lie in the administration of the provincial regulations by the welfare department of the city. The same situation is apparent in the provincial supplementary assistance administered through the city to old age pensioners and others to cover the extraordinary costs of living.

The city of North Bay last year spent \$556.90, whereas the city of Cornwall spent 43 times that figure and the city of Sudbury, 13 times as much. Most other municipalities across the province showed similar amounts spent per capita as these two other municipalities.

Under this assistance those people still now existing on the \$75 per month may apply for assistance of up to \$20 per month to offset the extraordinary costs of drugs, rent and

other requirements. If two people obtained full assistance in the city of North Bay last year, they would have accounted for almost the whole expenditure made by the city. The needy people of my city are not receiving their share of the 80 per cent of costs being made available by this province to other municipalities. They have the same needs as people elsewhere and even more so than those of our more affluent communities.

I would ask this government during this session to amend the regulations which establish the regional welfare boards to allow cities to be part of these boards. Our municipality could then apply to be included in the Nipissing regional welfare board and the administration of general welfare assistance would be moved to that board. This move, I believe, Mr. Speaker, would relieve the situation and allow the less fortunate to receive help when they require it.

The initiation of a comprehensive day-care centre programme in many areas is required and the initiative must come from both the province and the local community. Responsible groups at the local level should administer these centres with direct financial cooperation of the provincial Department of Public Welfare, rather than through municipal departments where their establishment could be discouraged by cost factors. The hon. Prime Minister's (Mr. Robarts') recent statements in this House regarding regional government gives some encouragement that action will finally be taken but he did not state when.

The city of North Bay and its two adjacent townships form a classic case of urban growth in the smaller centres of the province and the problems that have arisen between adjoining municipalities.

The water supply for the whole area is controlled by the city. They sell water to the two townships. Major expenditures are required on this system, but to arrive at cost sharing agreements between the three municipalities will take years of negotiations. To devise a plan to share hospital capital expenditures took six years.

The sewage treatment plant, built some 10 years ago, is now providing inadequate service and only last year the cost of the present feeder lines was finally settled after 10 years of operation. An overhead railway crossing to be shared between two of the municipalities has been in the planning stages for 10 years, partly because of differences on cost sharing.

Many other areas of disagreement have arisen and to solve them took very extended periods of time. Presently, the city has made application to annex parts of both the adjoining municipalities, and one of the adjoining townships has applied to amalgamate in total with the city.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, some type of regional government is certainly required, but no direction or help has been forthcoming from the provincial government. Even the local press, which invariably supports this government, has been moved to editorialize because of the lack of action and policy in this province in the field of regional government.

It is apparent, Mr. Speaker, that this government must move with a broad programme to give equality of opportunity and social service, as well as an increased standard of living to the northern part of the province as well as to the other areas such as eastern Ontario.

In the field of economics a strong policy of regional development based on broad economic surveys of the particular region must be initiated. This policy must include the availability of moneys to industry at low interest rates to attract industry to the areas. Added to this should be an inducement in the form of provincial transportation subsidies to the Ontario Northland Railway and other carriers. A move should be made by the province to acquire from the Canadian National Railways that part of their line which runs between Toronto and North Bay to complete the provincially owned system between the north and the south so it could then be developed into a true development road.

A mention in the Throne Speech of the government's projected policy of developing air strips in the north is most interesting, but the question is when will they start the programme and how many are planned for this year and in what locations? Many municipalities have been active in this field in recent years and have developed these facilities with the approval of the federal Department of Transport.

In the field of health, the establishment of new medical and dental schools in the province is still required with special grants and bursaries to students who will go to the areas of need after graduation. Medical clinics, staffed by The Department of Health employees until private practitioners are available, should be set up in areas where no other service is available.

Special financial help should be made available through The Department of University Affairs to Laurentian University and its affiliated colleges for the establishment of the first undergraduate course in social work in the province.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): Mr. Speaker, I want to join, sir, with others who have already spoken in wishing you the very best. I find that at least while I was here, you have been one of the most fair men, I think, who has ever occupied the office of Speaker. I have oftentimes questioned whether or not you were using good judgment; but however, taking all in all, I think you have tried to do a very excellent job, and I wish you the very best.

Now to the new members who have joined the ranks of the Cabinet, both of them I think are very fine men. One of them is from our part of the province. I feel certain that both of them will do a very excellent job. But I want to say a word about an old friend of mine who is now out of the ranks of the Cabinet, the former Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Cecile).

This is a man who was born in our part of the world and a man who comes from one of the finest families that I think I have ever met. I really do not know one thing about him that is bad, even though he and I for many years have not agreed in the field in which we have both many times had battles.

I am speaking now of his mother. I do not know how many hon. members of the House have had the honour of meeting her. This lady is one of the finest people I have ever met, barring none. May I say that even though he has gone from the higher ranks that I wish him well in any field he may choose, whether it be saying on here as a member or whether he wishes to go back again to the practice of law.

There is one other man who is gone from the ranks of the Cabinet, a man we have all admired, I think, over a long period of time, the former hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Roberts).

Here is a man that entered the House, I think in the year 1943, and with the exception of one Parliament I think he has been here all of that time.

Finally he resigned from the Cabinet and for some reason or other, we find now that this man, after having served well over a long period of time, we find him now here in the corner in some obscure spot.

We have heard it rumoured around the halls of the building that this is nothing else but an act of spite. I want to say that if this is an act of spite, and it has all the earmarks of being that, that this is an affront, not only to this hon. man but it is an affront to every member of his riding, for every person in his riding has for a long time had a high regard for him. I should think that a man, having served as long as he, would at least have deserved to occupy a position on the right of the Speaker, in honour of the much good he has done for the people of the province, and not have some personal spite taken out upon him, that may lie in the hearts of the heads of the government of the province or any member of the Cabinet.

Now before I go on—

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): That is not a nice thing to say.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): It is not a nice thing to do.

Mr. Reaume: I want to say this, that when members will have served this province as well as that hon. member has, he probably then will occupy a seat down in the front row and not be back there heckling all of the time. There is no question about the facts.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: All I say is it is untrue, and the member knows it.

Mr. Reaume: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: It is a lie.

Mr. Reaume: It is not a lie, it is a fact.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): That is a word most members opposite understand.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I will not stand for that.

Mr. Reaume: I do not care if the Minister does or not.

Mr. Whicher: What is he going to do about it?

Mr. Reaume: That is the point.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: The member has my opinion, that is satisfactory to me.

Mr. Reaume: I am certain that all of us—

Mr. Whicher: Four or five of you move over here—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Reaume: Mr. Speaker, I am certain that all of us here feel very badly about the fact that the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts) of the province is not feeling well and I hope, as we all do, that he will again, at an early date, take his place in the House. Regardless of whether or not we agree, any of us—whether on one side of the House or the other—I think there is one thing we can honestly say, that after we have met and argued about various points I really do not think, and this goes too for the hon. Minister of Mines, I do not really think that we carry any ill-feeling in our hearts, sir, one towards the other.

However, we have a feeling over here that we are on the eve of an election. Now I do not know what really brings about that feeling, there just seems to be something in one's blood after having spent many years in this type of work, that you imagine there is something taking place. I think that after hearing the Budget today, from the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) I think we can feel pretty certain, sir, that before very long the Prime Minister of the province will say that it is time that we now go back and face our people again.

It has been a long time, as a matter of fact.

I want to say that I thought it was a very good Budget. I want to say that I think it was well handled. I want to say too that there was one thing that we noticed about it that is a little strange, yet I think it points and has all the earmarks of meaning that the government intends going to the people at an early date, that part where they mention no rise in taxes. This is a wonderful year for them to bring that point up.

Well we are ready. As a matter of fact, not according to the poll as outlined the other day here by the Prime Minister of the province wherein he quoted figures something like these: Tories, I think, had 42; Liberals had 32; and our friends to the left had 27.

It totalled that much. Yes; that was a surprise. The whole thing, of course, totalling 100.

Now I do not know where that poll was taken. I do not know who took it. I agree I think probably it was taken in London at the hunt club. But in any event, whoever took it; we had one taken by a group of honest people and of course our honest poll did not show the government there at all. I think this is running about as it ought to, because in every paper you read and wherever

we go, the image of the Prime Minister of the province, indeed the image of all of them, is day by day getting worse.

Now it is hard for us here to ever think that their image could be any worse but I am not saying what we think, this is what the people on the outside think.

And the fortunate part about it all is that while their image is being worsened as time passes by, and I am happy that they are paying attention, the image of our party is getting better.

One of the great reasons for that is that not long ago about 1,800 people at a convention here picked on a young man to head our party. I think that you will admit, sir, as the papers do and people do, that our stock is now going up and that some of the members of the government are now being bothered with an ailment that might properly be termed "Nixonitis".

We have heard a lot of things that they have done for the people and we have heard of a lot of things that they have not done.

I am thinking back now of the election of 1959; that was a good one. In 1959, if members remember, in Essex county at that time we had a man here in office in the Cabinet who was Minister of Public Works. We had also at that time the Speaker of the House and the Whip of the party.

I remember at the opening of the campaign there was a great big picture appearing in the Windsor *Star* showing a huge building, an office building, the government was going to build in Windsor on one of our main streets, a building that was going to be paid for by the people of the province. This was a building that was going to be a real honour for us to have. This was a campaign promise, this was a promise that was made on every Tory platform in that election of 1959.

Immediately the election was over, the promise went out the window, the building was not built, we have not got it yet. I would imagine that it will not be long now until they will be up there again promising more things, more buildings and if those promises that they make now are not worth any more than the ones they made then, I can say this to all of them, they might as well stay home, because they will get nowhere in that part of the province.

Mr. Whicher: Promises, promises, promises! That is all they can do.

Mr. Reaume: Mr. Speaker, we in Windsor and the area had a large number of people who invested in a company that recently

went broke; the Prudential Finance. These people, as in other parts of the province, and indeed I think all parts of the country, there were about 8,000 of them, were mostly small people. They were not big people, not people with means, real means. We found in the instance of the failure of the Atlantic Acceptance Corporation, that when that one went broke the government of the province immediately ordered a wide open, full-scale probe. But when this company went broke, Prudential, instead of having a wide open probe, inasmuch as it affected all the small people, we are now having a probe behind curtains, beyond closed doors instead of bringing the whole rotten thing out in the open where everybody in this province would know what it is all about, as they are doing in other instances. This one, for one reason or the other, they are hiding.

I say that there are 8,000 people who have lost every single thing they own in this world. When a thing of that kind happens, one would imagine that any government, whether it be even their type of government or any other type, would say that here is a case where we are going to find out what it is all about, not behind some closed doors, right out in the open, and let the chips fall where they may. People are crooked and they ought to be placed behind iron bars.

But I think we have gone far enough with this sort of thing. All we have seen, for months and months prior to the failure of this company here is one paniphlet, thousands of them went all over the province:

"Only five days left. Get yourself a grandfather's clock free, get your wife a hot water bottle, \$37.50 as a bonus".

Any government—

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Get your grandfather clock a hot water bottle?

Mr. Reaume: I will order the Minister one; they will be all gone now. But this government—it would appear if they had even had their eyes on the ads in the paper while people and companies dealing with other people's money are advertising in that way, one would think that they would know that there is something wrong, and that a year ago or more they might have stepped in and helped these people before all of their life-time savings had gone down the drain.

Mr. Speaker, there is one other matter of importance that I should mention. In the fall, the automobile agreements which exist between the large auto plants or companies

of Canada and here in the province, and the autoworkers union will expire and they will then be talking about a new agreement. One of the issues that will arise in these long talks will be the matter of parity of wages, as they exist between the autoworkers of our province and the autoworkers of the United States.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Where does the member stand?

Mr. Reaume: Well, if the member would wait now, I will explain that to him.

Mr. Singer: Slowly, so he can understand.

Mr. Reaume: The member wants to know where I stand? I know there are people, probably the hon. member is one, I do not know, who say that the automobile worker in our land is not as good as the one in the states.

Mr. White: No, I say the member almost ruined Windsor when he was mayor.

Mr. Reaume: And I am saying this, that parity of wages is an important issue. I think the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), and the hon. member—because after all he is a brainy person—could be of great help if he wanted to be.

This parity of wages is going to be, sir, a very hot issue. My stand on it is quite clear. I think that the workers of Canada, not only the autoworkers but others, are equally as good. Living costs are as high here as they are there. I think we do equally as good a job here as they do over there, and inasmuch as there is an agreement between Canada and the United States that parts of autos go from here over there and from there over here freely without duty—

Mr. White: The member should speak to his friends in Ottawa.

Mr. Reaume:—Then I think the worker over here is entitled to an hourly wage as great as the worker over there.

Mr. White: That is up to the member and his friends in Ottawa.

Mr. Reaume: This government—

Mr. White: Why does the member not lead a parade down Ouellette Avenue as he did when he was mayor?

Mr. Reaume: Oh why does the hon. member not go outside for a while?

I think it is important, sir, from this angle. The Minister of Labour and indeed the people of the government—

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): It is Nicholson.

Mr. Reaume: No, it is not Nicholson.

I think what they ought to do, and probably start early, is to have a look at the agreements which now exist. I think what they also ought to do is to call in representatives of auto companies, representatives too of the union, and try to head off a possible strike that could easily occur over this one issue.

This government has a habit of waiting until after a strike occurs and then stepping in and trying to stop it. It is much better, if you know that a fire is going to start at a certain time, to take every step in order that the fire does not start.

Mr. Yakabuski: Give him the Pearson formula.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Just like Mitch did in Oshawa.

Mr. Reaume: Here is one opportunity to step in early and make certain that there is no strike over this one issue. Now if there is parity of wages, if our auto parts are flowing freely across the border, no duty over there or over here, the government might also take a look at why prices of a car over here are much higher than they are over there—

Mr. White: The member should speak to his friends in Ottawa.

Mr. Reaume: Automobiles are made here in the province, and if the member and the government do not know anything about the auto parts agreement then they should hurry up and find out because if the automobile industry flourishes it will be their province and mine that will be helped, but if it does not flourish it will be their province and mine again that will be hurt. So it behooves the government of the province to keep its eye on this matter all the time.

I know they want to put all the blame for everything on Ottawa, I know that the Tories of the province have a habit of running up and down the province making speeches and saying: "We are for a strong form of government up in Ottawa." But then they come back home and they dig at the roots trying to pull it apart, or they run down to Ottawa all the time with a tin cup asking for money and funds and if they do not get what they want,

back they come here to the province and say to the people: "Well, we cannot help you because those hard-fisted people in Ottawa will not fill up our cup."

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Reaume: In any event, getting back for the moment to the automobile agreement, I am merely asking that prior to the fall—and this is the time the agreements will be up again—that we do not wait until the actual expiration until our government, the government of the province, starts finding out what it is all about, because when a strike occurs—

Mr. White: The hon. member encourages strikes.

Mr. Reaume: No, I will not; oh, no, I will not.

But we do know now that up in Oshawa—I do not know how many—but there are perhaps about 3,500 out of work. I am merely saying that if there are 3,500 people up there out of work, I feel sorry for them because we have had this happen in Windsor many times.

When a strike occurs there are some 35,000 or 40,000 people involved in Windsor and elsewhere in the auto plants, so I think it would be important if the Minister in charge of the department, with the competent advice I am certain of the Whip of the party—and I do not know how he could possibly do it if he did not have his advice—and the member should help the Minister out! This is a very important thing because the member has plants in London also engaged in the making of auto parts.

Mr. I. W. Thrasher (Windsor-Sandwich): Mr. Speaker, today I welcome the opportunity of again saying how thankful I am that you are still the Speaker of this 27th legislative assembly.

I would also like to welcome the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) who recently joined the Conservative ranks. I feel akin to the member for Kenora as I too took my seat in a by-election. It would seem to me that there is something special in arriving as a government member in this fashion.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): We get most of them.

Mr. Thrasher: I know the Opposition was working frantically to defeat the hon. member, but as I have had the pleasure of meeting him personally, as well as meeting his wife, I know why the people of Kenora saw

fit to send him to Parliament. May his days in this House be long and happy!

May I at this time offer my congratulations to the other members that have taken different posts in our government. I suppose it is only fitting to welcome the amicable hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), and it is to be hoped that he stays that way. We on the government side will do everything possible to keep him in this frame of mind.

I would also like to make a suggestion to the member that he plant a large crop on his farm this year as there is no doubt in my mind that after the next election he will be back at his farm and not the leader of the Opposition.

I would like to make a couple of comments to the member of Essex North (Mr. Reaume) about this building which was supposed to have been built in 1959, and I will say to him that as long as I am a member of this House I will see that this building is not built, if we have the prosperity that we now have in Ontario, and I will tell you why.

Right now there are several government bodies leasing space in different buildings in Windsor and the owners of these buildings are collecting taxes. Now he suggests that we take people out of these buildings and put them in a government building and make these buildings empty; and therefore, these people will not be collecting money to pay taxes. I say this is absolutely wrong.

As regards to buildings being built in Windsor, we have built many buildings at the University of Windsor. There is now on the drawing board the building of a school of applied arts and technology, costing from \$10 to \$15 million. There are hospital extensions going on which this government has approved. I say to him that this is the type of building we should be building — buildings that our people can use and not buildings to house or take away from buildings that we are taking taxes from.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): It was a promise.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): No, that is from the member for Essex North.

Mr. Thrasher: I would like to say to the member at this time, when he says that we will get no votes down there, I would like to ask him how about my election when I got more votes than the Opposition? I say to the hon. member at this time that I do not think he will get as many votes as the man who is

going to run against him, and he will not be back.

Now I do not intend to run people down here. The suggestions I am going to make tonight are suggestions for the good and improvement of our people.

Mr. Speaker, tonight I am going to speak on a very vitally important and controversial subject and one that is in the headlines very much these days. This is housing.

Now this was brought out very forcefully last Friday. I happen to have had this speech ready for some 10 days now and some of the points that I will be covering were already covered at the meeting last Friday.

However, I would like to reiterate some of these points, because I feel they are very, very important. Since I have been in the real estate profession for 16 years, a director of the Ontario association and the president of the Windsor real estate board, I feel that I am qualified to speak on this subject.

In any serious consideration of housing—that is housing which the average citizen can afford—there are two important facets.

One, the lack of serviced land, or in broader terms, sewage. There is no really great problem for water, hydro, gas and streets, although they are rather costly.

The other is financing, or in plain language money. Every book, periodical, news clipping that could be found was read on this subject, and it was discovered that nearly every person had a different idea as to the best method of handling this problem.

The Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) and the federal Minister of Labour, the Hon. J. R. Nicholson, can be congratulated for bringing together heads of municipalities at the Royal York last Friday to discuss this very important subject.

Away back in the late 1950's the OWRC warned municipalities to clean up their sewage. Very little was done. Now the fruits of procrastination come tumbling down on their heads and cries go out to senior governments to bail them out; and boy, our government intends to do just that and we will.

In life it is so easy to condemn and so hard to praise. Actually there are many reasons why we find ourselves with a lack of homes.

For the past two years money, for some reason or other, seemingly disappeared. However, this year our office has actually been called by four different lending institutions asking us to place mortgages. This has never happened before during the past 15 years. But I say, and say strongly, that our citizens

cannot afford to pay eight per cent for the use or rental of money for homes. This is an outrageous calamity.

Back in 1955 at an industrial committee meeting, when we were attempting a \$20,000 survey to tell us what was wrong with Windsor, I stated that we had two problems; one, sewers and two, proper financing. Some 12 years later we discover not only Windsor but the whole of Canada with the same problem.

In 1947 every newspaper, every speaker, was predicting that in the year 1967 we would need housing by the hundreds of thousands for our war babies, now 20 and 21 years old. They were right, but what did we do about it? Very little!

Municipalities have been very lax in not having the foresight to prepare adequate developed land for this expected increase. In housing there are two mandatory economic requirements. One relates to the economy as a whole, the other relates to individual ability to pay for shelter.

Our Canadian economy should be geared to provide enough homes plus a few more, so that we can properly house our people and at the same time keep the cost of housing down. As far as the individual's ability to pay for shelter, we are told that many, many people need housing but can they afford this luxury? What happens if our people cannot purchase these homes once they are built—and at today's prices they cannot. Many \$20,000 to \$25,000 homes are sitting empty because of too high a down payment. Somehow we must adjust our economy to allow for proper down payments and proper interest rates so that these people can fit into our economy with pride of ownership and an ability to pay for shelter.

The houses we build today and how we treat them, the form and pattern of our cities, make our economic and social life. It is in this environment that our art and culture are attained. During the next five, 10, 15 or 20 years, we will need thousands upon thousands of homes. Are we keeping up in planning studies; should we allow strip housing along our highways? I say we should not, yet day after day this is happening.

We have three standards of housing: 1. The kind of dwelling or accommodation with sufficient space and equipment for bringing up a family with decent privacy for each member; 2. The cost of producing this house based on an adequate wage for the person building the house; 3. The standard of living—a certain portion of a man's living must go for clothing and other necessities, therefore

he has only a certain proportion or percentage that can be spent on housing. If any one of these standards should be relaxed we would have no difficulty, but unfortunately they cannot.

Let us look at standard number one. A couple is married, say, in their early 20s, and have three children. This couple should have four bedrooms but unfortunately his income is probably at its lowest. This is the type of family to whom we must give help. Perhaps the family's payments could be on an accelerated basis—as his income goes up, his payments go up.

Standard number two can be solved only if we can find methods of mass production, or new materials that are less expensive. For instance, dry wall used extensively in the States and in \$50,000 homes is not used to its fullest in Canada. I understand that in Massachusetts, complete services cost \$25 a lineal foot. Their climate is similar to ours yet it is costing us from \$50 to \$75 a foot and up. Surely something is wrong with our engineering to cause this discrepancy. A family should not pay over 25 per cent of its income on housing yet today many are paying 30 per cent and up. This is a serious undermining of living standards.

Our people must have proper rights and liberties. Housing is public administration; it is privately licensed; it is engineering; it is art; it is real estate and manufacturing; it is for children as well as elderly people. In essence, it is our life. The public should be better informed about two facts: 1. Income costs; 2. Housing costs. Cities should be helped to assume initiative in building homes. Serious consideration should be given to architectural design of our homes. Dinky little bedrooms should cease. The best minds in the country should concentrate on community planning and architectural design in order that future generations will benefit.

Canada's housing starts in all areas across Canada totalled 166,565 units in 1965 and 134,000 in 1966. This was a decline of 32,000 units or 24 per cent. Ontario housing starts in all areas in Ontario dropped to 52,000 units in 1966, compared with 66,000 in 1965. In Metro Toronto, dwelling starts slumped to 22,000 in 1966 and 32,000 in 1965. I point this out to show the largest decline in housing starts was in Metro Toronto, being 32 per cent as compared to Ontario at 22 per cent. It must be pointed out that the most critical housing shortage is in Metro Toronto.

The cost of servicing raw land has skyrocketed during the past few years. I believe

this is when a government must step in and buy land, service this land, and then either sell or lease the lots. The cost of servicing lots has become prohibitive to anyone but a very large builder or developer. Supplying serviced land solves many of our problems. Only \$30 million was borrowed in 1965 and \$38 million in 1966 under the loans for municipal sewage treatment projects. Municipal taxpayers are being deprived of many other essential services in order to pay for mounting education costs. Developers are now being forced to agree to pay school levies before subdivisions are planned.

This problem requires deep study. Perhaps municipalities should take more extensive views regarding financial assistance under section 36F of The National Housing Act to get more homes quickly. Maybe we should consider the adequacy of septic tanks in areas where they meet all standards of health. The lagoon seems to be the answer in some areas. Do we need all this glitter in modern subdivisions? Just the other day I drove through a macadamized subdivision, one that was a soldier settlement 20 years ago, and I really can't find much fault with this subdivision. I agree that curbs and what have you are probably more functional but can we afford this luxury? This could easily be compared to some of the luxuries on an automobile, but literally thousands and thousands of people are driving cars without a lot of these luxuries. I do not see why streets without curbs in residential areas cannot be acceptable.

Now that we have serviced land is it necessary to have such large lots? In today's busy life do people want a large lot? More grass to cut; more taxes to pay. Perhaps we should make a lot deeper with less frontage if more square footage is required. We cannot afford to go sprawling across our fertile lands with two or three houses per acre. We must find a higher use for this land. One use that has been neglected of late is what was once known as the income bungalow—the one and a half storey home with an apartment above which could be rented. Let us analyze this for a moment. The family owns the downstairs; the upper can be used as a rental unit. This type of home has a multiplicity of uses. Mainly it supports the mortgage payments. We must have a greater density of homes on our land.

It is high time land use regulations were revised. This is now being encouraged by Ontario housing corporation. Ontario housing corporation is thwarted by existing municipal by-laws and this will be proven more and

more as they try to speed up production. We realize that there must be regulations to protect home buyers against unscrupulous builders. However, the same regulations stifle such organizations as Ontario housing corporation, which should be able to pioneer development and provide proper design. Here again is where we need the best people we can get for quick research.

Some of our housing shortage is attributable to the existence of a multiplicity of building codes and zoning standards which are enforced in such a way as to make production of low-cost housing impossible. Average population densities should be raised to allow more units of three- and four-bedroom houses. Zoning by-laws in the Metro planning area should be standard throughout.

In 1946—and I quote—Mr. Howe, Minister of Construction, said:

The ultimate squeeze in housing shortage is still to come. In order to get out of the rather desperate situation we have gotten into, it will be necessary to build 480,000 units during the next five years.

It seems to me that today we are in a similar situation, perhaps worse.

After much analyzing, and realizing that Henry Ford, by mass production, was able to build a car that people could afford, it suddenly dawned on me that herein lies one of the answers. One does not need to be an Einstein to realize that if you order 100 carloads of lumber instead of one, or 1,000 bathtubs instead of one, the price goes drastically down per unit. This is proven in chain store buying. Quantity buying brings the price down. The cost of custom building one car would be prohibitive compared to the cost of building 100,000. We must apply this same principle to house-building. Mass production does not have to be done in a factory. It can be done on the job.

However, I understand that by the fall season of 1967, a builder of prefab homes will be in full operation in western Ontario, turning out three-bedroom homes for \$10,000 plus land. They expect to turn out between 2,000 and 3,000 a year. This is only a start. We must have mass production techniques on the job. If a contractor sublets 500 footings for basements, the cost per unit comes down; down the line of houses come the workmen; down comes the cost. Building of homes must be similar to building cars if we are to keep the cost down and keep up with production.

Mr. Speaker, do you realize that almost every building in Canada will have to be

replaced in one way or another during the next 50 years, plus the cost of keeping up with necessary needed expansion—a staggering thought, but nevertheless true.

Row housing and town housing seems to be popular, perhaps with a common play area. A study is now underway for a whole subdivision with private ownership of all services. This is a new concept in thinking. This would be similar to owning a large estate. Condominiums, built and owned in large numbers in the States and South America, seems to be a bad word in Canada. Why can't we have condominiums in Ontario? This type of ownership gives a person pride of ownership at a reduced cost. Why can't, and shouldn't, our citizens own their own apartments in a condominium? If this type of ownership works well in Europe and in South America, why not Ontario? I think we should have legislation to permit this type of ownership.

Some time ago CMHC warned builders that they should be seeking a more independent role for their industry without constantly looking to the federal government for financial resources. Where do they think the builders and developers are going to obtain development money? The banks have practically shut their doors. Lending institutions are slow on advances. Interim money is hard to get and very expensive. This was a very inopportune statement to be made by CMHC. Cutting off of lending by CMHC last April was a severe blow to our housing shortage and should never have occurred. The national housing association's decision to adopt a policy of one and one half per cent above long-term Canada bonds was, in my opinion, a wise and good one.

The Canadian real estate board has for many years been asking the federal government to make loans available for older homes. At long last this is a reality. The maximum mortgage is \$10,000. This means that 90 per cent of the value of the home may be financed as long as the purchased price does not exceed \$11,111. I would recommend this loan be increased to \$15,000. The average price of new homes sold in Metro was \$26,000.

I would recommend to the federal Labour Minister, John Nicholson, and the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) that they set up an emergency committee to digest new ideas in resolving the current housing shortage. We should have on this committee top-notch architects capable of coming up with brand new ideas on building construction and materials.

We have across Canada numerous top-flight developers and realtors who could contribute much to this study.

Initiative must be made for workmen to turn out more work for a dollar. The other day I visited Bloomfield Hills in Detroit and on a \$9,000 lot, a two-story home with approximately 2,700 square feet was selling for \$34,000, including dishwasher, fridge, stove, four bedrooms, two and a half baths, double garage, full basement, large family room, fireplace, and so on. This is less than \$10 a foot. Why can we not do the same here? The same house here would cost upwards of \$20 a foot. We must devise better construction methods to bring down the cost. Many of our construction workers are out of work and more will be added to their ranks unless we get construction moving fast.

Man must live within his means. What woman would not like a new stove, fridge and dishwasher in her kitchen? But can they afford these luxuries? Joe next door has them; why cannot we, regardless of the cost? But up goes the mortgage payment. These luxuries create an unrealistic picture in relation to land costs. This grave area should be controlled through family budget and not through mortgage payment.

Hundreds of housing units are removed from the market each year through demolition for urban renewal and private development. This means that many families have to move to other homes, and with no homes, where are they going? More than 3,000 housing units were removed from the city of Toronto in the last three years. These homes are removed without the planners knowing or caring where these people are going to go. Where are these evicted and expropriated residents going to be located? Are we sure that these dwellings in urban renewal areas are blighted to the point where they cannot be rehabilitated? I am not so sure. I say we should not demolish these homes until we have other houses for these people to move into. At the present time, renewal programmes involve a net loss in housing and so add to the housing shortage.

It is important that deteriorated houses should be removed, but it is also important that at this time in our housing programme we should have an increase in housing units. At the present time all this is doing is causing a pressure on the housing supply. Perhaps we should only have renewal programmes when we have a surplus of homes. I should think the home improvement loans and home extension loans under section 24 of The National Housing Act could be extended to

perhaps 20 years, and perhaps the maximum amount of, say, \$7,500. This larger amount would provide a form of secondary financing for those wishing to rebuild in deteriorated areas.

Here might be a very good place to mention that municipal tax payments and interest payments on houses should be a deductible item in calculating our income tax. It is time we stopped penalizing our people for improving their properties through taxation.

Many builders and developers have cried bitterly over the long, tedious delays between the time it takes to plan a subdivision until final approval. Herein lies the real culprit. This long delay, cost of lawyer fees, cost of holding land and attending meetings is all added into the cost to the builder and then to the buyer of the house. I know of one builder, unable to draw any money with \$100,000 invested, and unless help comes quickly he may lose his land because of these costly delays. Let us cut out some of the red tape.

Federal and provincial sales tax must be removed, in my opinion. The central mortgage and housing corporation has accumulated more than \$150 million in mortgage insurance funds and is adding to it at several million a year. I would suggest that this is a very good time to reduce this rate from two per cent to perhaps even one-half a point. Why do we need to build up this mortgage insurance fund to the millions and millions of dollars? It has certainly been proven in the past that there have been very few foreclosures.

The total cost of construction can be reduced by shortening the time of building homes in quantity. In certain areas basements should be dry wall instead of wet plaster. The \$34,000 home I mentioned had dry wall and it was impossible to tell the difference. Pre-finished material should be used, such as windows, whole walls, and on-site and off-site prefabs.

Lending agents should advance funds faster, with some control, to pay accounts. An example of this could be a builder starting 300 homes. To cut costs he should be building 50 at a time, but it seems impossible to get his draws fast enough to build homes in this fashion. Some method must be made to allow the builder to make faster draws to pay his accounts. Perhaps some arrangement can be made with the bank with guarantees by the government.

The high cost of interest rates must be added to the cost of the house. We must

get interim financing at lower rates. This is very important. All it does is to increase the value of each individual home as well as causing many contractors to go into bankruptcy.

Mr. Speaker, I have suggested many ways in which to solve our housing problem and I would like to reiterate some of the main points that I have covered: 1. Land servicing and the use of lots; 2. Costs of outmoded land use and regulations; 3. Mass production; 4. Use of condominiums; 5. Labour costs; 6. Public demand for more sophisticated homes and appliances; 7. Urban renewal; 8. Faster liaison between government and municipalities; 9. Removal of federal and provincial sales tax; 10. Lowering of the mortgage fund insurance.

These are some of the more important ways in which we can lower the price of our homes for our citizens. Really, when we boil this all down, we have two things to do: 1. Service the land; 2. Provide money to our citizens so that they can have homes with monthly payments that they can afford. Let us correlate these items fast and get our citizens into low-cost, low-down-payment homes.

Mr. Speaker, there is another point that I would like to bring up at this time and it has to do with apartments. There have been a great many complaints directed to me and to my fellow hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Eagleson) with respect to security deposits paid by apartment tenants. At the present time it is a generally accepted practice for a landlord to request the first and last months' rent, plus what is termed a security deposit.

I will explain this to you for a moment. In Toronto alone we have 125,000 apartments, and something like 43,000 duplexes and row housing units. The lessee has to put up \$100. At this rate, Mr. Speaker, the landlords in Toronto are holding \$16,800,000 of other people's money, and I think this is really on the low side. This is the amount that is kept by the landlords, and after the lease expires, the apartment is looked over and the condition of the apartment is determined. If it is felt that it is not in proper condition, the cost of any damage is deducted from the security deposit. Quite often people have told me that they received nothing back from this deposit, even though the damage to the apartment was the result of ordinary wear and tear. Quite often it is not worth suing for.

I feel that these deposits should bear interest and that this interest be similar to

the bank deposit rate. This amount of interest should be credited to the tenant's account. At the present time, there are hundreds of thousands of apartments rented in Ontario. Many of these carry the security deposit rider. This means that there are millions of dollars in developers' hands at the present time, which these developers are using and perhaps investing themselves. Surely, it is sensible then, that the tenant obtain interest on these funds. This money belongs to the tenants, and surely some form of trust should be created with respect to these funds.

These funds should be protected in some manner. What happens if the landlord goes bankrupt? The lease states that the last month's rental is prepaid, but perhaps the tenant is vulnerable with respect to these funds. At the least, there should be interest given to the tenant at regular bank interest rates.

Perhaps the landlords should be required to set up trust funds for these amounts to guarantee to the tenant that the security deposit, plus interest, will be available at the end of the lease. I would like to make a suggestion, Mr. Speaker, that the lessee and the lessor each have the right to set up an arbitrator and the two of them can appoint another person in the case of a controversy.

Mr. Speaker, I feel I would be remiss in my duty as a member if I did not mention my feelings toward physical education at this time. For the past two sessions I have spoken quite forcefully on this subject, in respect of what both the federal and provincial governments are doing towards physical education and training. We read daily that some of our young people are competing quite favourably throughout the world in sports, but this is only a drop in the bucket compared to what we as a nation should be doing for our youth.

Mr. Speaker, I have a long-range plan regarding physical training. Let us take two boys or girls, at say age six. One gets physical training throughout his or her school years until say, the age of 20 or 25. The other gets little or none. I say and I say emphatically that by the time these two bodies reach 50 years old the amount of time spent in and the cost of visiting doctors or hospitals could be tenfold or even more, comparing one to the other.

The point I am trying to make, Mr. Speaker, is that future generations will not have to pay our astronomical hospital bills if we have the foresight to train our youth in physical training. The best brain in the world is useless without a healthy body to transport it.

I say let us begin this physical training on a large scale now.

In today's *Toronto Daily Star*, in no less than three places, physical training was brought out quite forcefully: once on page 4 by Gary Lautens: "I've never felt better in my life, thanks to physical fitness programmes. Three times a week I go to the gym. I run; I do push-ups; I play basketball. You see, my wife cannot keep up with me anymore."

He asked his wife why she was tired all the time and told her she would not be if she went to physical fitness classes.

And on page 7:

CAN EXERCISE HELP YOUR HEART?

Down neighbourhood streets, in parks and playgrounds, over the open road and on high school and college tracks, middle-aged men, sedentary professionals and housewives are running for their lives.

The "community jog" is more than an expression of togetherness. It is the newest hope for retarding onset of cardiovascular disease.

On page 41, the full page was given to Mrs. Dennis Mobbs, on developing a recreational programme, filling the needs from age six to 106.

I only point out these newspaper remarks to illustrate that seemingly our citizens are awakening to the fact that physical training goes with longevity and freedom from disease. I say we in the Ontario government, as well as the federal government, should create an overall plan to provide facilities for our people to encourage them to participate in a physical fitness programme.

I sincerely hope his committee will bring the programme prepared by the Kingston member (Mr. Apps) to our people in the near future.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I take this opportunity in this the fifth session of the 27th Parliament to join my colleagues who have already participated in this Throne Debate in commenting on the fair manner in which you have governed the operations of this House.

While I must say that I have not always agreed in full with some of your decisions, I must admit that your rulings have been fair and equitable.

Mr. Speaker, it is also customary to extend congratulations to the Deputy Speaker at this

time. In that regard the re-appointment of the member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) is an indication of the high regard in which he is held by all members of this House.

While felicitations are in order, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) on his election and on the masterful way in which he moved the adoption of the Throne Speech. I trust that he enjoys his stay here, and I am certain that he will make a very worthwhile contribution to the deliberations of this House.

Congratulations also to the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakubski) on his speech seconding the motion for adoption of the Throne Speech; and to the new members of the Cabinet.

Having said that Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time, to say a few words about our new leader, the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) a most dedicated young man. For five years, he has had an opportunity to observe the many weaknesses and deficiencies, which are inherent in the government. I have no doubt at all that when the coming election is over, the reasonable alternatives proposed by the hon. member for Brant will be accepted by the public of Ontario and he will be the new Prime Minister of this great province of ours.

Before proceeding with why I feel that the present government will be overthrown by the democratic process of an election, I would like Mr. Speaker, to make a few comments on the operation of the workings of this House.

Most of the hon. members of this House have had, from time to time, groups of school children visit the legislative chambers to watch the proceedings. I, for one, have always wondered about the general impression that they, and other first-time visitors to the House must carry away with them. I have had many questions which range from querying the absence of members from the House, to why those in the House read newspapers or did not listen to the member who might be speaking at the time.

It wasn't until this week that I was able to see, in print, the first impressions of a recent visitor to this House.

I noticed in the Niagara Falls *Evening Review* on Friday, February 3, 1967, an article written by Bill Wilkerson, a reporter for that paper. To my way of thinking, Mr. Wilkerson's observations were so pertinent that I felt other members of the House might wish to hear some of what he had to say of his first visit to the House. I quote:

To the veteran observer, it is classed as tradition. To anyone else, it is more like a three-ring circus casting a shadow across the alleged dignity of Ontario's Parliament.

For instance: It was shortly past two o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Legislature was scheduled to convene in 30 minutes. The chamber itself was empty save for a group of students—presumably in their early high school years—who mingled at the base of the Speaker's throne.

Surely they were impressed by the stately grandeur of the House chamber, its history, its elegance, the quietude which prevailed, the richness of its principle, the soundness of its ways.

The tour lasted a few minutes longer. Then the students made their way slowly up the steep staircase to the spectators' gallery, there to witness the procedure of government. A few moments elapsed before the members of the Legislature slowly filed into the chamber. They were seated.

The quietude was slowly giving way to the expectancy of action, deliberation, debate. Surely, for some of the students at least, the history books became alive, government was finally people and things, pomp and pageantry were finally something real.

Then it began. The assembly opened the proceedings with a rather deafening display of desk-thumping—the kind of thing those same students might have done a half decade ago. In subsequent dealings the sequence of events became more amusing. It surrounds what some members of the House describe as open debate.

It goes something like this: George Bukator, Niagara riding MPP, stands to take part in the Throne Speech debate. The first words spoken from across the House: Over the falls with George! There is a burst of laughter. George begins his speech.

By that time—and this is no reflection on Mr. Bukator since even Prime Minister Robarts failed to retain the interest of his own party members—the Conservative body had dwindled to 28 members out of 78. "Not bad", as Mr. Bukator commented. The Cabinet had four representatives out of 22. "About usual," another Liberal member observed.

The article goes on:

"How do you get your point across?" Mr. Bukator queried at one point. At another

junction, he seemed perplexed by the failure of the Cabinet Ministers who were there to take an interest in the Opposition point of view. Even the more outspoken Liberal members wondered this.

During the course of his speech, Mr. Bukator did battle with newspapers stretched before the eyes of Conservative MPPs. He fought with distractions from all corners of the House, including the shouts of one member who asked Mr. Bukator: "What are you mumbling about?"

In all, it was an education for a fledgling visitor to Queen's Park. Tradition, they call it. I would think there's a better word for it.

Last Friday, Mr. Speaker, I had a group of senior public school children from Thistle-town here and the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent) was speaking. These children were up in the gallery—and admittedly, the member for Grey North was provocative—but I must say, Mr. Speaker, that these children just could not understand what was going on down there. And this just bears out what this article has had to say.

This then, Mr. Speaker, for what it is worth, is a picture one astute visitor to the House took away with him. One wonders what the many school children who visit these chambers have to say to their parents when they return home.

Mr. Speaker, I would be the first to admit that if the public goes away from here with a less than kind image of us then we members are collectively to blame. However, we in Opposition feel that the hon. member for London-South (Mr. White) should look to the performance of his own charges before commenting on our attendance and behaviour.

There is one other matter, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to bring to your attention, inasmuch as I am not certain whether it can be put as a question during the usual question period which precedes the orders of the day.

This week, I had some school children from one of Etobicoke's high schools visiting. One of their number took out a pad and commenced to make a few notes on the debate in process and on other matters. Immediately she was told that this was not allowed and that she should put away the pencil and pad.

As this young lady had undertaken to report back to her class on what she had seen and heard on her visit to Queen's Park, she was quite upset and both she and her mother complained quite bitterly to me.

I am well aware that certain rules and regulations are most necessary for the efficient operation of the House. However, Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the taking of notes by an interested student could in any way interfere with the deliberations of this House.

If there is a rule forbidding the taking of notes by visitors, I would submit, Mr. Speaker, that same should be waived in the case of visiting school children, for it baffles me how they could, in any way, interfere with the workings of this House by putting their observations on paper.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to turn my attention at this time to a matter that is purely local in scope.

I have already spoken in this House on the fact that in various parts of Metropolitan Toronto a person's postal address and the actual residential address and designation were often different. For instance, it used to be that if a person lived in the southern part of the riding of Etobicoke, his postal designation was Weston—simply because he was served by a post office located in what was then the town of Weston.

After January 1, 1967, if you live in the borough of Etobicoke, you have one of six addresses, only one of which mentions Etobicoke. Etobicoke addresses now included, which by the way no longer exists—Islington, Rexdale, Toronto 14 and Toronto 18.

Municipal and elected officials have complained in the past and there was some hope that with the coming of the borough system the postal designations might be changed by Ottawa so that we might have the borough broken up into various areas to be designated as Etobicoke 1, Etobicoke 2, and so on. Our new energetic, far-seeing and controversial mayor, Edward Horton, also has made representations to Ottawa. Nothing has happened to date.

Oh, we residents of Etobicoke are assured that the postal department is making a study of the situation. However, there seems to be no reason for the continued use of designations such as Weston and Islington, which no longer exist.

In the government's Throne Speech, reference is made to the fact that attempts at federal-provincial cooperation will be made. In that regard it is my submission that the Ontario government should add its representations to those which have been made by residents of Etobicoke and other parts of Metropolitan Toronto for a feasibility study into all matters concerned with the naming of Metropolitan Toronto postal designations.

While I am on the subject of federal-provincial relations Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the government has considered the problems which any citizen of Ontario faces once he or she has a criminal record. We all have read in the daily papers of the young man who recently was elected to municipal office in the Maritimes. Somehow, his previous criminal record cost him his seat. I am certain that many of us know of young people who, after they turned sixteen, have committed certain indiscretions which have served to hinder and haunt them long after their debt to society has been paid. In many professions and in occupations where bonding is involved, the mere fact that one has had a criminal record—no matter what for—will serve to keep that person out of that particular job or profession.

I know of several young people who have found that they could not go to the United States, that they could not accept certain responsible jobs leading to executive positions and so forth. Many of these people never served time in jail. At the time of their trial, many pleaded guilty because they felt it was the quickest thing to do. They received a suspended sentence and probably were placed on probation.

After the probationary period was over they forgot all about their conviction.

Suddenly, years later when they have finished their education and are attempting to start out in life that same indiscretion of youth, that one reckless moment, comes back to haunt them for the rest of their lives.

I am certain that many of the young people of today have no idea of the detrimental effect which a criminal conviction can have on their future.

What I have said about our young people applies equally if not more so to older people who have paid their debt to society and who wish to make something of their lives.

I am informed that at present, any Canadian citizen having been convicted of a criminal offence may, after a period of five years from the date of expiration of sentence, provided he or she has displayed all those qualities of a good citizen and has not committed any other unlawful acts under The Criminal Code of Canada apply for a Queen's pardon. Such a pardon will, in effect, put the convicted person in the same position as that of an innocent man.

It is my contention that the government of Ontario through the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), should investigate fully all facets of the problems of those who have been

convicted of a criminal offence in Ontario, have completed their sentence and now show that they have every possibility of becoming good citizens once more. It would seem to me that after a suitable duration of time, if their past record in any way serves to impede their progress in life, then they are being denied some of their civil rights.

That being the case, I would submit that this government should, after looking fully into the matter, make representations to Ottawa to see whether the criminal code could not be amended so that after three or even five years a person's criminal record would automatically be erased.

Those of us whose business or profession takes us to the courts have seen cases where giggling youngsters—just over the age of sixteen years—are standing before a kindly magistrate who does not know quite what to do. The youngsters insist that their parents will not come to court. After all they are accused only of stealing something as trifling as a phonograph record or a sweater from a department store. Why should their parents lose a day's pay when their child can plead guilty and it is well known that they will get a suspended sentence. They will not go to jail, so why worry.

Many is the time that the magistrate, faced with a case that has been adjourned once, twice, or even three times to get the young person's parents to attend or get counsel, must find the youngster guilty because of the pressure of other cases which must be heard. As a rule, the magistrate tries his best to impress on the teenager the error of his ways and most often he is successful. However, it is young people such as these who, because of their ignorance, later find themselves behind the proverbial eightball.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am aware that Mr. Pennell, the Solicitor General, has stated that the government in Ottawa is interested in this part of reform as far as the criminal code is concerned, but I do feel that the government here could hasten the date that this comes about by making suitable representations to Ottawa.

Before leaving the field of provincial and federal relations, I would like to mention that we in the Liberal Party were particularly pleased to see that the government at Ottawa has established the Royal commission on the status of women.

Mrs. John Bird, who will be heading the Royal commission, is quoted as saying that:

Equality means the opportunities are the same, whether it is a woman, a coloured person, a Hindu, a Swahili, or a man.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that all of the hon. members of this House would concur with Mrs. Bird in that statement. However, there is some doubt in my mind over the intentions and outlook of the powers that be in the Ontario government.

True; the Speech from the Throne states that another step may be taken in eliminating discrimination in the field of accommodation. However, this party is on record as stating that the human rights code should be amended to forbid discrimination in employment based on sex.

During the debate on the estimates of The Department of Labour last year, Mr. Speaker, I made reference to the plight of the female who felt she was discriminated against in Ontario. Rightly or wrongly, many women in Ontario still believe that members of their sex are held back and do not receive promotions and salaries that a man doing the same job might receive. In fact, in one of the local papers, Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, transport Minister in Quebec's former Liberal government, recently stated that the Royal commission on the status of women will find Quebec women are paid lower salaries for doing the same work as men.

Many will not be surprised to find that the same situation pertains here in Ontario. Mr. Speaker, I repeat that we are very pleased that the Royal commission on the status of women has been set up. We also feel that the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), the members of his staff who deal with the rights and problems of Ontario women, and the Ontario government itself should, from the start, make it quite clear that they are available and interested in assisting the commission in every way possible.

Lastly, in this our Centennial year, I submit that the government of Ontario should on its own, remove the possibilities of discrimination in employment based on sex, by amending section 4 of the human rights code, accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, there is another area where the Minister of Labour could render a vital service to the many female heads of households throughout Ontario.

I have had it brought to my attention recently that a most unfair situation is revealed when an examination is made of the expenses which a male head of a household is allowed to deduct from his income tax.

We know that a man must hire a housekeeper if he has no wife to look after his

children. Her wages, if she is a full time housekeeper, can be deducted from his income when his yearly return is made.

In the case of a woman, who, due to circumstances, must support herself and her family and requires the services of a housekeeper, she also may deduct the expenses of a housekeeper provided the housekeeper comes full time and lives in. However, a disparity arises when the salary which can be earned by a man is compared with the salary which the average woman can make.

Let us look at a man who earns, say, \$7,000 or \$8,000 per annum. When the costs of a full time housekeeper, roughly \$2,500—when room and board are included—are deducted, he still will have enough left to support his family even if the social planning council's standards are used as a guide.

The female head of a household will probably work in a factory or an office and will, in all probability, earn at least \$2,000 less—about \$5,000 to \$6,000 at a maximum. When she pays the \$2,500 cost of a full-time housekeeper, she finds that she is not able to support her family on the balance remaining. She must therefore turn for help to one of the welfare agencies or try to get another part-time job.

It is my submission that the average woman who finds herself in this position would prefer not to have to accept outside help. Certainly no one looks forward to having two jobs, especially in a fatherless home where more than the usual amount of tender loving care is required.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that rather than a woman having to submit to the embarrassment of revealing her personal affairs to an impersonal government employee, she should be allowed to resolve her position through her income tax return. She should be able to deduct the expenses of part-time household help, even if there is no one living-in.

I suggest that the provincial government could well afford to allow for a rebate with reference to the provincial portion of any income tax payable. Any moneys lost by the province because of this, would, to my way of thinking, be recouped by a reduction in welfare costs which the provincial government would ordinarily have to subsidize anyway.

An even greater benefit would flow in that the woman concerned would be able to retain her self-respect.

Mr. Speaker, I would strongly urge that the Minister of Labour, under whose department the rights of women fall, and the

Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) should get together to examine this, one of the many inequities which abound in our present-day Ontario.

Speaking of inequities, the tired Robarts government has developed a sleek package to attempt to conceal the problems of this province. The people of Ontario will see through the façade just as they are demanding truths and cost reductions in consumer practices.

In education, there are severe inequalities in all parts of the province. A Liberal government would take steps to make certain that all our people reach their full potential. We would make certain that no child with ability is denied a university education due to lack of funds and thereby we will remove one more inequity.

The growing mess in air and water pollution is equally matched by government inaction in this area. This is a tragedy on a grand scale for the people of Ontario. It demands action on a grand scale.

In the field of securities legislation, the façade is particularly thin. Inequity is particularly obvious. The government has ignored the recommendations of its own commission to establish an Ontario securities commission independent of Ministerial discretion. The new securities Act does not follow the recommendation, and continuation of abuses is still possible. This was particularly shown in the Prudential case where the Minister, early in 1966, chose to ignore the recommendations of the Ontario securities commission.

We can be certain that no friends of the government lost money in Prudential; only the small investor and the general public suffered losses. Such is the end result of Conservative policy—gross inequity.

The government specifically ignored the recommendations to remove primary distribution from the auspices of the Toronto stock exchange. The lining of promoters' pockets continues. Pretending that adequate disclosure will solve the problem is most misleading. The report on Windfall shows that the government refused to act. Since Windfall is still listed on the Toronto stock exchange, who knows, we may be treated to a second act in this drama of milking the public.

If this government wants to show true leadership, let them come out clearly and support a federal securities legislation that will encourage all Canadians to invest with confidence in Canadian industry and resources

development. This would be a planned goal of the Liberal government that is to come in Ontario.

Let them also come out with a full public inquiry into Prudential. Obviously, there is much to hide; otherwise, the government would agree to public exposure. After all, the government agreed to a Royal commission on Windfall when the public lost only \$3 million. Have values become so inflated that a loss of \$21 million by Prudential, two years later, is of less concern?

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I have often stated in this very chamber that this government is guilty of many sins of omission. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the matter of housing the citizens of Ontario.

Let us look first at those, particularly in the Metropolitan Toronto area, who presently reside in an apartment or own their own homes. These people especially in the urban areas of Ontario are suffering under the back-breaking load of high municipal taxes.

It is the contention of our party that the heavy incidence of the costs of schools and education has contributed to the high cost of housing, for renters and for home-owners alike.

If I might digress for a moment, Mr. Speaker, I make mention of apartment dwellers because it is my feeling that many residents of Metropolitan Toronto and elsewhere are not aware that the average assessment for an apartment suite runs somewhere between \$5,000 and \$6,000. In Etobicoke, the 1966 mill rate was 67.59. This means that between \$300 and \$400 of the rent paid for that year must go towards the payment of municipal realty taxes. An increase in the cost of education increases the mill rate and must necessarily increase the rental charged by the apartment owner.

The apartment dweller indirectly and the home owner more directly both suffer from the ever-increasing costs of education.

Now let me make it quite clear, Mr. Speaker, that the majority of people in Etobicoke are not unhappy with the costs of education inasmuch as Etobicoke children receive the benefits of one of the best school systems in all of Canada. We realize this. Yet no resident of Etobicoke or of Metropolitan Toronto or of any urban area is happy with the unfair burden that property owners have to bear. In older times, property ownership might have been a fair and proper base for the costs of education. Today, it should be apparent to all that it is most unfair for

government to ask the owners of property to continue bearing the major costs of education.

My leader has already in this debate suggested that the government should consider paying, in time, 80 per cent of the local education costs. We hope that the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), in spite of what the Budget had to state today, will give this proposal the urgent and thorough consideration that it deserves.

To continue crushing property owners under oppressive school costs, necessary as they may be, is most unjust.

I now turn to the problem of housing those who are in need of accommodation. It is well known that the high cost of school taxes is contributing to the housing shortage. It has been stated that the cost of developing a serviced lot in Metropolitan Toronto has risen 77 per cent since 1964. Labour, speculation, municipal levies, overhead and other factors have all contributed to the meteoric rise in the costs of housing.

In 1955 the average price of an existing house in Etobicoke was \$15,000. Last year a similar house would have sold for about \$19,000. At present, it would sell for about \$28,900, far beyond the financial reach of 80 per cent of the population.

The marked upsurge in the demand for accommodation which is unavailable, when coupled with the runaway costs of housing, add up to a sorry picture—the results of many years of government inaction, in the housing field—another serious sin of omission of the Conservative government.

Now a Liberal government would enable the residents of Ontario to buy a standard house for about \$700 down by a system of provincially-backed second mortgages. It would take definite steps to avoid land speculation. It would institute an immediate study into satellite cities as Metropolitan Toronto has reached a practical limit of growth.

It would be a simple matter, Mr. Speaker, to examine in retrospect the areas where the government should have moved and did not. However, I wish to discuss what the government does propose to do, and how it may affect the riding of Etobicoke.

I am not aware of all details of the Home Ownership Made Easy plan, which the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) has proposed, but of one thing I am certain. In housing, the Conservative government policy appears to be socialism for the rich, free enterprise for the poor.

The much publicized HOME programme is but a façade. It will take many years to show results and although it is only a small step in the right direction, it has already received criticism from many sources, including members of the government.

I do know that of the approximately 2,000 acres of land which are owned by the Crown in Metropolitan Toronto, approximately 330 acres of these lands lie in northwestern Etobicoke. Most if not all of the remainder make up the Malvern property in Scarborough where I understand the government is going to have houses in one year or two. How they are going to do it, nobody knows. It is clear that we in Etobicoke will in all probability become deeply involved in the Minister's new plan.

Rather than rail at the government, I propose to very briefly examine the position of public housing in the riding of Etobicoke. Then it is my intention, in line with my leader's policy of presenting reasonable alternatives, to offer some constructive suggestions which can be of assistance not only in Etobicoke, but anywhere in Ontario where massive steps should be taken in the housing war in the future.

It has become the fashion to criticize metropolitan municipalities which appear, on the surface, to be unfriendly towards public housing. There are some in any community who are quick to admit that there is a need for government-supported housing for low income families—as long as this housing isn't put anywhere near their homes. There are others who might, with some degree of accuracy, be accused of being snobbish when the matter of public housing is discussed.

It is my contention that to accuse the residents of Etobicoke of being snobbish or hostile to public housing or to the welfare of their brother man would be most unfair. Let me point out why I say this.

Firstly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of this House to a memorandum from the Deputy Minister of The Department of Public Welfare which is dated February 1, 1967, and which contains various figures and other data on general welfare numbers and expenditures, November 1966. I would refer the members of this House to the schedule which is attached to that memorandum.

This schedule sets out the percentage of population and numbers in receipt of general welfare assistance, November 1966, over November 1965. In other words, it makes comparisons over the year, Mr. Speaker.

We go down and we find that in November of 1966 there were 206,872 people living in

the municipality of Etobicoke. We find that in November of 1965 there were 433 people that required welfare assistance. In October of 1966 there were 775 and in November of 1966 the figure had gone up to 822 persons.

Now if you look at the percentage increases, Mr. Speaker, you will find that the percentage increase in welfare in Etobicoke is 89.8 per cent, which is at least double any other municipality in the whole province of Ontario. There has been no outcry or complaints by the people who live in Etobicoke, Mr. Speaker, because we understand that we should look out for our brother man and this also is the policy, by the way, of this party of mine. In any event, the people of Etobicoke should not be condemned as being callous and cold. As the figures I have just given you, Mr. Speaker, clearly indicate, we are interested in our brother man.

Most resident of Etobicoke are well aware that the notion that public housing is primarily, if not exclusively, for social misfits is misleading to say the least.

They are well aware that current prices of new houses puts them beyond the reach of most wage earners in the community and that public housing, where rents are related to income, have become a general necessity rather than a "welfare" measure conceived in the narrow sense and designed to meet the needs of welfare agency clients.

Yet it should be noted that many housing and urban renewal projects are falling far short of objectives because they have been divorced from other social programmes—and I know I speak for my party when I say that. It is my urgent hope that the government of Ontario has not conceived this HOME plan so quickly that it has not made provisions for the other problems which public housing brings with it.

Many of those who are urgently in need of housing will be coming from the middle income group. Others will be poorly educated, underprivileged and probably unskilled. Providing these people with a roof over their heads and nothing else may solve the housing crisis. However, other problems and difficulties which could conceivably be much worse may arise.

Dr. John J. Deutsch, chairman of the economic council of Canada, in his recent testimony to the Senate-Commons committee on consumer prices, pointed out that it would take from six months to a year before any scheme launched by the government could begin to show even tangible results.

I believe he was speaking about the government at Ottawa but I think this applies also to the government right here in Ontario.

Other experts in the field of housing have made similar statements—all of which means that the government will have time to plan for the social amenities and requirements involved with mass public housing.

As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, we in Etobicoke are most concerned that the government takes the time to provide for the ancillary requirements of public housing. If it should appear to some that we are not cooperating closely enough with other levels of government, then I suggest that the fault is not all ours.

Etobicoke was one of the first planned communities in Ontario. Its early planners gave thought to all of the many facets that go to make up the "good life." It is our hope that all who come to live in the borough of Etobicoke, be they rich or poor, privileged or underprivileged, benefit equally from the effects of good planning.

I should point out that there are approximately 850 persons residing in the Scarlettwood Court housing development in the riding of Etobicoke. In the Rexlington Heights Limited dividend apartments, approximately 300 people make their homes. There will be approximately 1,300 persons living in public housing units in Braeburn Woods in the riding of Etobicoke; a further 730 people are presently accommodated in the public housing units at Mount Olive Drive and Kipling Avenue, also in the riding of Etobicoke.

In summary it is anticipated that by 1980 there will be 120,000 persons living in the riding of Etobicoke. Based on information available at this time, it is estimated that approximately 32,000 of these people will be residing in public or government-assisted housing in the riding of Etobicoke.

Yes, the citizens of Etobicoke do have a social conscience. They are fully aware that they must necessarily become involved in the government's proposed HOME plan. However, their one reservation is that the plan may be ill-conceived and shallow. If this turns out to be the case, not only Etobicoke but other urban areas will feel the disastrous effects for years to come.

Having discussed the housing situation in the riding of Etobicoke, I would like now to offer some constructive suggestions to the government.

Firstly, I would suggest that the social planning council, the family service association, and other similar organizations in Metropolitan Toronto be consulted in depth by the government so that some of the mistakes which were made when earlier public housing developments were built, can be avoided.

My second suggestion is closely related to the first. It would seem that whatever the Minister of Economics and Development might have in mind, I cannot stress too strongly the importance of planning. No municipality wants to have a mess of jerry-built accommodation after the plan is finished. In that regard, I would urge the government to seriously consider the effects of a sudden influx of great numbers of people on the way of life of the Etobicoke community.

In the borough of Etobicoke, the Ontario housing corporation first bought the Bermuda Court apartments. The thing that disturbed many people there was not that there was going to be public housing, but that the government took over the whole set of apartments and did not buy, say, one or two apartments spaced or staggered and that sort of thing, so that the people living there would be mixed with people who paid their rent in the ordinary course of events.

Inasmuch as condominiums are quite obviously going to be part of the HOME plan and most likely be in the riding of Etobicoke in due course, I urge the government to forsake the plan that it has now of setting off blocks of public housing or government-assisted housing by themselves.

I would urge, Mr. Speaker, that the government, instead of doing that, buys a house here, a house there; that it buys a unit here and there, and in that way takes the people who are in need of housing and mixes them with the people who own their own homes so we do not have areas of economic blight in the future.

It is not enough to plan for schools and open spaces. Provision should be made when planning for public housing to plan also for social services such as community centres, day nurseries, and so forth for the culturally disadvantaged.

It should be borne in mind that many of the new residents who will be occupying public housing will come from the core of the city. There will be social problems similar to those which have arisen in other public housing projects.

For instance, consider the hard-working, lower paid citizen who formerly rented two rooms and did not have to put out too much of his salary for accommodation. I have per-

sonally heard of many cases where, on moving into public housing accommodation, such a family finds that more of their income now must go towards rent. No longer are they living cheaply in a one or two room flat. Suddenly, this family is faced with the problem of budgeting, something which it never had to do before and which neither the husband or wife is capable of mastering alone.

This points out the need for many trained social workers who should be available to assist the family to adapt to the new way of life. I could go on and talk of the need of some of these families for kitchen fixtures which you and I might take for granted. I personally know of many cases where new families have moved into public housing in Etobicoke only to find that there is neither a stove or a refrigerator. At this particular time in their lives, these families just do not have the spare cash to buy a stove or a refrigerator.

I brought this matter to the attention of the Ontario housing corporation, Mr. Speaker, and I should say first of all that the officials of the corporation have been most cooperative. However, they have pointed out that the policy of the government is that where there is an apartment or a maisonette they come equipped with these facilities. But if you have semi-detached or single or row housing there is no stove or refrigerator supplied. And as I say this has brought untold hardship in the past.

I got a letter on February 8 from the managing director of the Ontario housing corporation who, as I say, has been most cooperative. He pointed out that these fixtures are not supplied when you have single or semi-detached or row housing. Now, inasmuch as we are most likely to have more row condominium housing in Etobicoke, I thought that this was a very important matter.

He stated also in his letter that he did not think this was a problem which was very important. I must take issue with him there, because I have heard from various organizations, like the St. Vincent de Paul society and others, that it is very important.

But in any event, I understand that the board of the Ontario housing corporation will be looking into this matter and that the managing director proposes to keep a stock of a limited number of stoves and refrigerators which could be made available where the circumstances warrant.

With that I do not quarrel. But what I do complain about is the fact that he specifically states that these stoves are not going to

be necessarily new. Not necessarily new refrigerators—I do not know what this means. I take issue with that; because after all, if these people are moving into new accommodation, it seems most unfair that the Ontario housing corporation should keep a stock of old second-hand stoves and refrigerators to give them.

I think if they are moving into a new house and are going to be there for some time, the least the government should do is to have fixtures that are new, and at least have something available.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, social agencies like the St. Vincent de Paul society and other church organizations have been of great assistance in Etobicoke. However, it is my contention that the government in its planning should make provision for the fact that many people moving into public housing accommodation just do not have a stove or refrigerator.

As a matter of fact, the average person who could afford to move into a palatial high rise apartment in Etobicoke, does find a stove and refrigerator. One wonders why the government could not at least do the same for those moving into public housing accommodation.

Earlier I mentioned the need for community centres and day nurseries. In the case of many of the new occupants of public housing, the wife must go out to work to supplement the husband's income. Inasmuch as there are bound to be children involved, there is most certainly going to be an urgent demand for centres of the day nursery type and of the well-baby type for such families.

As for community centres, experience in public housing projects such as the Scarlettwood Acres in Etobicoke indicates most strongly that one of the most important factors in the control of juvenile delinquency is the presence of a community centre or drop-in centre or any project which can be used to channel the energies of the young people into sports and other worthwhile endeavours, Mr. Speaker.

Without trained social workers, trained youth workers and community centres, I feel that no matter where public housing is built in Ontario there will be difficulties later as far as the young people are concerned.

My submission is that the government should go out of its way to set up youth councils and encourage organizations who work with young people. Further, it should ensure that sufficient land is set aside for building community centres, neighbourhood

houses, day nurseries and so forth. These should be built concurrently with the public housing.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, the government should not only subsidize the operating costs of such endeavours, it should contribute most if not all of the capital cost of building these amenities.

I have put forward several proposals which I feel will make the advent of additional public housing in Etobicoke, or in any other urban area, a smooth one. If the government does not plan for the social upheaval which public housing may bring to any large area, then the money the Minister of Economics and Development will no doubt be spending on behalf of the government on its HOME project will have been wasted.

In closing these few remarks in this the Throne Debate, Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the feelings expressed by many others in my party who have made it quite clear that because of the many sins of omission on the part of the government, there is a vague uneasiness and worry on the part of the citizens of Ontario. It appears that the government is moving from crisis to crisis—I will not even mention York Trust—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): No, I think not.

Mr. Braithwaite:—in spite of what we are told by the massive public relations department which the government employs. I say that this vague uneasiness, this fear and worry about a rash government which moves only when it must and then moves without proper planning, will crystalize in the form of the return of a Liberal government after the next election.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to go on for about an hour and a half on this debate, but I think in view of the lateness of the hour I should move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will proceed with the Throne Debate and the private members' hour will commence at five in the afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have guests to the Legislature and today we welcome students from the following schools: In the east gallery, St. Clement's separate school, Etobicoke; in the west gallery, Nativity separate school, Islington, and St. Monica's separate school, Toronto.

I beg to inform the House of a vacancy in the membership of the House by reason of the resignation of Louis P. Cecile, former member for the electoral district of Prescott.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961-1962

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, by way of explanation of this bill, section 1, with reference to the 1962-1967 taxation years, is deleted, thus extending the period of application of the Act beyond the 1967 taxation year.

The section is set out in full for convenience of reference.

Section 2, under the present clause, the tax payable by individuals for the 1967 taxation year is 28 per cent points of the tax payable under the federal Act for that taxation year. The clause, as reenacted, extends the principle to the 1968 year.

THE CORPORATIONS TAX ACT

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, the general purpose of this bill is to make adjustments to the Act to bring it into closer relationship with the corresponding provisions of The Income Tax Act of Canada, as that Act affects corporations particularly with respect to certain amendments to that Act since the 1966 session of the Legislature.

In section 1, subsection 10 is reenacted to bring it into agreement with section 400 of the regulations made under The Income Tax Act of Canada.

A new subsection 11 is intended to make clear that the head office of the corporation is its permanent establishment.

Section 2, subsection 1 of section 4 is reenacted in order to increase the corporation income tax rate from 11 per cent to 12 per cent for the fiscal years of corporations ending in 1967.

The federal government has introduced legislation for a corresponding increase of one per cent in the rate of the provincial tax abatement to corporations under section 40 of The Income Tax Act of Canada.

Subsection 2 is reenacted and provides for a corresponding increase of one per cent in the Ontario abatement with respect to portions of taxable income deemed to have been earned outside Ontario.

The amendment to subsection 35 of section 4 of the Act is consequential on the increase of one per cent in the rate of provincial tax abatement by the federal government.

Section 3—this amendment adds to the definition of proceeds of disposition, the clause to remove any question as to the amount of such proceeds where a corporation has foreclosed or property is sold under the provisions of a mortgage.

A similar amendment has been made to section 20 of The Income Tax Act of Canada.

In section 4, the amendments revise and extend the provisions of section 39 of the Act, dealing with charitable donations and correspond with amendments to section 27 of The Income Tax Act (Canada)—

A deduction for a gift made to a charitable organization in Canada may be made in

computing taxable income of a corporation only if the donee is a registered Canadian charitable organization.

Section 5—the amendment provides that—

Where the principal business of a corporation during a fiscal year was dealing or trading in bonds, shares, or debentures, it will not qualify as a non-resident owned investment corporation.

A similar amendment has been made to section 70 of The Income Tax Act (Canada).

Section 6—the amendment in the circumstances set out therein extends the time within which a manufacturing or processing business may commence production in reasonable commercial quantities in a designated area, and still qualify for the 36 month exemption from tax on income under subsection 1 of section 46(a). A similar amendment has been made in The Income Tax Act (Canada).

Section 7—the amendment extends the definition of a mine for the purposes of the exemption from tax of the income derived from the operation of a mine during the 36 month period commencing with the day on which the mine came into production. The definition will now include “a well for the extraction of material from a silvite deposit”. A corresponding amendment has been made to section 83 of The Income Tax Act (Canada).

Section 8 is a result of the passage of The National Transportation Act (Canada). The Income Tax Act (Canada) will be amended to substitute the Canadian transport commission for the board of transport commissioners for Canada. The Corporations Tax Act is brought into line. This section comes into force on proclamation.

Section 9—These amendments are intended to clarify the intent.

Section 10, subsection 1—Subsection 4 of section 75 is no longer required with the amendments contained in section 9 of this bill. Subsection 2—The rate of penalty interest is changed from one quarter of one per cent per month, or part thereof, to three per cent per annum. Subsection 3—This new subsection will impose penalty interest of three per cent per annum on tax that remains unpaid after assessment for re-assessment. This penalty interest will commence two months after the date of mailing of the notice of assessment or re-assessment. This subsection comes into force on June 30, 1967.

Section 11—Present notices of assessment or re-assessment must be mailed to a cor-

poration by registered mail. This amendment will permit the Provincial Treasurer to use the ordinary mail or personal service for delivering notice of assessment or re-assessment. I might add further to section 11, the Provincial Treasurer will still have the right to mail by registered mail or personal service in those situations where he deems it necessary, but this, it is estimated, will involve or provide for a saving of some \$35,000 a year in postage.

THE CANCER ACT

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Cancer Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, this is a very simple amendment. Under the present Act the medical advisory board must be chosen from the medical advisory board of the Ontario cancer treatment and research foundation. The purpose of presenting this amendment to the House is to broaden the representation of this advisory board.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES ACT, 1967

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare) moves first reading of bill intituled, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, introduction of this Department of Social and Family Services Act is a natural sequence to our changing concepts in the field of human betterment. This Act replaces The Department of Public Welfare Act and basically changes the name of the department to that of The Department of Social and Family Services. A new emphasis upon service programmes calls for this step because maintenance programmes have now been developed, both at provincial and federal levels. The future trend must be related to services to families and individuals and this Act sets the stage for a broader approach in counselling and rehabilitation of families and single persons.

Provision has been made for the establishment of a family services branch which will specialize in counselling and rehabilitative activities. The Department of Social and

Family Services Act gives a formal recognition to these advances.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to acquaint the members with the progress that has been made on the development of a programme format for the estimates. It will be recalled that on May 31, 1966, my predecessor in office announced to this House that we were working to make improvements in our budgeting and financial control system, keeping in mind the comments made by various members and particularly the recommendations of the committee on public accounts. These improvements represent part of a broad and far-reaching effort to reorient government financial management to focus on the purposes of government expenditures rather than on the objects of expenditures.

We also anticipate a number of changes in accounting and administrative systems to bring the administration of our programmes closely in line with current managerial practices. These techniques which are currently under development in a number of other government jurisdictions as well as our own, represent a managerial system known as programme budgeting. Our goal in this development is to achieve the following: To provide for the Legislature a means of allocating resources by objectives and not just by objects of expenditure; to facilitate programme planning and evaluation at senior levels of management in departments and at the Treasury board and Cabinet level of government; to facilitate the comparison of alternative means of achieving objectives by means of an allied technique of responsibility accounting; to assist in the determination of the true costs of programmes and the quality of managerial performance, and to facilitate the budgeting process and economic analysis providing suitably classified information on government expenditure, including forecasts of expenditure.

Since the former Provincial Treasurer's statement to the Legislature on this matter, a special interdepartment steering committee and task force under the direction of the Treasury board secretariate has been formed to study and recommend on feasible alternatives to existing budgeting and programme planning techniques. The scope and intent of programme budgeting has been outlined to all Deputy Ministers and detailed discussions on programme budgeting have so far been held with at least eight departments. This committee is currently concerned with such matters as determining the feasibility of

charging for services now provided, in effect, free from department to department, with appropriation control and monitoring techniques, including possible revision of the standard objects of expenditure we now use.

Changes in the present methods of planning and reporting on programme development to the House and to government and within the civil service are also under consideration.

The Department of Health has been chosen as the pilot project for this new system and the staffs of this department and of Treasury board are now studying and testing the feasibility of these techniques. I am sure that members will appreciate the difficulty in achieving fundamental changes such as these within an organization as large and diverse as the government of Ontario. These changes in management practice and technique and programme administration are intertwined with changes to the estimates presented to the House. Until recommendations on programme budgeting have been more fully considered and tested, I believe it would be premature to alter the format of the estimates to reflect programme budgeting.

Therefore, this year's estimates will be presented in the traditional form. However, it is desirable that members have an opportunity to review our thinking and proposals on the form in which departmental estimates may best be presented to the Legislature. I shall endeavour before the end of the current session to place before the committee on public accounts a draft or model of estimates in a programme form. This will encompass the activities of at least one major division of a department, or possibly a complete department. As a matter of procedure, any changes planned in the estimates to reflect a programme format will be introduced to the committee on public accounts for its review and recommendations to the House.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): I was very interested in the comments of the Provincial Treasurer. I wonder if he could go on and tell us when we will begin the examination of the estimates and which departments should we be prepared for?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I suggest the hon. member address that question to the House leader.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if the House leader would give us an answer then?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we

will be ready to start the estimates almost immediately. We have the Throne Debate before us at the moment, which I doubt will be completed today. I would anticipate it would be completed tomorrow and we will have the vote, hoping that it will be favourable to the government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): There are good grounds for doubt.

Interjections by some hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We are ready and the first department's estimates will be those of The Department of Agriculture and Food.

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I wish to advise the House of changes in The Construction Safety Act regulations which are designed to assure greater on-the-job protection for workers. We have concluded that it is both practical and necessary to place in the regulations provisions which spell out in greater detail the requirements surrounding the design and erection of multiple-tier falsework of construction projects. Henceforth, such falsework must be designed by professional engineers, the plans must bear the signature of the engineer and must be available at the project at all times. The design also must provide detailed specifications for all material to be used. It then becomes the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that the falsework is constructed in accordance with these drawings and specifications.

Basically, these changes will accomplish the following objectives: first, they will help to ensure that falsework is designed by professionally competent persons; next, they will help to pinpoint responsibility for falsework design and specification, that they will help to ensure that adequate materials are used and finally they will also help to ensure the contractors follow safe procedures in the erection and use of falsework.

These amendments follow a review and recommendations of the coroner's jury that investigated the death of nine men in the collapse of the Heron Road bridge in Ottawa last August. They incorporate the jury's recommendations dealing with the construction and design of falsework and the materials used in building it. They were amended after consultation with senior officials of major engineering firms and construction associations of Ontario and the association of professional engineers. Other jury recommendations concerning the design criteria for permanent bridge structures are now under review by

The Department of Highways, consulting firms and professional associations. A study of all sections of The Construction Safety Act by the professional engineers and officers of the construction safety branch is expected to be completed in a few months. This review started several months ago and was undertaken for the purpose of updating the Act in the light of experience gained to date.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport, notice of which has been given. It is a two-part question: 1. Is the Minister kept informed of any safety defects in cars made in the United States and imported into Canada; and 2. If so, what steps does he take to see that owners of such cars are notified to have them corrected?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Yes, the motor vehicle manufacturers are keeping me informed on all their programmes of new car safety recalls. I take steps to satisfy myself that the manufacturers are following this procedure in every programme of call-backs: (1) every owner is individually notified by mail of a possible defect in his car. The notice includes a request that he take the car to a dealer for inspection and the resulting repair if the defect be located; (2) each programme is continued in operation until every owner has been located and notified.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. How many laid-off auto workers at Oshawa have found new employment? And how many laid-off auto workers at Oshawa have now started in a retraining programme?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the questions from the hon member for Wentworth East, I would advise that following the layoff of employees at General Motors in Oshawa in the fall of last year, two meetings of these employees were called at the initiative of the Ontario government. A team of federal and provincial officials outlined a wide range of training and job placement services that were available to these workers through the programmes administered by The Ontario Departments of Education and Labour and the federal Department of Manpower and Immigration.

Since then, some 248 of these laid-off workers have taken advantage of the government's training and retraining programmes.

With respect to the placement of laid-off workers in alternate employment, this is being undertaken by the federal government manpower centres in Oshawa, Toronto and surrounding areas.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my first question is to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. If as the Minister has stated, the system of assessing taxes in many municipalities is in violation of the statute, what action does the Minister propose to take to ensure that the law is respected?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): In answering the hon. member's question, I am very pleased to give him some evidence of what has already been done and what has already been undertaken in dealing with this matter. I would like to quote half a dozen ideas and procedures which have been developed in the department in recent years.

The department has paid the cost of rewriting the assessor's training course, which is given by the extension department of Queen's University. We have done that in cooperation with the institute of municipal assessors of Ontario. We have supplied at no cost to either the university or to the institute of assessors a senior tutor to administer the training course. Successful students have a portion of cost of the course—the tuition fees—returned to them upon passing the necessary examination.

The department has provided a modern and up-to-date assessment system, composed of assessment manuals and guides for the use of the municipal assessors. These manuals provide for the valuation of all real property at market value, providing for added protection to the ratepayer on appeal, and the alleviation of the differential assessment referred to in my address to the rural municipalities association a few days ago.

The department has also provided classroom and field training to municipal assessors by members of the assessment branch of The Department of Municipal Affairs, which acquaints them with the procedures outlined in these manuals and guides, and trains them in the proper use of these new assessment techniques. This training, Mr. Speaker, has been conducted in 20 counties and five districts of the province and has also been conducted in a number of other towns and cities.

On January 1, 1966, the department began the licensing of all municipal assessors, depending on their qualifications, and by doing

that we are controlling the entry into the assessment field of persons who are willing and able to be trained as municipal assessors and who will be able to make a career of this particular field of municipal administration.

We have also assisted in the establishment of centralized assessment systems, which removes the administration of the assessment function from the local municipalities which can afford only part-time assessors and places the assessment in the hands of either a county assessment commissioner or a county assessor who has the facilities to maintain full-time, qualified staff, employing up-to-date methods and procedures and equipment.

Furthermore, the department officials at head office and in our branch offices annually review assessment rolls of the municipalities to determine and discover errors, and to advise the responsible assessors on proper procedures and corrections to be made.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister can indicate when this massive violation of the statute is going to come to an end through the extensive programme that he has presented to us once again today?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Mr. Speaker, I doubt that anybody could give a date in answer to the hon. member's question. I suggest to you that we are doing everything possible to improve the situation with respect to municipal assessments in the province. I think that basically the whole matter rests on having properly qualified people to do the job and we are doing the very best we can to train municipal assessors in their responsibilities.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my second question is to the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information.

In how many papers was the full-page ad carried of the Centennial centre of science and technology and what was the total cost?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): It was carried, Mr. Speaker, only in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* and the cost was \$2,900.

Mr. MacDonald: Why was it only in the *Globe and Mail*?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Speaker, I cannot say. This was a decision of the board of trustees. I presume that it was directed toward industry and they felt that the commercial section of the *Globe and Mail* had good circulation among those people they wanted to reach.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, there are 13 questions on the order paper. I

have five of them and they are directed to the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), the Provincial Treasurer, the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), and the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall). When are we going to get some answers to these questions, I would like to ask the House leader?

Mr. Speaker: No doubt the answers to the questions will be given by the leader of the House or the Prime Minister whenever they are compiled and given to him.

Mr. Sargent: That is two weeks on some of them now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) I have a question for the hon. Minister of Labour, notice of which has been given and it is as follows:

Has the Minister received a communication from the president of local 6500, united steel workers of America, alleging that the International Nickel Company is practising discrimination against members of the union's safety and health committee? If so, what action, if any, upon this complaint does the Minister contemplate?

Mr. Speaker: The question of the member for Sudbury has been given by the member for Algoma-Manitoulin.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question I would advise that I received a communication from the president of the local in Sudbury and my department has discussed this matter with the officials and will discuss it further with the other affected parties.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Monsieur l'orateur, il me fait plaisir de commencer mes remarques dans mon discours sur le Discours du Trône dans la langue de mes aïeux.

J'aurais aimé faire mon discours en entier dans cette belle langue française. Toutefois,

par considération des quelques membres de cette législature qui pourraient avoir quelque difficulté à suivre mon discours, je me contenterai de féliciter l'orateur pour sa grande compréhension et sa sympathie pour tous les membres de cette législature.

Je dois aussi ajouter que la population de langue française de l'Ontario est heureuse de la décision du gouvernement de donner une plus grande part à l'enseignement du français dans toutes les écoles de la province.

It is for me a great pleasure to begin my remarks in the Throne debate in the language of my ancestors.

I would have liked to make my entire speech in French. However, in consideration for the members of this Legislature who might have some trouble in following my remarks, I will simply congratulate the Speaker for his great sympathy for all the members of this Legislature.

I will add also that the French speaking population of Ontario is very happy of the decision of the government permitting, on a greater scale, the teaching of the French language in all the schools of this province.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): English first would be better.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Is the member offended?

Mr. Edwards: The English first would be better.

Mr. Racine: Mr. Speaker, I do not think that this is the time to reply to my good friend, the hon. member for the great county of Perth. I will be speaking to him privately about it and I might be able to give him a few lessons.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Racine: I know that the hon. House leader (Mr. Rowntree) was quite happy to understand our nice language when he was in Quebec over the weekend, and I am sure that the impression that he got was that there was real goodwill in la belle province, in spite of the fact that their language is the French language.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Racine: Mr. Speaker, before beginning my remarks, I would like to protest on behalf of my party on the lack of speakers from the government side in this important debate. We feel it would be important to get their party's point of view and I believe that it is

eminently unfair to have all hon. members on this side of the Legislature speak at the same time. The public of Ontario, I am sure, would like to hear some of the wisdom from the lips of the many members on the other side of the House. I am sure that the hon. member for London South (Mr. White) will see to it that this is done.

Mr. Speaker, may I first offer my sincere felicitations for your fairness in presiding over the debates of this Legislature, and I would gladly join the many speakers who have suggested your appointment as a permanent Speaker.

The hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) is also to be congratulated on his reappointment as chairman of the committee of the whole House. He has added to his prestige as a member of this Legislature in accomplishing during the past year a very difficult task. Although I agree most heartily with the members of my party who have criticized a large number of Ministers now in the Cabinet, I would like, however, to congratulate the new Ministers on their appointments.

To the members for Prescott (Mr. Cecile) and St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts)—and the hon. member for Prescott, as you have just heard, has resigned from this Legislature—I would like to say that they have worked long and hard for their constituents under very difficult circumstances. I wish them well on their retirement from active politics.

I would also like to welcome to this Legislature my compatriot, the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) and to congratulate him on his address in the Throne debate.

I would also add a word of congratulation to the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakubski) who had the honour to second the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Although I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that I disagree vehemently with the things that the last hon. member said in his speech.

And this is the end of my felicitations. The criticisms I will offer and the suggestions I will make stem from the fact that I am, at this time, the official spokesman of the Opposition side of the House for this great region of eastern Ontario.

I am sorry to say that my region has received so little from the government, in spite of the fact that it has received almost solid support in the last three or four elections. I am convinced, however, that a number of representatives from my party will accompany me to Toronto after the next election.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the hon. member for Kenora—unfortunately he is not in his seat—that his predecessors have, over the years, called to the attention of the government the many problems in their area. But, alas, what happens? Nothing. Nothing happens. All those requests are to no avail.

Now this time what happens? In the last election, great caravans of Cabinet Ministers and Tory henchmen invaded Kenora during the election campaign last fall. I can hear some of the promises made during the campaign, telling the people how much they would receive if they elected a Tory to represent them, and this time it worked.

I am afraid, however, that the hon. member for Kenora will one day wake up to find that the government knows about his constituency problems only at election time, just as the people from Ottawa and eastern Ontario have, no doubt, over the years listened to their many promises and observed their few accomplishments.

I am in complete agreement with the hon. member for Kenora when he complains about the slow rate of development of the Lakehead and of northwestern Ontario. I think the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Freeman) brought to the attention of the House a telegram that was sent to the Prime Minister about the conditions in that part of the country. One thing he seems to forget is that in the past 23 years, the government of Ontario has done practically nothing for the development of that part of Ontario. The same may be said for eastern Ontario and northern Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Mines often makes me think of this great pair that are appearing at the hotel where I live—Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Which one?

Mr. Racine: Well, I will leave it to hon. members of the House to decide which one the Minister of Mines represents in my mind.

Does the hon. member for Kenora realize that the great natural resources his area possesses were there in 1944? Does he realize that practically nothing was done during all those years for their development? As I have said before—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Racine: Mr. Speaker, I guess I am making my point.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Racine: I guess I am getting under the skin of some of the members who have not done their duty in the past.

As I have said before, Ontario will prosper only if all the areas are completely developed. I doubt very much that this government is able to employ energetic means of developing these areas. It seems so much easier to encourage branch plants to become established in areas already overpopulated, and promises made at election times resemble very much the tactics employed by the Duplessis regime in Quebec.

It is a well-known fact that during that regime you did not get roads, bridges, or other public works if the representative of a constituency was in the Opposition. Let us hope, Mr. Speaker, that this province will not be plagued in the next campaign by a wave of Duplessism. His era has left Quebec in a sorry state of affairs, just as a long Tory regime in Ontario has injured the normal development of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Racine: May I, Mr. Speaker, make a few comments on the remarks of the hon. member for Renfrew South in this debate. I hope my friend did not send too many copies of his speech to the people of Renfrew South, because it contained so many exaggerations of the government's accomplishments in his constituency that the people will think he was speaking about another area.

I would like to tell the member for Renfrew South through you, Mr. Speaker, that if the party he represents had been more aggressive and a little less conservative, all of eastern Ontario would have shared in the growth that took place in other parts of the province. If The Department of Highways had tried to attract industry by building highways 15 or 20 years ago, much industry would have been established in the area.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): We had to catch up after Mitch—that took a long while.

Mr. Racine: Well, it is a long, long time ago and instead of exporting our labour force to other parts of the province—and that does not apply only to eastern Ontario, it applies to many other parts of Ontario—instead of exporting our labour force perhaps to other provinces and to another country, we would have used it for the development of eastern Ontario.

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to quote from an editorial in the *Ottawa Journal* on January 23, 1967, and everybody in his House knows that the *Ottawa Journal* is not usually a supporter of the Liberal Party. Let me quote from this very reliable paper:

Eastern Ontario, which feels badly used in the distribution of industry in the province, will read with appreciation this sentence in the Bank of Nova Scotia monthly review on this province: "A wider geographical spread of industrial development would serve to take some of the pressure off the congested horseshoe where demands for space, transportation and service facilities are already pointing to a future where one unbroken metropolis will stretch for 100 miles around the western shore of Lake Ontario."

And I would like to quote another paragraph from the same article:

Ontario has the opportunity to use its wealth and experience to develop policies for future growth, and if it could take a leading part in coordinating its activities with economic policies originating at the federal level, all regions in the country might benefit from the lessons to be learned. If the economic expansion of the last few years can be sustained and prosperity spread more evenly, the province will be contributing something to national growth which goes far beyond its own borders.

I would like to read the last paragraph of this lead editorial from the *Journal*:

Ontario, we guess, is prepared to be a model for the other provinces and could serve well in the role. But before that interesting era arrives, however, it would be interesting to see its own house put in order with more of the good furniture in rooms now neglected.

Before I leave the subject of eastern Ontario, I would like to suggest to the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) and to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) to use all possible persuasion to get the Cabinet to build a highway that would get travellers quickly and safely to the capital of our great country. I would suggest that this new highway be built without delay starting in the Morrisburg region, which would permit travellers to reach Ottawa in about half the time it now takes.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few general remarks on the Speech from the

Throne before speaking on two subjects that are of particular interest to the residents of Ottawa and the area. I am referring to the hospital problem and to the many problems surrounding the implementation of the Jones report regarding municipal governments in the Ottawa area. On page 3 of the Throne Speech, I read:

My government recognizes the problem of the small homeowner, who through expropriation loses his home for the good of the community and thereby faces relocation. This is a matter which must be settled satisfactorily for all concerned. Embodied in the programme of my government will be provisions to deal with such situations.

I say to you Mr. Speaker, and through you to the hon. members of this Legislature: Where has the government been during the past few years when thousands of property owners have been expropriated, in many cases without proper compensation? Are you aware, Mr. Speaker, that in Ottawa alone thousands of people have been expropriated and in order to get proper housing for their families have had to mortgage their new homes for a considerable amount? It is true that in many instances the home they were in was not a new one. In any case they were quite satisfied to live in it and the new accommodation they got was not any better than the one that was expropriated. Has the government suddenly become aware of this problem? Everyone knew long ago that there was a problem. Why wait until 1967 to find a solution for a problem that has existed for the past five or 10 years?

The last paragraph of the same page mentions the fact that transportation plays a vital role in the economic development of the life of our people. Accordingly, and I read:

A comprehensive study of the character and expanding transportation needs of our entire province will be conducted. This will result in a broad transportation policy appropriate to the rapidly changing requirements of modern life.

The next paragraph refers to the new commuters' service known as GO transit. It also states that the government intends to achieve a better-balanced transportation system so as to lighten the burden of expenditures on freeway construction in areas in southern Ontario where such problems are especially severe.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the writer of the Throne Speech is aware that the city of Ottawa and the Ottawa transportation commission have made representations to the government asking for help to solve their transportation problems. They have asked for help for many, many years and in the same period the Ottawa representatives have been asked to make representations to the Cabinet in order to get relief from the \$375,000 which the Ottawa transportation commission is paying each year in diesel and vehicle taxes. What steps has the government taken to solve the Ottawa transportation commission's problems? Is the Cabinet waiting for a crisis to do something about the public transit in Ottawa? From an editorial in the *Ottawa Journal* of January 25 of this year I would like to quote the following extract:

Transport Minister Haskett should recognize the anomaly of a public transit utility paying taxes to support provincial highways it does not use. He should take up the OTC's cause in the Ontario Cabinet and this representation should be more effective with a provincial election on the horizon.

OTC passengers have supported public transit in Ottawa since 1958 without a cent of help from the city as a whole, and I might say without a cent of help from the provincial government. Yet an efficient, attractive bus system is as important to the man who drives to work each day and never boards a bus as it is to the bus riders. Public transit is essential to commerce. It is the alternative of proliferating expressways and still larger traffic jams. It is the poor man's only transport.

The day is past when the OTC can expect to offer the standard of service the community demands from fare box revenue alone. Instead of higher fares, which would be largely self-defeating, the OTC should be helped with tax relief and some form of direct subsidy. To prevent shortages of buses for peak periods, and lead to less overcrowding and fewer disgruntled passengers, the OTC needs funds to buy more than 24 buses a year—the present rate which barely keeps ahead of replacements. Intelligent subsidy and some help for buses in the traffic lanes will mean a continuing increase in passengers, a healthier transportation system and a better city.

I would suggest to the Minister of Transport and to the Minister of Highways, who both come from eastern Ontario, to have a good look at the Ottawa-Hull transportation study. The main recommendation of that

study consisted of the construction of a number of expressways in the Ottawa area that would allow some 225,000 automobiles to travel in a given period. As has been said before, and it is important to repeat it, what is needed is a well-organized system of public transit to transport people to and from their place of business. The implementation of this transportation study would bring about the demolition of many areas of the city at a cost neither the city of Ottawa nor the provincial government can afford. In fact, estimates of the total cost of these new expressways have risen anywhere from \$350,000,000 to \$1 billion during the next 20 years.

Instead of spending \$20 to \$50 million a year to transport automobiles I would suggest a subsidy of \$1 million a year to transport people, which would accomplish the same results. The combined efforts of the Minister of Highways and the Minister of Transport would do much to solve this problem that is presently a source of much worry on the part of the council of the city of Ottawa.

Time will not permit me to comment on all subjects covered by the Speech from the Throne. I would like, however, to offer some comments on one or two more points.

First, an interesting item appears on page 7 of the Throne Speech and I would like to read this paragraph.

There will be placed before you a programme to provide additional bilingual agricultural extension personnel in Ontario. For this purpose arrangements will be made to provide agricultural training in higher education in both languages.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly hope the government does not feel it has just discovered this area of need. I am sure the hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Stewart) remembers that three years ago I drew his attention to this problem. At that time I mentioned the fact that the sons of farmers of many areas in this province were leaving the farms because they could not get training in their own language. I hope that this programme is implemented quickly in order to correct an injustice that has been going on for much too long.

I would like to comment also on the remarks in the last paragraph of page 9 and I quote:

Every person must be provided with opportunities to develop his, or her, full potential and commensurate with reality be entitled to receive the required maximum education. Equality of educational

opportunity is the continuing policy of my government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what exactly does that mean? This equality of opportunity certainly does not exist at the present time. Many children in this province are not being offered this opportunity. It is not only a loss to those children, it is a loss to the province itself, because lack of proper training for thousands in the province deprives industry and business of their talent.

Many people in this province will be watching with interest the legislation introduced by the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) that will bring to this province real equality of educational facilities for everyone, whatever their creed or nationality may be.

Nothing appears in the Speech from the Throne regarding Ottawa's hospital problems. Everyone, with the exception perhaps of the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) is aware of that problem. Last year I drew to the attention of this Legislature the very serious problems of three hospitals—the Ottawa general, St. Vincent's and St. Louis de Montfort.

The Ottawa General hospital has been looking after the hospital needs of the population of Ottawa for more than a century. The two other hospitals have been serving the public for many years. As far as I know the Ontario hospital services commission and the hon. Minister of Health have not come up with the solution to their problems. Some answers should have been given many years ago. Is the government waiting for a crisis before making a decision? I would ask the Minister to assume his responsibilities and find an immediate solution to this very urgent problem.

I would like to draw to the attention of the Minister of Health some comments appearing in the Ottawa newspapers regarding the problems of another fine Ottawa institution, the Civic hospital. The headline appearing in the *Ottawa Journal* on January 27, 1967, reads as follows: *Plea for Financial Help. Dangerous Crisis at Civic Hospital, Chairman Warns*. I would like to quote part of the news item—

Ottawa residents will be faced with second-class hospital service, and second-class facilities, unless more money is poured by federal and municipal governments, the chairman of the Civic hospital's board of trustees warned Thursday.

Graham Fraser in his report to the board's annual meeting said the city's financial contribution to the hospital is insufficient and

no assistance is being provided by neighbouring municipalities to the hospital.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Would the speaker accept a question? Did he read last night's *Journal* where Dr. Peart said that the provincial government was recognizing its responsibilities to the hospitals, but the federal government was not?

Mr. Racine: I have not read the *Ottawa Journal* but I will read it and I will have my comments to make in due time. To continue:

The federal government, as the city's largest employer, should also make available the necessary funds, he said. Capital financing problems would become even greater until a complete and sympathetic understanding is recognized by all levels of government.

Mr. Fraser did not mention the provincial government in a specific way. I am sure, however, that the prime responsibility for the present condition of Civic hospital rests with this government. The Minister of Health may possibly be interested to listen to the editorial comments following the Civic's annual meeting. The *Journal* editorial of January 30 reads as follows:

THE URGENT CALL OF THE CIVIC

The first-rate reports by the chairman of the Ottawa Civic hospital board of trustees, Graham Fraser, and the hospital's executive director, Douglas Peart, bring both the problems and the achievements of the hospital before the people it serves and Mr. Fraser has put it squarely to the government on all levels—either the Civic hospital receives extra funds for building the new facilities which modern medicine demands, or the community can at best expect a second-class hospital service and second-class facilities.

This is blunt talk, but Mr. Fraser is not a man to cry wolf. This warning from the hospital chairman should force the city to reach for the report it received last June from the Ontario hospital services commission and do something about it. The Ontario hospital services commission recommended a regional hospital board drawing support not only from Ottawa, but from all municipalities. It suggests that Ottawa incorporate in its mill rate an amount for hospital support. The Civic hospital, like many hospitals, is restricted by the burden of capital debt from undertaking vital expansion.

Some of the recommendations of the OHSC may not be workable in Ottawa. With municipal reorganization of the whole area now under close study it may be premature to proceed needlessly with the regional hospital board, but it is not premature for Ottawa and all municipalities which use the facilities of the Civic hospital to assure the hospital trustees that funds will be forthcoming to assure the maintenance of high standards.

Much civic energy has been expended in the effort to bring a children's hospital in the area. This is a good cause, but in the process let us not take for granted the well-being of existing hospitals with their long record of community service.

Mr. Peart reported 34,000 patients were admitted to the Ottawa civic hospital last year. In addition, the hospital took care of 65,660 visits through its outpatient department and another 54,000 cases appeared for emergency attention. The waiting list at the moment is 3,800. Small wonder Mr. Peart calls the pressure on hospital facilities very alarming. Hospitals, like most living institutions do not stand still; they either progress or they lose ground to the pace of medical progress.

The Civic hospital does not want more beds. It is now the fourth largest in Canada. If it were any larger, administration problems would reduce its efficiency. The hospital does need more room for specialty services, for education, and for research. The Civic is a teaching hospital, working with the medical school of the Ottawa University. The emphasis on teaching raises the general standard of medicine practised throughout the institution. The Civic needs more teaching facilities to do its job.

All this requires money. The increase in the daily rates at the Civic shows once more how expensive running a hospital becomes. Many persons will find the charge of \$52 a day for private rooms and \$42.80 for standard ward beds hard to conceive. Only the protection of hospital insurance makes such rates tolerable, but these larger sums barely meet current expenses. They do not provide sufficient resources for capital expansion.

Whether the Civic hospital is able to maintain its standards depends first upon government aid and cooperation, but second and importantly, on public support as the reach of medicine expands and the

demands of a growing population expand, the community has been told.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on for a considerable time talking about the problems of our hospitals in the Ottawa area. I will not, however, do it at this time. I would ask the Minister of Health to have a good look at the situation, as he may have many questions to answer in his estimates. He may tell us that permission has been granted for the construction of the Ottawa University teaching hospital and the children's hospital. He may also tell us that, as reported in the *Ottawa Citizen* of January 3, the hon. Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko) gave a very favourable reception for a proposal that Ottawa have another new hospital.

The city is seeking a semi-active treatment institution of approximately 100 beds to fill the gap of the limited facilities of Island and the present major active treatment hospitals, such as the Civic, Riverside and the Ottawa General.

There are many older people in the active treatment institutions who do not need the full facilities of a major hospital, controller Heit has said. But they do need some degree of medical treatment. They cannot be cared for at Island Lodge. The new hospital would fill the gap and relieve a large number of active treatment beds for more seriously ill patients.

I am sure the Minister of Health has been aware of this problem for a considerable time. According to reports from his own advisers and the Ontario hospital services commission, possibly two hundred or three hundred patients, and perhaps more, now occupy space in active treatment hospitals—in the report issued, I believe, in 1965.

It was stated that there was a statistical surplus of beds in some of these institutions. What has the Minister of Health done about it? What has he done about the construction of much less expensive facilities for patients who do not need active treatment but have no other place to go? I refer particularly to older patients.

The Provincial Treasurer may be interested in the figures that I will quote. If there are 200 patients now occupying space worth \$40 a day, instead of space costing \$7 a day, in the Ottawa area alone we are spending approximately \$2.5 million more than we should. It may be profitable for the Minister of Health to pay a visit to other jurisdictions, particularly Alberta, to find out how this is done. The people of Ottawa and of the entire province will await with great atten-

tion the answer of the Minister to this very urgent problem.

My concluding remarks will be on the proposal recently made in Ottawa regarding a regional government for Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member recall that the Minister of Health said that two-thirds of the cost of hospital construction would be paid by the province? Does he not know that?

Mr. Racine: I think the Minister might have a chance to reply at some time.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The hon. member read a newspaper clipping in which my name was referred to and the term used in the report was in respect of the fact that I was indicating that a hospital be built. I can assure the hon. member that we do not have to go to Alberta. The legislation is already on the statute books and we are in the process of having consultation with the city of Ottawa and controller Heit to solve this problem. The term "hospital" in that report the hon. member read is really not the word that should have been used.

Mr. Racine: Thank you, Mr. Minister. My concluding remarks will be on the proposal recently made regarding a regional government in Ottawa. As I said last year, the decision taken by the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) could have come sooner. The various municipal governments were certainly anxious to know what the Minister would have to offer.

One criticism I would like to make is that the recommendations of the Jones commission have almost been completely ignored. Why should we keep on appointing commissions if The Department of Municipal Affairs rejects their recommendations? Why not have the study made by the experts in that department?

Many people attending the February 1 meeting were surprised by the apparent lack of cooperation between The Department of Municipal Affairs and other government departments. Regarding educational problems, the Minister said:

I am not in a position to put forward to you any definite proposals. As education is a vital responsibility of the municipal government, the citizens of the Ottawa area will look to the Minister of Education's proposals with great interest.

Regarding hospitals, I would like to quote from the *Ottawa Citizen* of February 3, 1967:

This was not mentioned and the provincial officials seemed surprised that it should be a matter of such concern. Dr. Lorne Cumming, Mr. Spooner's assistant in drawing up the plan, pointed out that the hospitals are no longer the legal responsibility of the municipalities. If this amounted to washing his hands of the subject, it is not good enough. If it is more properly the concern of the health department, then Dr. Dymond should be brought into the picture at once.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and his advisers have not much to say about highways and public transit. It would seem to me, however, that they are problems that cause much worry to municipal administrators. As to the Minister's comment in answer to our question regarding the bilingualism question for Canada's capital that you cannot legislate culture, I would like to tell the Minister that this remark was not too favourably received.

The *Citizen* said:

Besides the presence of a substantial French-speaking population, it contains the capital of a bilingual country. At least the legislation could include a permissive clause formally recognizing the right to use either language. Without it the provincial government is almost evading its responsibility.

One of the unanswered questions in the Minister's remarks was the problem brought upon by the presence in the capital area of many municipalities both in Quebec and in Ontario, the national capital commission and, of course, the federal government. What effort has the Minister made to get the cooperation of all these bodies?

Nothing appears in the recommendations on regional government in Ottawa regarding the Rowatt report, and I think that this is important. Mr. Speaker, the many problems of the Ottawa area will be solved only if the provincial Cabinet does its homework.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker. Indeed, you are a distinguished Speaker, and I am much honoured to address my remarks to you, sir. Doubtless because of the observation made by the hon. member to my right I know that you will be distinctly pleased that I preface my remarks in English—judging from your earlier comment. I was taken aback by the hon. member who preceded me; I was still jotting down some notes and if the hon. members of the House

will forgive me, I will put them together rather furtively and rather quickly.

I want to say at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that on behalf of the hon. members of this party and, I am sure, the House as a whole, that one would wish to begin by wishing the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) a speedy and early recovery. I often think, sir, that we too often underestimate the toll that politics takes of political leaders in this country and should bear that in mind when judging the contributions of men and statesmen over the decades.

I should also like to use this opportunity, sir, to wish well, even in his absence, the former Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Cecile), with whom I, on occasion, tangled in this House—at times sharply, and at times perhaps without evidence of affection, but for whom like all members of this Legislature, I had profound regard and respect. The man made a very great contribution to the province over the years.

I might also say, sir—and I know you will convey it to that eminent person who normally occupies your chair—that his presence as Speaker in this House is distinguished indeed, as is the presence of his Deputy Speaker, and I wish to acknowledge that at this point in my remarks in reply to the Throne Speech.

I wish also to extend congratulations, as others have done, to the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) on his opening address. Opening addresses are always moments of tension and concern and I think he handled himself with some flair and some aplomb, and for that I congratulate him.

To the new Cabinet Ministers, and to one of them in particular, the hon. Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko), I tender my admiration for the post that he has achieved. I wish to say to him, Mr. Speaker, that at some early point in this session I intend to make proposals to dismember his entire department. Indeed, perhaps on second reading of the bill for family and social services, I would like to suggest that that department not exist at all. Those sentiments will not be directed at the Minister on personal terms. He may think it is conspiratorial. I recall when he was Provincial Secretary that several people on this side suggested that the citizenship branch should be absorbed by The Department of Education, and he may feel on nights when he is alone and somewhat concerned, that this is a concerted effort on the

part of members of the Opposition systematically to remove from him all his powers. That is not the case, but I think that he has inherited a department, however, which is obsolete before he implements its policies.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): There used to be a time when the people who would do away with such a department would be called "reactionary".

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, we will discuss that on second reading.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I would like to extend strong congratulations to the new hon. leader of the Liberal Party (Mr. Nixon) in this province. I think he knows the regard I have for him. He has been in this House for a very short time as leader; he has made one very friendly speech about the government, and he has made one rather unfriendly speech about the government, and I thought to myself that if I listened carefully perhaps he would end up choosing, in that delicious phrase of the *Toronto Daily Star*, a sort of "chummy medium". One will watch to see how it evolves.

Mr. Speaker, the position of the Conservative government at this point of time is one which interests members of this party and the public at large because of the serious and irresistible decline in electoral support which is now characteristic of that party and which I think will be confirmed in a few months' time when we go to the polls.

The disaffection, Mr. Speaker, is widespread and nothing will now alter the process. I do not want to seem to intrude a determinist observation, but it seems to us on this side of the House that the Conservative Party can never pull itself together again.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: It is not so much self-inspired, Mr. Speaker—and I see you shake your head in agreement, sir—it is simply that the Conservative Party has been overtaken by a relentless banality. That is what is wrong with the Conservative Party in this province. There is not any life; there is not any energy; there is not any creative process in the Conservative Party that is anywhere evident.

They have, as a result, acquired a very real restlessness, a very real insecurity. Look at the restlessness of the hon. member for London South (Mr. White). There is on his face, as on all of them, a false bravado—a false bravado punctured by spasms of panic; already in this session punctured that way.

The most interesting thing is that when the Conservative Party is panicked, as it is at present in watching its irresistible decline, it moves to points of extremism—extremism that really staggers the imagination. And I am happy to say that the extremism is directed to the source of their greatest anxiety.

One of the most recent examples of this extremism—and I simply have to put it on the record of the House, Mr. Speaker; I cannot possibly resist it—occurred on the part of the present hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). He may at the time have been the Minister of Highways, when, in the early fall of 1966 he made a major speech in Huron county during the course of which—

Hon. W. D. McKeough: (Minister without Portfolio): The member will do well in Huron!

Mr. S. Lewis: As a matter of fact, our fortunes in Huron county, judging from the press in Huron county, are rising daily, but I will come to that momentarily.

Mr. Speaker, I am about to quote from the *Exeter Times-Advocate*, than which there is no more perceptive and sensitive local paper in all of Huron county. At any rate, the Minister made his speech and I have no doubt that I am going to give the Tories in this House an opportunity for a little desk thumping, but I want to quote from the speech:

"It begins to become apparent," said the Minister, "that a vicious, insidious type of politics has infiltrated its way into the various segments of our somewhat naive and democratic way of life."

Then he goes on to say:

It is my opinion that the forces of socialism, and I may be charitable when I continue to call it socialism, are actually at work in their own particularly destructive manner.

Then, in his own affable though somewhat strident way—and I apologize for maligning him in his absence; I shall now malign him in his presence—he went on to cite the New Democratic Party as the socialist party in Ontario. I am very pleased that he singled us out for that particular distinction. Then the Minister, the present Provincial Treasurer, declared how some of the events of the previous few months had worried him and he suggested to people that they should reject all such things, particularly those people who believed in the inalienable right of free and individual enterprise. He went on to say, and I want to quote,

Because let me assure you, and I hope you will accept some assurances from me, that

sole philosophy of socialism or Marxism or whatever you may call it—

Now, mark you, Mr. Speaker,

—or Marxism or whatever you may call it, is the destruction of those fundamental things we have been brought up to believe in.

After reading that speech, I have been watching the late television shows attentively, thinking that perhaps the Minister would emerge in a minor role because those are the words of the prophetic tradition of the right, they are offensive not only to Marx, but I suppose to Trotsky, Kropotkin, Sun Yat-sen. I wonder who the Minister is going to invoke in order to give vent to his extremism, because that is what has become characteristic of the Conservative Party in Ontario, a profound, restless and anxious extremism, and it is voiced at every opportunity. Indeed, it was voiced, as my colleague, the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), will show later in this debate, by the member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) not more than a day or so ago. That has become characteristic of the Tory party.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: In the “batting around” column with the editor of the *Exeter Times-Advocate*, the following week there was this observation, and I want to record it on the floor of the Legislature:

For those who may be wondering why the Hon. C. S. MacNaughton came up with a blistering attack on the NDP party, the answer may well lie in the fact that the NDP is growing by leaps and bounds in Ontario and are confident that—

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Those comments were not those of the editor of the *Exeter Times-Advocate*, they were the comments of a contributor to the paper.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I assure the Provincial Treasurer that I would be glad to withdraw were he right. I still stand corrected but I have a photostat of the paper with me and across the top of the column it says *Batting Around* with the Editor. The column is apparently direct from this man it is this statement. If the Minister cares to prove me wrong he has the opportunity.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: I have no objection, Mr. Speaker, to this interplay and I am sure you approve of it, sir.

Mr. Speaker: I have some objections.

Mr. S. Lewis: Fine, you register them. You pull those Ministers into line, Mr. Speaker.

—the answer may well lie in the fact that the NDP is growing by leaps and bounds in Ontario and are confident that they and not the Liberals will form the next Opposition to Premier John Robarts and his Progressive Conservatives.

I also take exception to this column because they are not sufficiently prescient; they do not understand that we are talking of government and not of Opposition.

Then the article goes on to say, the editor goes on to say:

Huron county has never given much support to the NDP organization but at the present time the Liberals in this area are completely unorganized and could well find themselves as the third choice.

He ends up suggesting Charles MacNaughton may perhaps have a fairly good run next time and the final sentence reads: “He may well have been warming up to the task he will be facing at the next Ontario election doing battle with his major opponents, the NDP”.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I will do battle with our opponents, whoever they are.

Mr. S. Lewis: I am pleased that the battle has been joined, that the Provincial Treasurer has so accurately identified his opposition. I want to assure him, Mr. Speaker, that we will rise to the contest which comes and we welcome that contest at the earliest opportunity.

Now, if I am not to be diverted, the Provincial Treasurer should make fewer speeches. I had a variety of things that I wanted to suggest—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I certainly hit a responsive chord somewhere.

Mr. S. Lewis: I want obviously to enter into areas of discussion, some of which have come about in the last few days in this Legislature. I had not intended an extended discussion of any single field, but I feel compelled, frankly, to hang certain remarks on the observations of the member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Peck). I shall not waste much time on the gist of his remarks. I will save my responses for a later confrontation, perhaps with the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond). However,

let me say that I am sorely tempted to defend the former staff of Warrendale and present staff of Brown Camps for the unwarranted maligning which was handed out to them in this Legislature two days ago. I will make certain observations which perhaps relate more strongly to my own personal participation.

At the outset, let me say—and I am sorry he is not here—I regret that the member for Scarborough Centre was chosen as the hatchet man on this occasion. I know there was a lottery and I know that others declined that dubious role, but he began with that uncomfortable and ill-prepared script.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): On a point of order, I know that this is not the case, that he was not in any way selected by anybody in this party. The speech was made by him of his own free choice.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): You do not know what was going on. This is not a point of order.

Mr. S. Lewis: I did not say that the speech was not made of his own free choice. Obviously it was, he made it, but there is no doubt from what one gathers that others would not wish to have made that particular speech.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —not quite accurate.

Mr. S. Lewis: I have no objection to the member for Scarborough Centre filling that role. It may be one of the final roles he fulfils in this Legislature, albeit the departure may be involuntary.

Now the speech was based on a letter titled "To whom it may concern", from a Swiss chalet, which I suppose is a delicious way of using a Swiss vacation. There were in the course of the speech, several rather interesting textual changes in the process of delivery which are small, but which I want to point out to this House. I have the text here, because they were interesting in their way, in terms of the sincerity with which they were given. At one point the original text said: "I have made some attempt to look into this matter." It was altered in delivery to read: "I have made a real attempt to look into this matter."

At another point it was suggested in the original text that they will set stringent regulations to which operators of so-called treatment centres must conform. That was obviously a bit unwarranted and it was

changed to "these treatment centres must conform".

And then, in that portion of the speech where the member indicated that he had visited Warrendale with certain members of the select committee and found the conditions distasteful, the page is torn a third of the way from the bottom. In the portion that was extracted entirely from the text there were apparently to be some observations on what was happening in Warrendale at the time with some of the youngsters involved.

I do not want to put myself in the position of having to say—but I want to say to this House, and I think they know I will be honest about it, I know what was in the portion of the text. Indeed, the hon. member for Scarborough Centre told me what was in that portion of the text and I wish it had been put on the record, instead of having been excised at the last moment. Because I think it would have demonstrated not so much on his part but, as it were, on the script writer's part, the barren perversity of mind that is exercised and demonstrated when people look at this area of social concern and this particular problem of disturbance and mental health.

Other changes in the text, Mr. Speaker, also were revealing. At another occasion, the text was to read, "from my limited investigations and observations", and the word "limited" was then removed in the delivery. It was obviously an ill-prepared and superficial venture into the field under discussion, and I was a little surprised that the hon. member for Scarborough Centre was prepared to attach himself to it.

However, the hon. member for Scarborough Centre can defend himself. He is an able opponent. And John Brown can defend himself. But there were certain aspects of that speech which either directly or by implication reflected on myself, and I would like to deal with them. There were only three in fact.

First, there was the suggestion that I was not sufficiently cognizant of the contribution made by my fellow members of the select committee on youth in the work of treating emotionally disturbed children and preparing recommendations on legislation in that regard.

I want to say categorically, Mr. Speaker, that all the members of the committee know the unanimity attendant on that subject. It was important and valuable and recognized by the members of all three political parties. I am glad to say to the hon. member for Scarborough Centre, in his absence, that I

entirely appreciate the thrust of the committee discussions and recognize that all voices bore heavily and, indeed, almost equally on this issue.

The second point, Mr. Speaker, is that on page 20 the following observations are made—page 20 of the member's written text. I quote:

I am equally disturbed and distressed, Mr. Speaker, that a political party would stoop so low as to exploit this tragic and unfortunate situation for their own political gain. An article in a publication called the *New Democrat*, purportedly giving the facts of the Warrendale situation, was the most biased and bitter diatribe I have ever read.

It is interesting to note that the article's author according to my information was employed at Warrendale without the board of director's knowledge early last year well before the trouble arose. The author of this article is also identified as the editor of a publication published by Brown Camps Limited. The first issue of this news letter was so vitriolic that the deputy superintendent of child welfare for BC wrote in part as quoted in *Maclean's* magazine.

Now I was not able at the time, Mr. Speaker, to evoke from the lips of the hon. member for Scarborough Centre the name of this nefarious and scandalous writer for the *New Democrat* and the news letter. Her name has already been enshrined in *Hansard* by the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman), a couple of sessions ago, and I resent the lack of courage and unwillingness of members to say what they mean.

Of course the distinguished journalist to whom he refers is one Michele Landsberg, to whom I also have the considerable pleasure of being married. And it is not so much that I object to that method of trying to implicate a member of the House without in fact saying so. It is not even that I object to the criticism implied in this speech, indeed stated in this speech.

But I object to the undercurrent, because the undercurrent is very simple.

The undercurrent is that a woman is an adjunct of her husband's political views and cannot express social or political views of her own with integrity. And I smile when I think that is what is at the root of the hon. member for Scarborough Centre's assertion, because in fact, he will learn in a somewhat painful fashion over the next few months that women are the most vigorous and suc-

cessful of political opponents and that they should not on any account be underestimated.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Before you leave that; was it not a vitriolic statement?

Mr. S. Lewis: To my mind, it was sane and balanced. It depends on one's interpretation, does it not?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: And was she employed without the knowledge of the board?

Mr. S. Lewis: I doubt that.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: The member should know that, surely?

Mr. S. Lewis: I am saying that I would have liked the hon. member to suggest frankly what he was trying to do—rather than by innuendo and withholding it—exactly the relationship he was attempting to develop. In his next page, which was page 21, when he said, and I am quoting:

that it is also unbelievable that Mrs. Brown should give permission to members of a political party to have free access to consult confidential files of the children at Warrendale, and indeed make photo-stats of them. Files that were meant only for the eyes of the doctors, psychiatrists and others charged with the treatment of these unfortunate children.

Well, there we are into this bogey again, Mr. Speaker. But let me say something categorically to this House. I never used files relating to kids in treatment at Warrendale during the course of my work in this Legislature. I received material—and I would like to go on and discuss other agencies as well—relating to children who had not been able to gain admission to the treatment centre, in the effort to demonstrate to this government that there were vast numbers of youngsters who required such treatment.

And any information I used in the House, always in an anonymous way I would point out, about individual youngsters in treatment anywhere, came either directly from agencies themselves, and I will come to that in a moment, or indeed from youngsters I had referred to Warrendale and whose case histories I knew intimately. They came from my riding; they came via my constituency clinic.

What I want to say is that I am rather sad when this particular bogey arises, because last year I put before this House a number of case histories. I put them before the

Minister of Public Welfare. They came directly from the files of the Metropolitan Toronto children's aid society and they were far more specific than any other material I ever used in this House. Not a single person cast aspersions on that source because, of course, it is perfectly proper for members of this Legislature to elicit information from social agencies and if the social agencies are willing to give that information, then it is the right of the members to use them. I hope during the course of this debate to use other information directly from the files of the Metropolitan Toronto children's aid society.

Mr. Speaker, I wish this hogey did not constantly arise. I wish again that the hon. member for Scarborough Centre had indicated what he really meant, which was to suggest character default on the part of a husband because of the acts of a wife. I think that he is treading on very difficult ground indeed, because Mrs. Debbie Brown is recognized as one of the most able psychiatric social workers in this province, and is on the staff of the University of Toronto school of social work. One should use more caution before plunging into this kind of whirlpool.

But enough, Mr. Speaker, enough. I must say that I consider those points relatively picayune. I want to get down to cases, and I want to ask the hon. members of this House, and particularly the Minister of Public Welfare, how absurd can a situation be? Because who was slandered in this Legislature two days ago, if that was the case? Not John Brown; not the staff at the treatment centre; not the children involved; not members of other political parties, but every major children's aid society in the province of Ontario, the Minister of Public Welfare and the government itself.

Let us put the facts on the table: All the leading children's aid societies in this province referred children to Warrendale and continue to refer children to Brown Camps Limited. They all work under The Child Welfare Act passed by this government and supervised by the Minister of Public Welfare. And as he, in his response to the hon. leader of the Opposition yesterday demonstrated, there are now 132 children at Brown Camps Limited in Ontario.

You cannot have it both ways, Mr. Speaker. Over 100 of those 132 children are wards of the Crown. They are, in effect, directly the children of the Minister of Public Welfare, so if the hon. member for Scarborough Centre is attacking anyone for inadequate treatment, he is attacking the Minister of Public Welfare.

Indeed, the amount of money paid from the public purse for more than 100 children is \$1 million a year. It is obvious that that was considered a worthwhile and significant expenditure before the unhappy events of September and it is considered a worthwhile and important expenditure after the unhappy events of September. It is an expenditure sanctioned by this government and, indeed, in large measure, paid by this government.

Let me go further, Mr. Speaker. There are over 30 private placements at the moment at Brown Camps Limited and an equal number at Warrendale. Is one then to impugn the understanding and knowledge of all the parents involved? And what about the nature of the children's aid societies themselves? When wards are consigned to a place like a children's institution, they are not simply left there unattended. The social workers check on their condition regularly; they hold regular consultations and conferences with the agency; they are intimately concerned with the developing child pattern.

Now what is one to say? To write off all the social workers and directors of the children's aid societies involved because they continue to refer their children? Indeed, I learned just by a telephone call that six new wards—Crown wards, the Minister's children—have been referred in the last 14 days by four children's aid societies in this province.

Seriously, Mr. Speaker, when an hon. member of this House rises to do damage to a social institution and the members of its staff and its director, then let it be understood that that position is untenable in the face of the government responsibility for contribution to, and recognition of the service that is being provided. And it is not only the government of Ontario; it is the government of Saskatchewan; it is the government of British Columbia; it is the government of Wisconsin; it is the leading children's aid societies in Manitoba; it is the superintendent of child welfare in the Northwest Territories. In other words why? Why in God's name, to serve a political advantage, must it be necessary to indulge in an entirely untenable kind of argument?

Those are the facts against which that kind of speech must be measured. You cannot have it both ways, Mr. Speaker.

The second point that I want to make along these lines is that the government has a report of a private and independent inquiry, and it is sitting on that report. The leader of the official Opposition asked for the report 10 days or so ago and the Minister of Health refused to give it to him. Who are the

members of that inquiry, Mr. Speaker? Let me refresh the minds of the House. There was Dr. Rathbun, who is chief of pediatrics at the University of Western Ontario and I assume, Mr. Speaker, that he is an eminent person in his field; Dr. Lozure, a leading child psychiatrist from the province of Quebec; Miss Jean Dorgan—I do not know her but I imagine she is a worthy representative of the social work establishment out of Ottawa; and even more significantly, Dr. W. W. Lewis, who is a psychologist from Nashville, Tennessee, and runs one of the three or four top treatment centres in all of North America, ranking with the Hawthorne centre and Bruno Bettelheim centre and any others one would care to mention.

So we have a study of Warrendale and Brown Camps and a report presented to Cabinet in the third week of December and absolutely no response from the Minister whatsoever. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the members of that committee could not necessarily have been kindly disposed to Warrendale and Brown Camps. I want to point out, and I think it is important, that all of them had serious theoretical objections to the method of treatment right from the outset. None of the people appointed was psychoanalytically oriented, so right from the outset, Mr. Speaker, there were objections to the theoretical framework. Further, many people were somewhat unhappy at the superficiality of the way in which some of the inquiry was held and some of the questions were asked.

But, Mr. Speaker, the main fact at issue is, where is the report? And since the report was independent and since the report was obviously impartial and since the report would reflect many opinions, then let us not have individual cases put in the most biased of terms by members like the hon. member for Scarborough Centre; let us have the report that the government has and let us have an explanation from the government for its support of all these various agencies.

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, why have we got this anomalous position on children at Warrendale and Brown Camps, and why no report? And why does the hon. member for Scarborough Centre compromise himself so painfully when the Minister of Health replied to the leader of the Opposition:

If a type of treatment, in our view, is inadequate, it will not be continued. So long as that type of treatment is being continued and recognized, I think it can be taken that so far as our knowledge goes

at the present time, it is considered as adequate as it can be—

The Minister of Health is on record in support of the treatment method. Mr. Speaker, why do we have that kind of anomalous position? I go back to page 6 of the hon. member's speech:

I am also aware in some quarters my remarks today will be interpreted as an act of political revenge, and an attempt to criticize a person and a party primarily because they happen to be political opponents.

Mr. Speaker, that surely is the crux, that surely is the crux! Smarting, angry, at times irrational, we have a government at present committed to a political vendetta of the most unsavoury kind, and I want to say to them, through you, Mr. Speaker, that it is the type of vendetta which is both self-demeaning and self-destructive.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if the Conservative Party and the hon. member for Beaches (Mr. Harris) sitting opposite want to defeat John Brown—if that is their object—then let them do it on the streets of Beaches-Woodbine; let the party give them the money and the pamphlets and the workers and let them go out and decide the issue on the streets of Woodbine in the coming election campaign. But let us have no further impugn- ing of the integrity of people in this House for the purpose of achieving that electoral objective.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, what an incredible spectacle. We have this political paranoia—there is no way else to describe it—around one man, one centre and a handful of children. And frankly, Mr. Speaker, there is something degrading and unreal about an entire government thus mobilized, something degrading and unreal.

We know all about The Department of Health; the take-over; the dossier so-called; the inquiries; the hints of withholding accreditation; the involvement of Peter Bruton and Public Relations Services Limited; the so-called Brown account; all the gossip and innuendo that has flowed for several months; The Department of Public Welfare; the child welfare branch struggling over the disposition of individual children; endless and protracted licensing procedures; bitter letters and all the other trappings of this issue. We know about the corporate boards that have been mobilized; and we know about backbenchers speaking with their dark and conspiratorial threats; and we know about the members of

the medical and social work establishment. One truly wonders, when it is all directed at one man, one centre, and a handful of children.

Surely, the vast resources of government might be otherwise directed than to this destructive, hostile, frightened and obsessed fixation around one man, a centre and a handful of children. That is what is unbelievable—the extremes to which irrationality can drive a government and several of its chief departments. That brings me, Mr. Speaker, to my penultimate point in this part of my address. The leader of the Opposition will know that means I am not at the end.

I am glad that the House leader is here because I have always felt that I can convey it to him honourably. I want him to know, and the government to know, that we are aware of the scurrying around behind the scenes, of the desperate decision making, of the question how far can you go politically, of the question how much should be ventured, and the basic issue, what is the public point of tolerance?

I want to serve, on behalf of this group, clear and unmistakable notice on the government, particularly the Minister of Health, that we know all about the background information and particularly that which has been conveyed to the press and others by the public relations firm involved. We know all about the material that some feel may be damaging, we know all about the contents of the inquiry report, the independent inquiry report, and why, ironically enough, it cannot be used, because it does not serve the politically damaging purposes—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): How does the member know all this?

Mr. S. Lewis: How do I know? That will emerge if I may be allowed to finish my remarks. I think I set out to this House honestly many months ago during the estimates of The Department of Education the contents of the interdepartmental committee report which were subsequently corroborated when the white paper came down. I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that we know why it is impossible to register this kind of report because it does not serve the designs for which it was intended.

I want to say that if that is the way the game is played, if that is the way the government decides to play the game, then we will not acquiesce; we will fight it step by step and point by point on the floor of this Legislature,

spelling out, if necessary, the entire unpalatable tale of events between September, 1966, and today, and adding the information based on interviews and source material of which I really do not think the government is aware—which can reply to all the allegations which may or may not be made.

There will be no winner, there will only be ignominy and wholesale public disenchantment with the tactics of government if they wish to provoke that kind of confrontation which was presaged by the remarks of the member for Scarborough Centre two days ago.

The decision to descend to that kind of political muck-raking lies with the government; that is their decision. They can decide what they intend to do, and I want to drive that point home. We on this side of the House will not precipitate it, and only the unthinking provocation of the kind that was characteristic 48 hours ago will open the floodgate. We will not do it, Mr. Speaker, because—and I want to convey this as forcefully as I can—because we believe there is an alternative. Incidentally, I think it is an alternative which commends itself to many private members of this House with whom I have discussed the matter confidentially and whose opinions have been privately expressed.

I want to suggest a moratorium on the Warrendale affair—not on the issue of emotionally disturbed children, I want to make that clear—but on the Warrendale affair.

The battle on emotionally disturbed children can and will continue to be tough and passionate, reflecting legitimate differences of opinion. For instance, Mr. Speaker, we will discuss at length in this House the relevance of the medical model *vs.* the non-medical or educational model. We will discuss the relative merits within The Department of Public Welfare estimates of treatment centres *vs.* group homes *vs.* special foster homes.

We will discuss the question of facilities and this unhappy “training” bogey that has been placed before people. We will discuss the plight of individual children in Ontario hospitals and the problems of disturbed children with inadequate treatment provided in our training schools. We will hold the government to its white paper commitment of full payment for any child where treatment is required, where treatment is necessary. We will fight individual cases if that is required, Mr. Speaker.

What I am arguing is that the government feels it has a positive programme; that

is what I am saying to you, gentlemen, you feel you have a positive programme. You have tabled a white paper and surely, in the name of all that makes sense, that should be the basis for future debate and controversy.

The public, the press, the agencies, the staff, the children, are tired and depressed about the endless open fratricide. It can achieve no useful purpose, it can only undermine and damage for the most crass of political motives. There comes a point I want to respectfully suggest, when politicians can abandon the denigration and work purposefully towards the desirable goal. That goal is obvious and it derives from the kind of discussion and kind of legislation which we have had. It is a lesson which the federal House appears not to have learned with sad consequences; it is perhaps the case that the provincial House can rise above that kind of situation.

I want to put the situation simply before you. On the one hand, you have one man, one treatment centre, and a handful of children as an entire public focus, and on the other hand, you have 60,000 to a quarter of a million disturbed kids requiring care with their needs and the available resources as the focus. I think the members know that we on this side of the House do not bother to engage in bluffs.

I have tried to make the position as clear as it can possibly be made. Either one has a raucous fight to an unseemly end or a collective, albeit at times critical, attack on an important social area. We would choose the positive emphasis of the latter and the decision lies with the government, particularly with the Minister of Health. He knows our stand and he knows our preference and there, Mr. Speaker, I will let the issue lie.

Mr. Speaker, I want to move now to an entirely separate matter. Alas, it also relates to the Minister of Health and I apologize to him for that. It was not intentional that both my introduction and subsequent remarks should relate to his department, but that is what has happened.

I want to suggest that my remarks actually derive from an article written not so long ago in the Toronto *Daily Star* with a headline about a "Credibility Gap for the Retarded". In a sense it was a slip of the headline because the credibility gap actually related to disturbed youngsters. It did, however, move me to explore what had happened in the area of Ontario hospital schools, particularly in the last couple of years since we had some fairly animated debates in this Legislature.

Last week I was visited by the parents of a nine-year-old boy, Paul Van Lith, whose name will be known to the Minister of Health and the member for Oshawa (Mr. Walker).

He was admitted to Smith's Falls Ontario hospital school, due to the felicitous arrangements of the member for Oshawa, back in April of 1966. He remained there for four months, until August of 1966 when the parents received an emergency call to attend at St. Francis hospital, which I believe is in Smith's Falls, where their child was undergoing an operation involving life or death result.

The operation itself resulted from an accident three days earlier at the hospital when the youngster had suffered a serious ruptured spleen. The accident, I think, raises two basic points, to which I would like to address myself.

How and why do these things happen and how does government respond? In this instance, a request from the parents for a full explanation, indeed an open inquiry, was refused and I suggest unreasonably avoided, in fact, in a sense peremptorily dismissed. Even if that were not the case, the story of Paul Van Lith at Smith's Falls Ontario hospital school was just the latest in a series of tragic events emanating from Smith's Falls.

In September of 1963, there was the death of a nine-year-old boy. In May of 1964, two patients drowned. In February 1965, there was a 16-year-old boy who died from exposure. In July of 1965, a 22-year-old died. In August of 1965, there was another drowning. In August of 1966 an 18-year-old, yet another drowning, followed by the Paul Van Lith incident and God knows how many other unhappy incidents within the hospital itself.

Mr. Speaker, this amounts to a staggering sequence of tragedies which have become almost predictable. Last year the Minister of Health said that his heart ruled his head on the question of Ontario hospital schools. In a sense that I suppose is an inevitable result of the conditions which prevail, but it also leads to the consequences I have indicated.

The cause is assuredly not the staff. They are furiously loyal, entirely dedicated and they work in an atmosphere of crippling staff shortage.

The basic explanation I suggest to the House lies in the serious and severe overcrowding which is a blight on the appropriate care of the retarded in this province. The

patients are inadequately handled, the staff is frustrated, the conditions are impossible and the deaths come with a bewildering regularity. And, Mr. Speaker, absolutely nothing happens—but nothing happens. That blithe and characteristic indifference of the Minister of Health is what governs all activities in this field.

Back on February 8, 1965, the Minister said, and I should like to quote him:

I recognize, sir, however, that even 2,440 shows 19 per cent overcrowding and in all of our thinking and planning this has been constantly before us. I stated a few days ago that I would have a precise answer to the question put by the hon. member for Scarborough West when he asked what plans the department had to deal with this matter. Some of them are as follows—

And then he laid out the plans to deal with the serious 19 per cent overcrowding which prevailed at that time.

At the end of December 1965, there were 2,564 youngsters in Smith's Falls hospital school and as of last week when I visited Smith's Falls and spent some time with the superintendent, Dr. Frank, there were 2,511 youngsters at Smith's Falls hospital school. A difference of 53 children over a period of two years. And every session, Mr. Speaker, a new and entirely irrelevant solution emerges and the credibility gap grows—indeed one's credulity is challenged.

And one is moved to ask, where is the new northern facility that the Minister of Health has promised in this House as often as any member would care to remember? I remind the House, Mr. Speaker, that there are children at Smith's Falls who do not see their parents more than once in 18 months because of the distances involved in placing northern children.

And where is the major reduction in numbers? You know, Mr. Speaker, one simply cannot maintain a continuity and intensity of care for retarded youngsters unless you have a reduction in numbers, because if you miss a day or if you miss two days in the treatment pattern, then you are in very serious difficulty indeed.

And where is the new staff we have been promised on each successive occasion?

The hospital at the moment is functioning with less than 50 per cent of medical staff, less than 50 per cent of the required social workers, less than 50 per cent of the required psychologists, less than 30 per cent of the

required occupational therapists; no physiotherapists, no speech therapists. In other words, a professional staff which can barely do a job of holding people at their own level of advancement and no further.

And where are the small cottage units we have been promised endlessly by this Minister and this government? It was a thoroughly misleading suggestion, I want to put to you, Mr. Speaker, that Smith's Falls would somehow be restructured, because in fact Smith's Falls has not been altered one jot over the last two years in terms of its internal structure. The only thing altered is that the educational programme has been taken over by The Department of Education, leaving health to indulge itself in the usual Ministerial ballyhoo.

I visited Smith's Falls last week and I want to say to the House that there is no use my going through the depressing and at times sordid recitation of what is wrong with that institution. It has been done too often in this House and need not be repeated.

But one of our most serious dilemmas when dealing with this particular issue has been the making of concrete proposals. We have heard proposals from government and they never materialize, and one does not know where to engage in attack. It is very difficult for members of the Opposition to make the kind of proposals which would revamp—indeed revolutionize—a place like Smith's Falls hospital school, which is the key to the system.

I received, in conversation with Dr. Frank, the superintendent of Smith's Falls, the five year plan for that institution which he has proposed to government. He proposed it to the government some time in the fall of last year. And I want to put those proposals on the record today as coming from the most authoritative and informed person in this field, the superintendent himself. And I shall simply put the highlights of those proposals on the record of *Hansard*.

He suggests an entire complement of senior administrative personnel—seven psychiatrists, two pediatricians, four physicians, four social workers, eight psychologists and an entire array of speech therapists, physiotherapists, occupational therapy assistants, recreation personnel, dentists, dental technicians, X-ray technicians, nursing education staff, and so on, and he sets out for the first time an entire blueprint for professional staff. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, he then goes on to say that the hospital must be reduced to something under 2,000 beds in order to function at any kind of viable level.

He goes further and says that the whole nature of the hospital school system should be altered and that those youngsters who are educable should be moved out into boarding schools in the community, leaving only those who require particular medical or mental health care in the hospital itself.

And then Dr. Frank made another series of suggestions which are entirely relevant. He wants to add 12 cottage type units with 12 to 15 patients each for selected groups of the hospital population.

When the Minister of Health says he is not quite certain what to do to Smith's Falls we can remind him of the 12 units providing space for 180 youngsters. Dr. Frank also wants to rearrange the present wards, and decrease the number of beds from 36 to 24 patients for treatment purposes. He wants the addition of 20 classrooms to the present school building for the trainable retarded which would involve upwards of 300 youngsters, and he wants the establishment of a sheltered workshop and a small structure in the area to supplement it.

He wants a cottage site or camp site for the retarded youngsters during the summer period; and finally, Mr. Speaker, he wants the additions of a chapel, a swimming pool, and a greenhouse, none of which seem inordinately unreasonable—although let it be said that one of the depressing things about visiting Smith's Falls Ontario hospital school is the little collection box in the foyer—it has been there as long as I can remember—and it says, "contribute to our plan for building a swimming pool".

Thus does the government of Ontario continue to starve the Ontario hospital school at Smith's Falls and inhibit the therapeutic progress that might be made. I think the objectives as set out in the five-year plan from the superintendent are indeed reasonable. He even establishes, Mr. Speaker, and it is the first time I have seen it done in Ontario, the pattern that mental retardation is likely to take and the area of the population that is likely to be affected and the percentages likely to be involved. I ask the Minister of Health and will ask him in his estimates, what does he intend to do about the entire restructuring of Smiths Falls Ontario hospital school as put to him by the superintendent of that agency? No longer can people hide behind the façade of a plan which does not function, or of no plan at all.

Mr. Speaker, I had one other major area to enter into. It will take a little time.

Mr. Speaker: Would the member estimate that he could finish in 15 minutes?

Mr. S. Lewis: No, sir, I could not.

Mr. Speaker: I am informed by the speakers in the private members' hour that they will not be able to fill the full hour so that the member could have 10 or 15 minutes.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I could perhaps squeeze it in but I do not like to set the precedent of going into the private members' hour.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the member would adjourn the debate then. If there is 15 minutes before closing time perhaps he could use it.

Mr. S. Lewis moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South) moves second reading of Bill 23, An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East) moves second reading of Bill 21, An Act to amend The Assessment Act.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Speaker, the purpose in introducing this bill as indicated by the explanatory notes is an amendment to authorize local municipalities to pass by-laws to provide a tax credit to our old-age pensioners. This is permissive legislation for our municipalities to assist the senior citizens.

It has come to my attention that a great number of municipalities are seeking to have private bills passed to enable them to enact this legislation and I have taken the liberty of introducing this private bill to make this permissive to all municipalities and thus avoid a great host of private bills this year and in years to come. Also, I would hope that this would tend to restore some of the municipal autonomy and responsibility that possibly has been eroded over the years in that everything must come to Queen's Park in municipal affairs.

I have often felt that our system of assessment is possibly too rigid and really does not distribute equitably the burden among the taxpayers, as it is in the theory in other realms of taxation. I have asked for these

exemptions to be permissive and to be allowable to come off the general tax rate—not just the school portion as has been the case in a great number of other private bills. I feel that this would be more equitable to a municipality due to the varying assessments and population in the community that might support either a separate or public school.

As I mentioned, many municipalities have requested that this exemption come off the school portion of the tax and there are many reasons for this. Municipalities have little or no autonomy over the amount they must raise for school purposes. The bill is literally handed to them by the school boards. Many senior citizens have paid to educate two generations of school children already. Many municipalities feel that the province should accept the full responsibility of paying for education costs. I should remark that this government, I feel, has let the people of our province down, as a great number of years ago it had an objective of paying up to 50 per cent of the cost of education in our province and I do not believe that it has yet attained that goal. We in this party have set an objective of 80 per cent as our goal to assist the municipalities and lower the burden of taxes to the people so involved.

This Bill 23 I feel is good legislation. I feel it will no doubt be supported by the other speakers on this bill—and the government, and especially in a pre-election period of time—and I would hope that this could even possibly come to a vote. This legislation is good in that it confers some benefits on a group of people who are most deserving—the old-time taxpayers, the long-time taxpayers, the people who have been the backbone of our communities.

I feel that this proposed legislation will help to encourage home ownership because it helps those on fixed incomes to meet the rising cost of taxes and the general costs of living. Many of these people have invested their life savings in a home. They have been taught to do this under our system. They have been taught to save for their senior years. They have struggled through depression years, years when their top earning power was much less and even a fraction of what it might be today—the days when hard-earned dollars were full dollars, but there were not too many of them.

I refer to inflation. It is inflation that turns their nest egg into mere chicken feed. Here are these pensioners in their latter years. They have succeeded in their objective of paying for their home and maybe have saved up a few thousand dollars which they

anticipated enjoying in these years. But what is the reality of the situation and system in which they have been taught to save for and believe in? First, a devalued dollar; their small savings are worth only a fraction of what they were when they were earned. These people are past the prime in life and can no longer enter the labour force to earn the easy dollar that is now available. They are literally trapped. Our best citizens of our province are trapped—victims in our fast-changing society; the society that they worked for, that they created; the society that they developed for the betterment of their children and future generations. Now they are faced with doing without some of the necessities of life, and probably many of them have done without the necessities of life over the many years, in order that they could live in dignity in their senior years.

As I pointed out, many of these citizens have invested their life savings in their homes. It may be the small cottage, or one of the large big homes, with its tall and stately pines, the homes that are so familiar on our Ontario scene. Their problem now, because of the cost of living and the rising cost of municipal taxes, is simply to have enough money to eke out a subsistence and retain the ownership of the home that they have worked so hard to earn and get in their own name, to retain their dignity in their own community.

Further, Mr. Speaker, I think it is to the advantage of our municipalities and province to assist these people to retain their dignity and to retain the ownership of their homes. The municipalities and two senior levels of government have been spending, and no doubt will be spending, thousands and millions of dollars in providing housing for senior citizens who do not own their own homes. These are people who, either through misfortune have lost their own homes, or who through inability to earn and save during the tough years that preceded now, just simply exist and get along. These people could not save and buy a home, or possibly through a lack of responsibility, have wasted their talents. In any case, the governments are providing, or attempting to provide, at great cost, proper accommodation for these people.

I think that something should be done for those who have had the ability and foresight to provide their own accommodation and care without becoming any charge to the public.

As I stated at the outset, these citizens were and still are the backbone of Ontario, the

people who accepted to the fullest our way of life, the people who assisted our charitable institutions, service clubs, over the many years, the people who never caused trouble for our municipalities. I think they deserve a break and this proposed bill would give the recognition and some of the assistance that they deserve.

It is to our advantage to keep these people in their own homes and not have them join the great line-ups of people in all age groups and financial circumstances awaiting subsidized accommodation.

One could underline this argument even further with concrete examples, showing how municipal taxation bears most heavily on the property owners at the bottom of the economic ladder. It would be easy to show that those property owners with low total income certainly have a much lower disposable income and that the impact of taxation is greater on them. In many cases municipal taxes can approach 10 or 15 per cent of a pensioner's income. I believe I could find a great number of instances where it would run as high as 30 and 40 per cent of their income.

I ask is this fair, when members of this Legislature and the other workers in our province have the earning power and have reasonable incomes and are paying less than ten per cent of our total income for municipal taxes? I think we have a moral obligation to these people, to give them some relief from this burden of taxation. I do not feel that we can allow these people to have their backs to the walls any longer.

Too many of these senior citizens have been pushed over the wall of pride and dignity. They have lost their homes. Another slight increase in municipal taxation could force many into the same situation and I am just sorry that the budget that came down yesterday did not indicate much relief to the municipalities. I am sure that no mayor or council wishes to sign his name to a tax sale of property owned by one of our senior citizens. In fact, in many cases I feel that this is simply signing a death warrant to these people.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the adoption of this bill would help to insulate those pensioners in our lower income group from the full impact of municipal taxation. It would allow the municipalities on their own volition to make these provisions to bring municipal taxation more nearly in the realm of taxation in other fields, that of ability to pay. It would allow these municipalities to endorse these principles at their own level and not require

a private bill to come into our Legislature, such as the Hamilton bill of last year, and the dozens of bills I understand are coming to the Legislature this year.

It would satisfy the requests, too, of many municipal organizations and the request of many communities across our province who have sought some such tax relief for their senior citizens over the past few years.

I believe this to be good legislation and I urge this House to endorse this bill.

Mr. Davison: The one thing we can be sure we must face each year is an increase in our property taxes. Spiralling prices and increasing taxes present an intolerable burden to those living on a fixed income. Their plight has caused me to present the amendment to The Assessment Act, which we are now considering, to provide that—

(1) The council of a local municipality may by by-law authorize and direct the treasurer to credit an amount determined under subsection 2 to the residential real property tax payable by a person who,

(a) is receiving a benefit under The Old Age Security Act (Canada) or under any Act requiring a means or needs test, except a benefit under The General Welfare Assistance Act for a period of not less than three months in the taxation year;

(b) has, or whose spouse has, been assessed as the owner of real property in the municipality for at least 10 of the 15 years immediately preceding the application;

(c) pays the balance of the taxes levied for the year in respect to which the credit is applied for; and

(d) applies therefor on or before the last day of February in the year in which the tax is levied.

(2) An amount credited under subsection 1 shall not,

(a) be credited to the tax payable in respect of more than one property; or

(b) exceed \$150.

(3) A by-law passed under this section may provide for such matters necessary to the administration of this section as the council deems necessary, and the council shall include in the annual estimates of the municipality such sums as are equivalent to the credits granted under the by-laws.

This government refused to enact the permissive legislation I sought last year so that any municipal government would be free to extend to senior citizens some property tax relief on the education portion of their taxes.

The municipality must present a private bill to enable the senior citizens in each particular community to enjoy this relief. This is pretty silly. Why force a municipality to present their case? It would be much more simple to enact permissive legislation and avoid hearing the separate municipal requests. But that is the way this government crumbles the cookie!

It is my hope that this will not be the fate of the bill before us today.

Hamilton's senior citizens have now been provided with tax relief on the education portion of their property tax.

Perhaps the hon. members would be interested in learning how this has worked out. 6,130 persons could apply but actually 3,000 did apply, and of those 97 per cent have qualified. Most of those qualifying groups are receiving the maximum allowance of \$100. The main qualifications they were required to meet were that they must be 70 years of age or more and a single person's annual income must not exceed \$3,100 and married persons' income not to exceed \$4,000.

The hon. members will note that the city of Hamilton sets a much more realistic level of income where assistance is required than does this Conservative government or the Liberal government of the dominion of Canada. Perhaps Hamilton sets a more realistic level of income because it has more representatives in its city council body with a first hand knowledge of the needs of the lower-income groups than have the majority of other governments.

I will not bore you by repeating the details of the types of assistance available in the various states of the United States of America which I gave last year. I will just refresh your memory by pointing out that Michigan, Indiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Delaware, Tennessee and Rhode Island are among the states providing tax relief of one sort or another.

This government need not fear that the public would oppose this kind of financial assistance, because the citizens of New Jersey voted two to one to provide tax relief for senior citizens. I do not believe the people of New Jersey are any more kindly disposed to our needy than are the people of Ontario.

It is generally recognized that:

1. The limited or fixed incomes of our pensioners and those receiving general welfare assistance are inadequate to meet even the basic needs in a period of increasing prices.

2. Property taxes tend to increase at a rate out of proportion to any change in the relatively static incomes of these people.

3. Senior citizens are generally faced with the necessity of meeting sharply increased costs for drugs and those receiving disabled person's pensions have frequently been required to meet this high cost of drugs.

4. Advances in medical science have added years to our life-span without the benefit of employability beyond certain age limits.

5. Many early pension plans and social welfare plans at present levels do not provide benefits which are equal to the lowest needs in relation to the present price structure.

Last fall, the A. Philip Randolph institute of New York city published a programme designed to achieve freedom from want for all Americans. The introduction to this booklet contained words which must be of interest to all concerned with the preservation of human dignity and the provision of the necessities of life for everyone. The words to which I refer are these:

Poverty and deprivation, as surely as denial of the right to vote, are erosive of human freedom and democracy. In our affluent nation, even more than in the rest of the world, economic misery breeds the most galling discontent, mocking and undermining faith in political and civil rights. Here in these United States, where there can be no economic nor technological excuse for it, poverty is not only a private tragedy but, in a sense, a public crime. It is, above all, a challenge to our morality.

When you list the "have" and the "have not" provinces of Canada, wealthy Ontario naturally falls into the group of "haves". Therefore, there ought not to be any one person unable to enjoy a decent standard of living in Ontario. If there is, then we in this House are guilty, as stated in the institute's booklet, of the crime of condemning these people to continue in want and in undermining the very essence of their dignity. For it is a sad truth that man is measured today not by his accomplishments nor yet by his character, as much as by his accumulation of wealth.

We have denied our elderly the roles and functions customary to them in the past. Our rapid technical advances have resulted in past experience and knowledge becoming practically useless. Unlike other inactive members of society, such as women, children and young people, the aged person is a very poor consumer, simply because his limited income

does not permit high consumption of goods and services.

It was pointed out at Canada's first national conference on the problems of aging, that the growing tendency to downgrade the elderly really results in downgrading our young people in advance, since they too will one day grow old. It is therefore to the benefit of society as a whole that we restore the elderly and others in need to their rightful place and that they have the opportunity to participate fully in the day to day life of the community, province and nation and one of the ways this can be accomplished is through financial security.

The federal government has recognized this need and provides financial assistance through The Old Age Security Act and other measures. Provincial governments have extended this financial assistance to the elderly and certain other types of pensions and assistance. The time has come when it is desirable to provide the vehicle for municipal governments to give further financial assistance should they wish to do so.

The permissive legislation proposed would permit the municipality to assist up to the extent of \$150 property tax allowance. This might allow individuals to remain in their own homes a little longer, thus adding to their enjoyment and easing the pressure on our various forms of accommodation for senior citizens and other persons. It would also be a means of assisting them to maintain their homes in better condition to their personal satisfaction and to the benefit of the community at large.

Amending The Assessment Act will not by any means cure our ills. It is at best a stop gap to help meet the current problem facing those required to live on a fixed income.

We should start now to replace our assorted and inadequate welfare measures with a guaranteed income set at a realistic level to provide not just the bare essentials but some ease and comfort.

Mrs. A. Pritchard (Hamilton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak to the proposed amendment to The Assessment Act, which authorizes local municipalities to pass by-laws to permit old-age pensioners to make application for a tax credit to reduce the education portion of their realty tax, not to exceed \$150 in any one year. Last year Royal assent was given to such an application from the city of Hamilton. This year Hamilton is processing the applications for this benefit, the first city to do so. Incidentally,

Hamilton was also, on my motion, one of the first cities to issue a reduced bus ticket rate in the past decade to persons receiving old age security, and some 9,000 pensioners enjoy this privilege.

I have been advised by Mr. Simpson, the Hamilton city clerk, that 3,060 applications have been received to date. Of this total number, 85 applications have been rejected as the applicants are not able to meet the requirements set out in the by-law authorizing this tax credit. It is expected that a total of 3,500 applications will be received by February 28, which is the last day for making applications.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because at the present it is the only way that this much need assistance for the pensioner can be accomplished. It results in keeping the elderly secure in their own home, and independent. According to the last revised assessment rolls of the city of Hamilton there are 6,130 pensioners who qualify for the education tax rebate. This does not take into account the many retired persons on a limited income who by force of circumstances have sold their homes and moved into apartments, which is admittedly a high rent area, and who are still, through their rents, contributing to the educational rate.

I greatly deplore bits and pieces legislation which requires pensioners to apply for assistance to various departments when a much more simple, practical and economical approach would be to increase the old age security pension to an amount that would enable the pensioner to live and maintain that dignity of person so dear to a human being. It was quite obvious to the members of the select committee on aging during our many sessions that independence and dignity of living is of great importance to the elderly and that their keenest desire is to manage their own affairs. We should do everything possible to encourage this most commendable desire.

Mr. Speaker, I would now draw your attention to the latter part of section 1 of the proposed bill which, as I read it, qualifies the applicant for the aforementioned tax credit, and I quote from line 14:

—or the husband or wife of such person, or both, have attained the age of sixty-five years and are receiving a government benefit under The Old Age Security Act (Canada)—

My information from the Act is that the federal old age security universal pension, this current year, is payable at the age of 68

years. The age requirement will be progressively lowered until it is 65 years in 1970. The provincial government grants old age assistance to persons now age 65, 66 and 67 years. Old age assistance is on a needs test basis and costs are shared between the two governments.

I would like to see this tax credit extended to pensioners, aged 65, who are now receiving old age assistance on the needs test basis. The proposed bill does not do this. The same is true of the widows and single women's allowance of the provincial government. They are widows and single women and, in some cases, women whose husbands are in institutions. These women are all 60 years of age or over and, like old age assistance recipients, they also qualify for an allowance from the province, and providing they qualify as home owners under the bill as proposed, I would hope that they too would receive some consideration.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, it is a real pleasure for me to take part in this debate and it looks as if in this House today it is Wentworth county and Essex county that are seriously interested in the senior citizens.

At the outset I think we should commend the mayor of Hamilton and the people from Hamilton on their forward looking approach to the senior citizens. I can recall about three or four years ago when mayor Vic Copps first came to the private bills committee and made his plea for tax relief to the senior citizens, and at that time he was turned down.

But mayor Copps is not one who takes a licking too easily; he persists and insists that what he thinks is right is good legislation and should be passed by the private bills committee. So he returned the following year and was able to convince the private bills committee that his request was a justifiable one, it was a moral one, it was one that we in the province should have taken seriously and should pass.

Now, as a result of his presentation the private bills committee in their wisdom, Mr. Speaker, passed the bill granting tax exemptions to senior citizens 65 years of age and over. And I think the senior citizens of this province really owe to mayor Copps and the people of Hamilton who assisted him a debt of gratitude on his forward looking approach to the problem.

I can recall bringing this topic up about four years ago and asking the Minister of

Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), if studies were under way to give tax relief. If I am not mistaken, the remark was that studies were under way. Surely if the studies had been under way approximately four years ago this government should have been prepared by now to come down with general legislation that would have permitted this tax assistance to senior citizens.

I can recall once again, about three years ago, approaching the problem. Two years ago I spoke at some length concerning tax relief and then again I spoke in one of the private members' bills requesting such permissive legislation. Mr. Speaker, it would be good to re-acquaint the hon. members of the House just how far other jurisdictions have gone with this type of legislation. But before I do, Mr. Speaker, may I simply read the following article that was in the *Windsor Star* and written by Mr. Lum Clark, a renowned, well-known and capable editor in the newspaper. His comments are:

How taxes zoom. Years ago Hiram Walker's built some homes for the distillery staff. Some of these are still occupied. Now taxes on some of these homes are higher than the rents used to be. This is rough on older people. Having retired, they are trying to struggle along on fixed incomes. They find their bills going higher and higher but their revenues remain the same. There is no easy answer. But some of the older people wish someone would do something to help them.

Mr. Speaker, the two bills that we are debating this afternoon are a partial answer to the problem and we only wish that the government in its wisdom would make this general legislation.

The bill that we are debating—the proposition of giving municipal tax relief, be it educational tax relief or general tax relief—is one that has been studied in other jurisdictions for a long while, not only studied but acted upon. I can recall the late Henry Gordon who proposed this in my own community over 15 years ago. He had an awfully hard time selling the idea but he eventually got the ear of one of the members of council, a well-known alderman by the name of Oliver Stonehouse. Mr. Stonehouse attempted to sell the council the idea of tax relief, but had a most difficult time. Maybe his approach was the type that did not appeal to the members of council. However, as years went on, the members of council saw the wisdom of his suggestion and eventually acted upon it. In the action, the proposal for tax assistance was passed by the

council of the city of Windsor on March 22, 1965, and if I may read only parts of the resolution, we will see how forward-looking an approach the council of Windsor did have at that time:

Whereas the cost of education in the province of Ontario has increased municipal taxes to the point of hardship for elderly citizens on fixed income—

Mr. Speaker, this is 1965; just think how that cost of municipal taxes will be this coming tax year, 1967, after the municipalities are burdened with the tremendous educational costs, plus other costs. I continue:

And whereas it is desirable to afford citizens of 65 years of age and over some relief from the educational portion of their property tax—

And they go into a whole series of more “whereas-es”, Mr. Speaker. They eventually end up asking for a school tax rebate to each taxpayer 65 years of age on application in respect of owner-occupied property in an amount equal to one-half that portion of the taxes levied in that year against the parcel for school purposes, or \$75, whichever is the lower.

This resolution had been proposed to council by a very prominent, well-known, capable, able, well-loved and fine supporter of the government opposite. This was my opponent in the last provincial election, a very fine, outstanding lady. When this lady presented this to the government, she must have had the ears of the government at the time or it would never have passed council. So I would suppose that the government must have thought that this was a good type of legislation and, as a result, I would say that they in their wisdom should now take her suggestion and put this in as general legislation.

This was 1965, March 25. That is approximately two years ago that this resolution was passed by the city and presented to all levels—I should not say all levels of government—but to the provincial government, the Ontario mayors and reeves association and the Ontario municipal association.

This fine lady, Mrs. Montrose, is also a very energetic type of woman. She would not accept the fact that there was no action on the part of the government in 1965 on the city of Windsor resolution. As a result she persisted and insisted that there be some type of action on this and in 1966, once again had a resolution adopted by council that asked for and, if I may read, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, you noticed how the member from this side of the House was trying that chair on for size. He informs me that it fits well, so I assume by that, that it will not be too long before—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): We do not allow politics to enter into a project that will benefit the general public.

An hon. member: You are right, George.

Mr. Newman: Thank you, Mr. Minister of Mines, we both agree to that. The resolution passed on December 19, 1966, and you can see it is a new resolution. You can see that the city is looking forward to action on the part of this government. It reads:

Whereas the cost of education in the province of Ontario has increased municipal tax rates to the point of hardship for elderly citizens on fixed incomes and whereas it is desirable to afford citizens 65 years of age and over some relief from the educational portion of their property tax, and whereas non-property owning senior citizens qualified for low rental senior citizens' housing and whereas administrative costs of the system of tax relief with a means test would be prohibitive, and whereas related systems are in operation in other provinces in Canada, for example, British Columbia and Manitoba, therefore, be it resolved that the Ontario mayors and reeves association and the Ontario municipal association be requested to join with the city of Windsor and all other municipalities in petitioning the provincial government to adopt a system where, on the production of a valid tax receipt, the province will, without means, pay a school tax rebate to each taxpayer 65 years of age or over, on application in respect of owner-occupied property in an amount equal to the lesser of one-half of that portion of the taxes levied in that year against the parcel for school purposes, or \$75.

This was passed in December. I noted the comments of one of the members of council and it states that if there is no action on the city's request at this time, that that member of council will ask the city to pass a private bill so that that city can come to this private bills committee and request legislation such as we are debating here this afternoon, a permissive type of legislation allowing a city to give a tax rebate to the senior citizen.

In the county of Essex, not only is the city of Windsor seriously interested in this problem, but also the town of Amherstburg, the town so ably represented by the hon. member for Essex South. That town, with its forward-looking municipal advisers and municipal councilmen has also asked for a private bill. This bill will be up in front of the private bills committee in the near future. This town council is asking for credit of up to \$100 per year against school taxes for persons in the municipality. Now they are suggesting the age of 70 years and over. You can see the concern of municipalities throughout the province of Ontario on this subject.

I noticed in the paper just recently that the borough of East York is asking for special legislation directly bearing on this topic. They are asking that a person at the age of 65 years and receiving a government benefit under The Old Age Security Act, be allowed a tax credit in the sum of \$100 in any one year and this against only one property in the one year. However, the borough of East York asks that this tax deduction be a lien against the property so that if that person does sell the property at some future date, the municipality has access to the funds from the sale and can deduct from the final selling price moneys owed to it and given to the home owner at some time in the past as an educational or a tax deduction. I do not agree with the East York approach. However, Mr. Speaker, you can see that tax relief for the elderly is a very serious concern to municipalities all over Ontario.

It has been said in the past that the individual can get tax relief. There is a supplementary assistance permitted up to the extent of \$20 per month. However, Mr. Speaker, I do not know of many cases in my own municipality where an individual has been able to get this \$20 a month supplementary assistance for tax purposes. I am not saying that there is not anyone who has not received it, but I do not know of many and I do not think that this is the answer at all. I think that the answer is general legislation that will permit a municipality to give to its senior citizens this tax relief. Mr. Speaker, the town of Riverside, which was annexed by the city of Windsor at the end of 1965, was so concerned that it also had a special resolution adopted by its council asking for similar type of tax relief.

There are many states in the United States that do give tax relief. For example, New Jersey gives couples past 65 years of age a

deduction of \$80 from their property tax bill. They have a stipulation that that individual's annual income not exceed \$5,000. Georgia grants those over 65 with incomes under \$3,000 a tax exemption of \$4,000, so you can see that this is a sizable assistance to the individual over 65: Wisconsin grants tax relief to those with incomes under \$3,000. Massachusetts gives it to those past 70—a \$2,000 assessment exemption. In Rhode Island, some counties give those over 65 a \$1,000 assessment exemption. In Maryland, 15 out of 24 counties grant elders exemptions of anywhere from \$1,500 to \$5,000 on their property assessment. Indiana gives elders with incomes under \$2,000 an exemption of \$1,000 on their assessment. Louisiana gives a \$2,000 assessment exemption to those past 65. Even Alaska comes along and gives a tax exemption. Surely, Mr. Speaker, the number of states I have cited having concern for our senior citizens should rouse the government opposite to lend a willing ear to the senior citizen and grant him some type of property tax exemption.

The state of Michigan had a real battle on its hands with two political parties fighting to give tax exemption to their senior citizens. They passed a bill called The Enrolled Bill No. 2001 at the 73rd Legislature, the regular sittings of 1965—the bill that gave the homesteads of persons of the age of 65 and over, who have been residents of this state for at least seven consecutive years immediately preceding, and whose gross income as hereinafter defined combined with the income, if any, for the immediate preceding calendar year of spouse and co-occupant and concurrent owners of the homestead, that as long as their combined income is not over \$5,000 they would have had a tax exemption of approximately \$2,500. So you can see when we think of Ontario as being forward looking it is not forward looking at all.

It may be the province of opportunity for the members of the Conservative Party, but it certainly is not the province of opportunity for the senior citizens.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, we do give a tax, an indirect tax exemption today to some senior citizens by permitting them to live in—I should not say permitting them—but providing for them senior citizens' housing, geared to income senior citizens' housing.

If you are doing it for one class of citizen who have been fortunate enough to get into senior citizens' housing and paying a low rental, then surely that same principle should apply to the senior citizen of 65 years of age who owns his own property, but who is financially unable or financially finds it difficult to pay the tax burden that continually year after year increases to the point where it is almost unprofitable or unwise to own your own home.

It was only yesterday in the *Toronto Star* that there was an article by Robertson Cochrane, "Grants to Owners a Housing Aid", and the article comments that in the western provinces they are leading when it comes to tax assistance to the senior citizens.

In BC the maximum grant was \$28 for the first two years of tax assistance. In 1966 it went up to \$110. So everyone pays at least \$1 tax so anyone whose property tax works out to \$110 or lower pays only \$1. British Columbia, that cannot be compared for affluence with this province, is able to have such legislation. Manitoba has a grant that is applied against the school tax portion of municipal levies and it amounts to half the payable school tax or \$50, whichever is the lesser. So anyone—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): They are dropping it.

Mr. Newman: They are dropping it?

Mr. Bryden: Yes, and in any case, no western programme relates specifically to pensioners.

Mr. Newman: No, this is a general tax assistance programme, making it all the more reason why this province should consider assisting the senior citizen if these other provinces throughout Canada can be so generous with all of their citizens. Surely we have a moral obligation to consider our senior citizen and assist him by way of tax relief.

Mr. G. T. Gordon (Brantford): The richest province in Canada.

Mr. Newman: The richest province in Canada and it cannot do it. Manitoba, with approximately one-sixth of the population, is able to do it. In Manitoba anyone whose school tax is \$100 or more gets a maximum of \$50; anyone, not only senior citizens.

Saskatchewan has a similar \$50 or half the payable tax system. But the grant applies to the whole of the municipal tax bill. Alberta

gives a flat discount similar to British Columbia but the figure is \$50 compared to British Columbia's \$110. Albertans, the same as those in British Columbia, are required to pay a minimum of \$1, so in case their tax bill was \$45 and they are allowed a \$50 exemption, they would still pay the \$1.

Manitoba extends its property exemption, as I have mentioned earlier, to all property owners; British Columbia, to owner-occupied dwellings, including apartment buildings; Alberta, only to those units that are occupied by the owner, and the owner of a duplex in Alberta is eligible for this tax discount only for the half of that duplex in which he lives. Saskatchewan gives the tax break to all resident home-owners, provided the dwelling contains six or fewer self-contained units. Surely, if other provinces throughout this Canada of ours can consider and assist our senior citizens in tax relief, this province of Ontario can do likewise.

Mr. Speaker, the report of the select committee on aging that was supposed to have been secretive, or not revealed, is the subject of a press clipping that dealt directly with the report and the report asks for help for aged. One of the recommendations mentioned in the press report is that tax rebates of up to \$150 be given to the elderly. Mr. Speaker, if the aging committee in its wisdom thought that this was just and right, then surely its being represented by a majority of government members, then this government should act on the recommendation and implement permissive legislation as proposed by the two members who have presented bills to the Legislature—bills which we happen to be discussing at this time, Acts to amend The Assessment Act.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have a moral obligation to help. I think this is good legislation. It is only permissive legislation, so if a municipality in its wisdom does not consider it can financially afford to pass such legislation, it does not have to. But other municipalities should be allowed to pass such legislation.

It is time that we stopped soaking our senior citizens. I think the senior citizens deserve a real break, and if this government will not for this year allow a \$150 tax assistance to the senior citizens, then let us look at 1967 not only as being a Centennial year in the life of the great country, but let us look at it as being a year in which we can make a Centennial gift to our senior citizens. Let us give them at least \$100 tax rebate on this, Canada's 100th birthday.

Mr. Speaker: Discussion on Bills 21 and 23 being concluded, orders number 27 and 29 are discharged from the order paper.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I would advise you, sir, that tomorrow the Throne Debate will continue, following which the estimates of The Depart-

ment of Agriculture and Food may be embarked upon. In the event that this does not happen, we will go to second readings of both private and public bills.

Hon. Mr. Dymond moves the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 16, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests in the east gallery, students from the W. F. Herman collegiate institute, Windsor, and in the west gallery, students from St. Mary's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills presented the committee's fourth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment: Bill Pr11, An Act respecting united cooperatives of Ontario; Bill Pr23, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments: Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Your committee would recommend that the following bill be not reported: Bill Pr22, An Act respecting the city of Windsor.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mrs. A. Pritchard (Hamilton Centre): **Mr. Speaker,** before the orders of the day, I wish to inform you sir, and the hon. members of this House, of a most important anniversary in Stoney Creek, Ontario, next Sunday, February 19.

This celebration will mark the 70th anniversary of the first women's institute in the world, founded by Mrs. John Hoodless of Hamilton. The history of this organization is a revealing testimony of the energy and devotion of many thousands of our finest country women who have given unstintingly of their strength, time, money and materials to alleviate want, suffering and misery wherever found.

I can pay no higher tribute to the wisdom and foresight of the founding members of the women's institute of Stoney Creek, than

to cite the phenomenal growth of this organization and its achievements in the succeeding 70 years. From its inaugural meeting with 100 women from the Stoney Creek area, it has spread throughout Canada to well over 3,000 branches with over 72,000 members across the country. In addition, women's institutes in countries on five continents are affiliated with other rural organizations through the associated country women of the world—the largest organization of country women in existence, numbering some 6.5 million women linking together 159 societies in 108 different countries, states and provinces, women of all races, colours and creeds.

Mr. Speaker, an institution with this phenomenal record of growth is obviously filling a need that is vital and world wide. The women's institute's initial concern was with child care and home management but it soon became deeply committed in other areas, such as improving rural schools, providing playground equipment, and introducing hot lunches, dental clinics and medical inspection. The institute helps to set up local libraries and cottage hospitals, to introduce music teaching and handicrafts, and to assist with the provision of recreational facilities such as playgrounds and swimming pools. The institutes encourage amateur dramatics, choral singing and labour-saving devices, to broaden and enrich rural life.

A moment's reflection on these activities, **Mr. Speaker,** will indicate the tremendous challenge and opportunity that still faces the organization in Canada, and more particularly in the under-developed countries of the world. As Miss Anna P. Lewis stated in the closing scene of the 50th anniversary pageant of the institute of Guelph, representing the future, and I quote:

We, the daughters and granddaughters of the first institute women face the future with courage, determination and faith. Truly we treasure the past, the deeds and accomplishments of the women who have gone before. Their long service, their sterling characters and their high ideals inspire us to go on. May we be worthy of our heritage. May we, the women of today, accept our challenge and go on to greater things because these women lived,

because they had a vision, because they built a foundation so straight, strong and true.

And all this began in Stoney Creek, Ontario, on February 19, 1897.

Mr. Speaker, I know you and all the hon. members of this House join me in this tribute to the untiring devotion and service of these women and to the two gentlemen who encouraged them in their endeavours.

I will conclude with a very short paragraph showing that even in 1897 the members of Parliament were alert to the potential of women. Mr. Erland Lee, a well-known fruit grower from the Stoney Creek area, in 1896 had first suggested to Mrs. Hoodless she should speak to a mixed group in Stoney Creek. Along with Senator E. D. Smith, the member of the federal Parliament, and a Major F. M. Carpenter, a member of the provincial Parliament, Erland Lee assisted the women in drafting the constitution and by-laws. The fact that this broad and elastic constitution provided for the development of this little society into an organization of world-wide scope reflects great credit upon the wisdom, vision and foresight of the men and women responsible for its framing, inasmuch as there has been little change in the basic constitution since it was drafted so many years ago.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, if I may make just a short comment on what the hon. member for Hamilton Centre has been referring to, we have been very interested in her full description of the work of the women's institutes in this province and the fact that they were founded 70 years ago in Stoney Creek.

But I know, sir, you would not want this occasion to go by without being aware of the fact that Mrs. Hoodless, herself, was born in the constituency of Brant near my own home and that her birthplace has been purchased by the women's institutes of Canada and has been set apart with beautiful picnic facilities and is open to all of us as interested citizens to visit. I would urge you, sir, and our colleagues in the Legislature to avail themselves of that opportunity.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if I may crave your indulgence and that of the House for a few moments I would like to take this opportunity to express a welcome to a special guest who is here today in the person of Mr. Nipon Boonyapataro, who is the director of research and evaluation, bureau of municipal affairs,

local administration department of The Ministry of the Interior, Bangkok, Thailand. This gentleman is here to study our system of local government. He is particularly interested in the government of the Metropolitan corporation of Toronto and of course is visiting The Department of Municipal Affairs of Ontario. He will be returning to Thailand to assume the responsibility for developing the Metro system in Bangkok. I have only one further comment to make, Mr. Speaker, and that is that perhaps it might be possible for the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) to give some consideration to supporting the possibility that the present Minister of Municipal Affairs in this province might be of some assistance by visiting Bangkok.

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Highways, notice of which has been given.

I have been advised that The Department of Highways has refused to grant the owners of Orchard Motel, signs on the Queen Elizabeth Way similar to those signs provided for Prudhomme's Garden Centre. Would the Minister explain this policy which allows signing to be granted in one instance and not the other?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question, I would say that the owners of the Orchard Motel established their business approximately ten years ago and since that time have been attempting to get something other than regulation signs. There are many other business establishments adjacent to or in close proximity to the Queen Elizabeth Way, which have made similar requests, numbering in the hundreds. If we are to maintain control of signing, not only from the standpoint of appearance but from the safety standpoint, we must rigidly enforce our regulations.

To explain the safety implications, I would point out that there are so many signs on our highways which are necessary for direction and safe driving that the erection of commercial signs of the type requested would cause great confusion to drivers, particularly on our expressways. The owners of the Orchard Motel established their business knowing full well the limitations imposed by our signing policy. The situation is entirely different in respect to Prudhomme's Garden Centre, where signs are in position on the Queen Elizabeth Way to indicate access to this complex via Prudhomme Boulevard.

The circumstances I refer to are these: Prudhomme's had direct access to their property ever since they went into business many years ago and prior to the construction of the Queen Elizabeth Way and certainly before it was designated as a controlled access. Also, ever since the Queen Elizabeth Way was constructed, the crossing of the boulevard was allowed so that direct access to their place of business was possible from both directions. With the great increase of high-speed traffic and a large number of accidents in this area, we closed the boulevard crossing and all direct access from the Queen Elizabeth Way. What we have allowed by way of signing for Prudhomme's Garden Centre recognizes the different circumstances to those of the Orchard Motel and their places of business on the Queen Elizabeth Way.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Mines.

Referring to the death of Art Hamilton at the iron ore plant of International Nickel Company at Sudbury in December, 1966:

1. Why was the fatal accident report not made available to the president of local 6500, united steelworkers of America, the union to which Mr. Hamilton belonged?

2. When will it be made available?

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member for Yorkview, I might say that a preliminary investigation is made prior to the inquest to learn what witnesses would be necessary to present the facts re the accident. Any report submitted prior to the inquest might influence the verdict and it would be presumptuous on our part to determine how, where and when this fatality occurred. This is the prime function of the inquest. The report is published as soon as possible after the inquest and it includes the jury's verdict.

Mr. Young: I thank the Minister very much.

I have a question of the hon. Attorney General referring again to the death of Art Hamilton at the iron ore plant, International Nickel Company at Sudbury in December, 1966:

1. Why has the inquest not been held? 2. When will the inquest be held? 3. Who is the coroner? 4. Has the supervising coroner instructed that no inquest will be held in Sudbury unless the Crown attorney is present to the exclusion of others in his office?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the inquest has not been held for two particular reasons. It was set for February 1. It was not planned earlier because the death occurred on December 18, just prior to the holiday season, and I think hon. members will realize it is difficult to have an inquest in the holiday period, not so much on account of the court officials who are on duty on all proper days, but to get jurors in that period. Then, immediately the holiday was over, the Crown attorney, Mr. Burbidge, underwent surgery for a gall bladder illness and he has just recovered. The inquest was postponed therefore from February 1, and the date now proposed is March 15. That is the answer to the first two questions.

The coroner is Dr. Pidutti of Sudbury. The answer to the fourth part of the question: No, there has been no instruction given by the supervising coroner that the Crown attorney must be present on all inquests, but Crown attorney Burbidge is the senior law officer and he does take the position that he wishes to be present at all inquests. I think this is evidence of his interest and his desire to see that all relevant evidence is produced. He does adopt that attitude, that he should be present in the case of every inquest. This is his prerogative and quite proper.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall). I have bad luck with this Minister, but I will table them again.

1. Is it true, as Ontario officials of central mortgage and housing corporation contend, that CMHC has no details of the Ontario HOME programme, other than the general statement outlined by the Minister last weekend? If so, when exactly will the two levels of government be meeting on the proposals?

2. Is it also true that the city of Toronto has no details of the Ontario HOME programme, other than the general statement outlined by the Minister last weekend? If so, when exactly will the two levels of government be meeting on the proposals?

3. Will the Minister table the 1966 financial statements of the Ontario housing corporation?

May I address two questions, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Education?

1. Will the Minister intervene in, or initiate, provincial discussions about the school accommodation crisis in Metro Toronto,

which will result from the Metro executive committee's cutting of the Metro Toronto school board capital budget by \$101 million?

2. Does not this most recent evidence of difficulty in school financing suggest to the Minister a full reappraisal of the provincial contribution to the cost of education?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member well knows, I am prepared to meet at any time with any organizations with respect to educational problems. With respect to the situation, quite frankly I read about it primarily in the Metro press and this is, to a great degree, the extent of my knowledge. I would be quite prepared to meet with any of the educational or municipal authorities if my office could be of any assistance.

As to the second part of the question, I am sure the hon. member appreciates the contributions of this province with respect to educational finance. This matter is under constant review. I think this is quite evident in the alterations to the grant regulations this year, where an additional \$60 million is being made available for operational expenses to the boards. I think, Mr. Speaker, that this in itself indicates that the government not only is prepared to evaluate, but is making a constant evaluation of its contribution to education here in this province.

Mr. S. Lewis: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker? Would the Minister consider it part of his office to initiate discussions in the light of what he reads about the Metro school crisis, or must he wait for submissions?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it from what I read, the matter is being discussed between the two groups at the Metro level. As I read it at least, no final conclusions have been reached that the amounts submitted even by the Metro board are final in themselves. I would suggest that when further negotiations have been carried on or at such time as they feel our office would be helpful, that would be the appropriate time to participate.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Highways. A copy of the question has been submitted to him.

In view of the fact that the council of Sarnia feels it has not been properly consulted about the Sarnia-Wallaceburg highway which will pass through an area where the council plans extensive sewer and roadwork,

what steps, if any, does the Minister intend to take to cooperate more closely with the council to prevent any possible costly planning errors?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, before I give the answer to this question, I would like to inform you that the hon. member for Lambton West (Mr. Knox) has had very many discussions with us about this problem, so I am sure he is quite conversant with the answer.

Contact will be established with the city of Sarnia just as soon as tentative functional plans have been prepared. This should take place some time this spring. Any reference to decisions having been made in respect to construction refer to areas well outside the influence of the city of Sarnia, and therefore will not have any effect on the city of Sarnia's plans for any public works they may be anticipating.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, if I may ask a supplementary question of the Minister—then why would the mayor and council be so disturbed at The Department of Highways to have asked for such consideration?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would just say, Mr. Speaker, that I think the hon. member's question should be directed to the council of the city of Sarnia.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I asked the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs a question about Prudential Finance Corporation on Valentine's day. I wonder whether he could let me have the answer?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): The answer is under preparation. It was a detailed question and I have asked my office to check the matter thoroughly.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 34th order; second readings.

SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL AND COST ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth) moves second reading of Bill Pr1, An Act respecting the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

SARNIA BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE SARNIA SUBURBAN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West) moves second reading of Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MOOSE

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East) in the absence of **Mr. J. C. G. Demers** (Nickel Belt) moves second reading of Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

EMPIRE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston) moves second reading of Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Empire Life Insurance Company.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

COLLEGE OF THE DOMINICAN OR FRIAR PREACHERS OF OTTAWA

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East) moves second reading of Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

PROVINCIAL BUTCHERS MACHINERY LIMITED

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George) moves second reading of Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers Machinery Company Limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

Mr. Henderson, in the absence of **Mr. Demers**, moves second reading of Bill Pr13,

An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) in the absence of **Mr. K. E. Butler** (Waterloo North) moves second reading of Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

TOWN OF CALEDONIA

Mr. Ewen moves second reading of Bill Pr19, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Clerk of the House: The first order; resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): **Mr. Speaker**, when I concluded yesterday, I had one further area I wished to deal with and it shall not be too lengthy. It is an area which many members have alluded to or dealt with at some length thus far. It is the area of housing, and more particularly the government's HOME programme. What my colleagues and I intend to do during the course of the session—and to which I would like to add my voice today since it has already begun—is the impugning, as it were, of the content of the HOME programme, trying to demonstrate precisely how irrelevant and empty that programme is in what it will eventually accomplish.

I was interested to note, **Mr. Speaker**, in reading the *Toronto Globe and Mail* this morning—indeed in reading many newspaper reports—that it is impossible to elicit from the government, and from the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (**Mr. Randall**) in particular, any of the specifics, any of the details, which would give any hon. members of this House confidence in the purpose and the substance of the project. Indeed, lest some members of the Legislature have missed

it, let me read from the *Globe and Mail* story this morning entitled: Meetings on the HOME Front Keep Housing Plan Top Secret, written by Cameron Smith, details of which I think are illustrative of the impasse we have reached:

On the same day, reporters tried to reach H. W. Suters, temporary chairman of Ontario housing corporation, the agency designated to implement HOME. He and P. E. H. Brady, deputy managing director for development, were in Sudbury and could not be reached.

Deputy Minister of Economics and Development S. W. Clarkson suggested that in their absence discussions should be held with E. J. Whaley, OHC deputy managing director for property management.

An appointment was made for yesterday morning, but when a reporter arrived he was told it had been cancelled because of an unexpected meeting with OHC officials.

Mr. Whaley's secretary said he suggested the interview be postponed until OHC officials had a chance to meet CMHC officials in Ottawa.

She added that Mr. Suters was also at the meeting and could not be disturbed even to arrange a new appointment.

She agreed to ask Mr. Suters or Mr. Whaley to telephone the reporter at the lunch break to set an appointment and also to indicate whether OHC's financial statements for 1966 would be released to the reporter.

Previously, OHC comptroller C. G. Reading refused to release the financial statements or the corporation's 1966 budget without Mr. Suters' approval. The reporter explained they were needed to compare last year's spending with the 1967 estimates in the Budget speech.

No reply was received from Mr. Suters or Mr. Whaley.

Similar difficulties arose at Mr. Clarkson's and Mr. Randall's offices. Mr. Clarkson's secretary said he was at a meeting and could not be disturbed but she would ask him to call when he emerged at about 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Randall's secretary said he was occupied, "but I'll get Mr. Randall's assistant, Mr. (John) Mason, to give you a call about it right away. He's in a meeting now but he should be out shortly," she said.

Neither Mr. Clarkson nor Mr. Mason called.

On Tuesday an effort was made to obtain details of the plan from CMHC officials. They knew no more about it than anyone else.

Mr. Speaker, I read that into the record because it becomes evident that the whole programme is in fact an illusory shell and that the government has not addressed itself in any real sense to the content of that programme.

Much more important, Mr. Speaker, what little there is to the HOME programme—and it has been revealed, as I say, as a set of specious generalities—relates to the middle income group and as such demonstrates no sense of priority on the part of this government, certainly no sense of human priorities at all. Mr. Speaker, what disturbs one about it is not so much the inability of the government to understand relative needs, relative priorities in this society, but their inability to respond even when they do understand.

What, of course, the HOME programme demonstrates is the essential poverty of the Tory mind in reflecting on the requirements of lower income groups and it is the poverty of the Tory mind because they are really up against—if I can put it this way—an ideological impasse, Mr. Speaker. They do not see the impoverished groups in this society, they do not comprehend the impoverished groups in this society, they have no relationship to the impoverished groups in this society.

The impoverished groups for the Conservative Party are what Michael Harrington called the invisible port, and because you have a political party completely removed from that 20 to 25 per cent of society which has a subsistence-or-less standard of living, then obviously you cannot respond, because they are completely removed both in emotional personal terms as well as philosophic terms. They are in a straitjacket in the context of evolving policy.

This has always been true of the Conservative Party; it is true now in even more evident fashion; it was true when my leader indicated what was happening in eastern Ontario; it will be true as others of this group rise to demonstrate how vast areas of the population are entirely neglected and it is trenchantly evident in the HOME programme and those to whom it purportedly is directed.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the damage in individual human terms is incalculable and that has been demonstrated by numerous media interviews and newspaper articles. But one of the things which has not been outlined as

fully as it might be is what is happening here in Metropolitan Toronto to the social service agencies designed to deal with family groups and individuals in essentially counselling ways.

It has in fact, Mr. Speaker, rendered many of the social services—how shall I put it—immobilized. They simply do not have the time and the opportunity to do the professional counselling of people with difficulties because of their involvement in trying to find homes, because of their preoccupation with problems of shelter to the exclusion of everything else, because of the incredible housing crisis. That means that large social service agencies simply cannot pursue that service for which they are best equipped.

And just to nail it down, Mr. Speaker, I approached the children's aid society of Metropolitan Toronto, whose job and function is well known to every member of this Legislature, and asked them how the housing crisis was affecting the activities of their agencies. I received a letter from them and I want to read this letter into the record. It is simple and short but I want to read it:

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Enclosed is the material which you requested. These are examples of the housing problems we have encountered in the city of Toronto. We have not touched upon any of the problems in the other boroughs.

Yours very truly,

LLOYD RICHARDSON,
*Executive Director,
Children's aid society of Metro*

I want to put that on the record, Mr. Speaker, and preface my remarks with it because once again I want to lay to rest this bogey about not using material from the files of social service agencies. That material, when it is relevant to public debate, should be enlisted for the purposes of that debate, and any responsible social agent will make it available to members of this House.

In the prelude to the various materials which they submitted under the general heading of housing, the following appeared, and again I will read it into the record of the House.

We are submitting eight different family situations which we believe will illustrate the cost in human terms of individual and family breakdown which has resulted from the housing shortage. Some of these situations have improved as better housing has been obtained. However, once a break-

down has occurred, recovery of individual or family equilibrium takes a longer time than if the breakdown had been prevented by the provision of adequate housing.

The brief goes on to say:

We do know that in these situations the worker does not have any opportunity to help families solve underlying problems while the family is struggling to maintain itself under these adverse conditions.

And then the children's aid society goes on to point out that its budget for helping families in need of housing has risen 400 per cent between 1965 and 1966—one year; and from its analysis of its case files for the late summer and fall it would appear that for the children's aid society of Metropolitan Toronto, housing problems occupy fully 20 per cent of all the referrals to that agency.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make this rather important point. That agency was not designed to search for shelter for individuals in Metropolitan Toronto. That agency was designed to solve underlying emotional family circumstances and it is sad, indeed, that an agency is thus diverted from its central purpose, and that is what has happened to the children's aid society of Metro, as I dare say has happened to all kinds of social service agencies in this community. A very significant percentage of their time is used in the ignoble pursuit of shelter.

That may be a perverse way of putting it but that is in fact what has happened in terms of what they are suited to actually pursue. And that is the case for primary housing, Mr. Speaker, that is the case when people come to the children's aid society, because housing is a primary problem. Housing is a secondary problem in the majority of cases that are now being presented to children's aid societies.

Now I want to read into the record, because they are very short, four or five of these case histories just to give the members the flavour of what is involved, and then to draw some larger generalities from that. Let me call the first one family "A" and read as follows:

Mrs. A's living quarters are far from adequate. Mrs. A is well aware of this and has sincerely attempted to procure better housing. She has had an application into the Ontario housing authority since 1959 and she has kept in constant contact with them.

When Mrs. A was hospitalized in August, 1966, her doctors wrote to the agency

recommending that Mrs. A be accepted for more suitable accommodation due to medical problems. Mrs. A suffers from hypertension and diabetes. She becomes very depressed about her present living quarters. When Mrs. A was hospitalized in 1966 it was necessary for this agency to admit three children to care as we could not put a homemaker into Mrs. A's home due to the poor accommodation.

Now I want to stress that, Mr. Speaker. Here you have families dismembered; families separated; children forced into care—forced into wardship, because that is what is involved, temporary wardship, permanent wardship, or indeed non-wardship on a care basis—but families actually physically separated because the housing conditions cannot be borne by a homemaker coming to solve the crisis and keep the family together; or for that matter the family disintegrates because of the housing conditions.

Now let me go further, mentioning the name of one of the boys:

Dennis is an emotionally disturbed child and the feeling of the board of education, the public health department and this agency is that his disturbances in part relate to the poor physical environment in which he lives. Dennis has verbalized his dislike for his present living quarters. He is found to be a problem in school.

And it relates to, if I may, Mr. Speaker, the housing crisis.

On December 17, 1966, a conference was held regarding this boy with representatives of the school, the board of education, big brothers, school health service and special education present. One of the recommendations resulting from this conference was the necessity of obtaining better housing for the "A" family, particularly in regard to the health situation and the boy's disturbance. Recently it was discovered that Mrs. A's application for Ontario housing was rejected in May, 1966, as she was termed unsuitable. No definition of unsuitable was given and Mrs. A was not informed of this.

Now, Mr. Speaker, with the greatest of respect, that is a pretty callous kind of résumé of the response of public agencies to individual family needs. I suppose in a sense this kind of situation is inevitable as long as the government refuses to address itself to the primary point, which is the provision of vast amounts of public housing.

Now let me go on to situation "B". Family B, Mr. Speaker, involves an eviction with a family of six children.

Family B were faced with eviction, being two months in arrears in rent. For almost a week they attempted to obtain housing through their own efforts, but were unsuccessful. Their attempts included answering each and every advertisement in the newspapers and combing the neighbourhood by foot—the latter process resulted in the father losing his job.

The combination of unemployment and being faced with eviction resulted in a very serious family crisis. Until now this multi-problem family had always sustained some degree of cohesiveness. They had always managed to find accommodation usually within walking distance of their former home. In this instance they felt that securing a house with or without agency intervention, was impossible.

Now I emphasize this portion of the report, Mr. Speaker.

Mrs. B, the dominant member of the family, became very depressed and apathetic about the entire situation. She threatened to desert her children since she fully realized that this would precipitate their being taken into care by the children's aid society. She admitted that this drastic action would at least ensure their well-being and that then she and her husband could look for suitable housing.

Again, Mr. Speaker, how else does one drive it home to this government? Parents put in the position of having to desert children in order to seek wardship! Again enforced separation of families and use of an agency's time for the pursuit of the holy grail of housing which is obviously not available.

Let me go on to case "C," and this is a case which involves father, mother and six children again.

Two weeks ago we learned of this family, which lives in grossly inadequate accommodation consisting of one small kitchen and one large room on the main floor, which was formerly used as a store, as well as a basement, which is inhabited, has no ventilation and no windows.

Two children, one in poor health, sleep on the first floor. The parents and four children sleep in the basement, the parents sharing a bed, and the four children two beds. Exit is only possible by a narrow cellar stairway.

Immediately after learning of the situation and visiting the home the social worker contacted the fire department because of the impossibility of escaping from the basement in the event of a fire. Since this was not a fire hazard but was a life hazard, the worker was referred to the building department which acted on the impossible housing, condemned as unfit for human habitation and ordered an eviction.

While a notice has been served the parents cannot find alternative housing. They have made application for public housing, but as yet have had no offers of housing.

After indicating the effects on the family in personal terms, the worker ends with this comment:

Any solution of the many domestic problems in this home require a prior solution to the present accommodation problem.

Again obviously, Mr. Speaker, a solution that cannot be found.

This case "D" that I want to read in very short terms is as follows:

This is a case of a young mother with a three-year-old daughter and an infant son, whose housing problems were the chief reason for the deterioration of the situation and for the children coming into care.

I do not know how often I have to stress this, Mr. Speaker, but the pattern that has emerged, in Metropolitan Toronto at least, is that housing leads to the disintegration of the family. Now we have all known that in this Legislature. We have all known that family situations deteriorate because of housing problems, but I must admit to you, sir, that I did not know that that deterioration had run to the extremity of having to remove the children from the home by force, as it were, in order to serve the needs of protection under The Child Welfare Act.

Mrs. D. was on welfare and was found to be living in a third floor flat, which was really an attic approached by a glorified ladder. This ladder was extremely dangerous for the children. They had to be carried down to a bathroom on the floor below. There was a great lack of light and fresh air. There was no fire escape and nowhere for the three-year-old to play. It was a great problem for anyone to go out.

The main paragraph, which I want to read into the record:

Mrs. D was so discouraged and worn out, utterly flat emotionally, that we feared for the safety of the children.

I repeat: "so discouraged and worn out, utterly flat emotionally." They came into care on December 16, 1966, on a non-ward basis. More children coming into care.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think this family will be able to resolve its problems because they will find new accommodation, and hopefully there will be a new lease on life.

I could go on and read the others. They are much similar, Mr. Speaker, but one that I want to read is a family which had the same kind of tragic background, complicated by patterns of delinquency, emotional disturbance, parental problem. And then, housing accommodation was in fact found, after all the agencies collaborated, and I would like to read this one paragraph in the report:

The notable improvement in the young girl's behaviour since moving to Markham, and finally into an Ontario housing unit at O'Connor and Victoria Park tends to bear out the belief that much of the girl's delinquent behaviour lay in the poor home and area environment in which she formerly lived. Much heartbreak could have been avoided for both the daughter and her family had adequate housing at a reasonable price been available at an earlier date. We have not estimated the cost in terms of work hours spent by the children's aid society, the juvenile and family court and the big sisters association, but this would be considerable.

There you have it, Mr. Speaker, from the files of the children's aid society and I simply cannot emphasize strongly enough that the following pattern emerges:

1. Twenty per cent or more of the case load involved finding adequate housing;
2. Families being forced into a position of separation and wardship taken of children because of housing, as a primary factor in family deterioration;
3. Inestimable damage in emotional and psychological terms to the members of the family during the period of deterioration;
4. The mobilization of agency time and professional social work time for the simple fact of finding housing rather than resolving family difficulties;
5. The sense of total frustration and futility which animates this field. It is distressing indeed to speak to some of the workers who find themselves in this position.

Mr. Speaker, I outline it in this way because the HOME programme shows no adequate response whatsoever to the basic problem of a major programme of low-rental public housing for the province of Ontario. It must be an urgent crash programme and I

want to say to you, sir, that the present efforts are ludicrous. Indeed, in terms of what I have described they are reckless and irresponsible because the same pattern will continue to emerge for a vast number of families.

We are again immobilized by this Tory philosophy, because even in his speech last weekend, the Minister of Economics and Development could not help but genuflect, and pay obeisance to the private land developers and the free enterprise entrepreneurs who are supposed to solve the problem and without whom the government will not act. Of course that is a lot of Victorian claptrap, Mr. Speaker. Governments in this society and governments throughout the western world have a social responsibility in the housing field, and most of them are assuming it I would say rather more vigorously than the Ontario housing corporation.

What are we afraid of, Mr. Speaker? Why are we so afraid of public housing as a response? In other countries it forms a major proportion of the total housing sought. In Scotland it forms 50 per cent, in Sweden 30 per cent, in England 25 per cent and in Canada, one per cent.

Look at the situation if you will, Mr. Speaker, in Metropolitan Toronto. There is now a minimum of 10,000 families requiring public housing in Metro Toronto, that is for the year 1967. If I may do some arithmetic off the top of my head, the average increase in population in Metro in the next several years is 90,000 people per year. They will require approximately 30,000 housing units per year. Even at the level of 20 per cent given to public housing, and that is a very conservative estimate indeed, that will mean a 6,000 public housing unit base each year.

Taking the 10,000 figure as the minimum and adding 6,000 more public housing units each year until 1970, we find that we will require by 1970 in Metropolitan Toronto alone, 28,000 low-rental public housing units. Mr. Speaker, I cannot emphasize enough that that is rock bottom, because in fact, once public housing units are built, then a great many people who had not put their names on the list will hurry to do so, now that they become available, and with entire justice.

Now let us examine what the Ontario housing corporation has decided to do and put upon it the most gracious interpretation possible. In 1967 they have announced they will build 3,000 units. Let us suppose, giving them the greatest possible latitude, that they double that by 1970, that they build 3,000 this year and 4,000 in 1968 and 5,000 in 1969

and 6,000 in 1970. That, Mr. Speaker, is a total of 18,000 units. So in 1970 they remain precisely where they are in 1967—10,000 units behind the immediate need. Therefore this government has once again contrived one of the most sophisticated treadmills to inertia that I have even seen devised, and it is typical of this government that all their plans and all their mobilizing of themselves result in no progress whatsoever four years after the event.

Mr. Speaker, if I may quote again from the *Globe and Mail*, has put the issue very squarely in an editorial of February 10 and I would like to put it on the record.

If there is going to be any logic or justice in the provision of housing with governmental help it must first be determined who is entitled to help. In our view there cannot be two opinions on the point. The first people to be helped should be those who cannot get housing without help, starting with the worst off and working up from there, and no help should be available for anyone else until the needs of this group have been met. They have not been met. There are thousands of families on the list for subsidized housing in Metro alone. Until these people have all been moved into reasonable housing at rents they can afford no government has a moral right to divert public money to the middle income group.

Mr. Speaker, this government sometimes straddles policies which are almost amoral, but there is no question that in the field of housing they are following upon a policy which is immoral and I cannot say that strongly enough. All the crass political diversion of plans like the HOME plan will not remove public focus from the need for a tremendous injection of low-rental public housing, at the level, let it be said, of 10,000 to 20,000 units per year, because that is the only way we are going to solve this crisis.

There is one other way, Mr. Speaker, and I think that it is entirely justifiable in terms of what we have noticed. It is this: The government must establish a special Ministry of housing. We have said that before in this House and we repeat it again today. It is obvious that the Minister of Economics and Development is so easily deflected by the other very major and justifiable responsibilities of his portfolio, that housing is receiving short shrift. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, we would have had the details of the HOME programme, we would not have gone through this sham public relations battle.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): They have not got a programme.

Mr. S. Lewis: Of course they have not got a programme, and while the Minister is a worldly man and enjoys his travelling and does, I am sure, an appropriate job in certain areas of his portfolio, the housing portion of his portfolio has been indescribably neglected and certainly in this area of public housing. If, Mr. Speaker, the Minister cannot rouse himself to tackle the problem head-on, if he cannot comprehend the problem, which is obviously the case, and if the government will not move into the area of a Ministry of housing, then at the very least there must be a Cabinet committee chaired by the Prime Minister or his immediate Deputy.

The point is, Mr. Speaker, that we are not in fact working to solve the crisis, we are working simply to ease the pressure, ease the focus of a pretty volatile public opinion. I suggest to this government that it has made a very profound error in judgment if it thinks that it can assuage the Opposition or assuage the public by that kind of crude diversion which we have been given in the Throne Speech and subsequent announcements.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words in the Throne Debate but first I would, rather than gild the lily, as has been done very adequately so far, just simply echo in essence the very kindly and commendatory things that have been said about your person, sir, particularly with reference to the dignified and gracious manner with which you occupy your chair.

I say I am in agreement with most of the things. For instance, I do not think your hat looks silly, sir. Indeed, I think it adds a great deal. Some of my friends across the way might think I am a little reactionary when I say that I believe in much of this pageantry and pomp and panoply. It does no harm and I think it does add something to the tone of our proceedings. The very fact that it does no harm nor does it occupy much of our time, I think makes it a good thing to retain.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say many things about the very wonderful riding I have the honour to represent and have had the honour to represent now for almost 12 years, because I am in the fortunate position in which some other hon. members find themselves, in that I will have been the only member to represent this riding. It came into being in 1955 when I entered this House; it will disappear at the time of the next election,

there will be no more Ontario riding as it now exists. There will be an Ontario riding, there will always be an Ontario riding, and I make bold to predict, sir, it will always be represented on the government side of the House.

But lest I might be accused of being politic I will not go further into this.

Rather today, I want to speak about a certain phase of my departmental activities. I want to give to you, and through you to the hon. members of the House, some information about OMSIP. I want to give a fairly detailed review, although I want to make it as concise as I can, of the operations of OMSIP since its inception last year.

Now you will recall the aim in establishing Ontario medical services insurance programme was to provide to residents of this province insurance to help pay the cost of doctors' bills. The plan was detailed as providing insurance without regard to age, state of health or financial means.

I would like to state that during the past ten months we have come a very long way towards achieving this end. As of the end of last month, January, the medical insurance services division of my department has processed some 700,000 individual and family applications for OMSIP enrolment and these applications cover an estimated 1,820,000 men, women and children in Ontario. New applications are being received at the rate of about 600 a day at the present time. This means that some 1,560 new subscribers are being added to the rolls daily.

The division is currently processing more than 400,000 claims a month and this figure is expected to rise to approximately half a million claims a month very shortly. Members will recall the plan went into effect on April 1, 1966, for those persons receiving social assistance and on July 1, 1966, for other residents of the province.

Projected payments to contract holders on a consolidated basis for the year ending March 31, 1967, are estimated at \$43 million, exclusive of administrative costs.

The total payout for claims in January alone, Mr. Speaker, was more than \$4,360,000.

Due to changes in our computer system, it will be some little time yet before complete and detailed statistics can be given regarding OMSIP enrolment and payments to subscribers.

All social assistance recipients, who previously qualified under the Ontario medical welfare plan, which was supported entirely by

government, now enjoy a comprehensive medical services insurance programme. For example, physicians' services rendered in hospitals to those subscribers are now covered, and this did not previously obtain.

Certain social assistance recipients who previously did not qualify for benefits under the former medical welfare plan because of the means test criteria are now covered by OMSIP, without a means test. In addition, dependents of many social assistance recipients are now covered, whereas this was not previously the case. The total number of social assistance recipients and their dependents covered is some 400,000.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that the division has also processed and granted to date some 4,000 temporary assistance applications covering about 16,000 persons. This assistance takes the form of three months' OMSIP coverage at no cost to the contract holder and is provided in cases where subscribers, due to unemployment or to other financial circumstances, are unable to maintain their premium payments.

Before the introduction of OMSIP it was estimated that approximately 83 per cent of Ontario's population had some form of medical insurance coverage. As a result of OMSIP this figure has now risen to 94.8 per cent and is increasing.

It is significant to note, Mr. Speaker, that more than 75 per cent of the physicians in Ontario are submitting claims for payment directly to OMSIP. In addition, another 13 per cent of Ontario doctors are filling out claim cards and are submitting them to the division with the notation "Please pay patient".

From this it can be seen that more than 80 per cent of physicians in Ontario are co-operating in the plan.

It is interesting to note that officials of private insurance schemes which have been in operation for number of years have expressed amazement that OMSIP was put into operation so quickly.

As an example of this, the manager of one United States medical insurance plan which has about the same number of subscribers as OMSIP confided to us that it took his organization five years to reach the degree of efficiency achieved by OMSIP in six months.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I frankly concede that the division has experienced a number of administrative and organizational difficulties over the first few months of its life, as it has only been in operation a few months.

The division is at present embarked on a programme of reorganization and reassessment in an attempt to overcome these problems, but it will likely be some time before OMSIP attains full and maximum efficiency.

I am well aware that some hon. members have had complaints from constituents who are OMSIP subscribers. There have been complaints about delay in payment of claims, claim cards have been returned for more information and for other reasons. These have caused annoyance and concern and, on occasion, anger.

A case was cited in one of the metropolitan daily newspapers a little while ago, sir, and gives some idea of the problems with which we have been faced. A subscriber was complaining because the claim had been returned twice with instructions for further details, but each time it was simply put back in an envelope and returned to us. The lady perhaps did not understand that she would have to go to her doctor to get the information we needed to process her claim. When we finally realized this, we contacted the doctor by telephone, he supplied the information very readily and of course the claim was processed quickly.

It has been difficult, too, to explain to many subscribers why we should return a claims card because the age is not included. Usually, the complainant will remind us that we already have a record of the age on the original application, but what is difficult to get across to subscribers is that ours is a wholly computerized programme and apparently the computer cannot look up the original application; and so the card is rejected and is returned for information.

Nor is the information easily withdrawn from the computer. This is a highly technical matter, sir, which is completely beyond my comprehension, but I am told, as I suggested to you in the House the other day, that it is far more simple to put information into the computer than to get it back out.

Now perhaps this is a good place to state that the claims forms of all insurers have been very carefully studied by us because of the frequency of complaints that we were asking questions which were unnecessary. Almost all of the forms, including the one prepared by the Canadian medical association for its own members, called for this information—called for the age of the person. It can be stated as fact that OMSIP calls for less information than almost any other insurer in the field. I would assure you we seek only that information which is essential, and I can state from experience that it takes no longer

to complete an OMSIP claim card than to complete the average doctor's statement.

We realized that problems were to be expected in the establishment of a plan of this magnitude, particularly when the claims were being paid out less than two months after the plan had received legislative approval. I would remind you that it is a year today, I think, that the bill was given Royal assent, and on April 1 last year we were in business ready to receive claims.

It can be said that the problems have been far fewer than we had anticipated. In fact, in fairness, I must stress that the difficulties we experienced—and indeed are still experiencing—were, and are, not nearly as numerous or as serious as had been portrayed in some instances, and we frankly admit some of them have been carelessness on our part. I think it would be more fair to attribute many of the errors on the part of the division to inexperience rather than to just carelessness.

At this time I would like to quote from the report of an independent management consultant firm whom we employed late last year to assess OMSIP's operation procedures, and I quote:

In our view many of the problems experienced to date in the operation of the medical services insurance division were inevitable in launching within the inflexible time constraints such a large and complex programme, including the recruitment, training and stabilizing of the sizeable personnel complement required.

As certain major difficulties had their origin outside the division's sphere of control, we feel that creditable progress has been achieved in overcoming the problems encountered in the administration of the plan, thus ensuring progressively-improving service to the public.

It must be remembered that when OMSIP went into effect, the division's staff was largely untrained in the intricacies of such an operation; we had initial troubles with our computer and the public had difficulty in understanding why certain essential information was required in order to expedite claim payments.

The initial delay in settlement of certain claims arose out of our division's desire to be helpful. In many cases they attempted to complete the details on claim cards which had not been filled in sufficiently by subscribers or doctors. This, it was found from experience, only delayed settlement of claims.

It was therefore decided that after October any claim cards which did not have the necessary detail on them should be returned to the person who had sent in the claim. A letter to this effect was sent to all doctors in September and a leaflet outlining the necessary steps involved in prompt payment of claims was sent to all subscribers.

This had an immediate and positive effect.

Subscribers submitting correctly completed claim cards are now being paid within some three weeks and, indeed, "clean" claims submitted as late as January 3 of this year have been paid. Doctors' letterhead accounts require about a week longer to process.

Provided that physicians' and laboratory claim cards are submitted correctly and prior to the 10th of any month, payment is made by the end of the following month. Virtually all cheques for doctors who submitted claims prior to January 3, 1967, were mailed out prior to January 31, 1967. There may, however, continue to be a delay in settlement of certain claims which require medical review or further adjudication.

Although six months ago about 45 per cent of the claims were being rejected as incomplete, at present, Mr. Speaker, about 75 per cent of claims fall into the "clean" category thus ensuring prompt payment. The remaining 25 per cent of claims which are initially rejected by the computer because they contain faulty or insufficient information, are not all returned to the claimants. Sometimes the medical staff can interpret them. Wherever possible, the division staff telephone the claimants for the additional information, and the cards are then re-fed into the computer.

I might add that 25 per cent initial reject rate compares favourably with that experienced in other public plans and in private medical insurance schemes which are computerized.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, it is recognized that one of our most urgent tasks is to press ahead with a public educational programme explaining why such information is required to ensure prompt payment. This campaign is due to start shortly.

I want to take this opportunity to put on the public record my high commendation of the dedication of the individual civil servants employed by the medical services insurance division in their efforts to achieve an efficient and smoothly working plan. Many have given up their weekends and their evenings to overcome problems as they occur and to try to

deal manually with a large backlog of claims which were rejected as corrupt by the computer.

I am informed, Mr. Speaker, that the division is receiving some 500 written inquiries daily and almost all of these require considerable research before a reply can be drafted. The division is also receiving some 1,500 telephone inquiries daily and in many cases individual files must be examined before questions can be answered.

In addition, some 800 contract changes resulting from such things as a change in the marital status, births, deaths, change of address, are registered every working day. These changes must be made manually, then transcribed onto the master files and finally fed into the computers. Many involve additional correspondence with the individual subscribers.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, I would make these points:

Although OMSIP still has hurdles to overcome, the plan, by and large, is operating at a more efficient level at this time than was originally anticipated.

OMSIP subscribers and physicians who submit correctly completed claim cards receive payment with a minimum of delay.

The experience we have gained to date will assist us greatly to enlarge the plan as need may dictate, and will ensure a smooth transition with a minimum of problems. Even when OMSIP reaches peak efficiency in its operation, there will still be complaints. This is only to be expected.

We have achieved our primary aim of providing an insurance programme so that no resident of Ontario need be without adequate coverage against the cost of doctors' bills.

Had we waited, as some critics proposed, for the introduction of the so-called "federal" scheme, a large segment of our population would today be denied medical services insurance which they presently enjoy.

On February 7, I believe it was, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) asked some questions concerning OMSIP which I undertook to answer at this time. His first and second questions have I think been answered in the subject matter I have put before the House. The third question is: Does the Ontario medical services insurance division have a claim form for policyholders, if not, how does a policyholder provide the division with proper information for a claim?

The division does not have a form for submission by contract holders. There are three ways in which a claim may be submitted. First directly by the doctor on a pre-identified claim card; secondly by the doctor or patient on a pre-identified claim card filled out by the doctor; if the patient submits the claim card it is usually marked by the doctor "pay patient"; third, by a doctor's letterhead account providing it contains the nine essential pieces of information required for computer processing.

All of the doctors in Ontario have been thoroughly acquainted with the nine essential pieces of information required. All of the above methods have been well publicized to doctors and to patients alike. No claim form for patients has been provided because;

(a) There is no necessity for it with the above three methods available.

(b) It was held that with technical difficulties of diagnosis etc., it would be better left in the hands of doctors for both technical and ethical reasons.

(c) There would be danger of duplication with perhaps a pre-identified claim card from the doctor and a claim form from the patient.

(d) Much of the information supplied by patients might be medically unreliable.

The fourth question which the hon. member asked—"If a policyholder has problems with a policy, what recourse does he have at the present time?" I was not quite able to understand what the hon. member meant. However I will try to answer it.

The division must operate, of course, within the provisions of the Act and its regulations. In general, a contract holder has first the right of inquiry. The division is in the process of developing a centralized inquiry system and organization. It is expected that this will within the next few months solve the problems regarding contract holders' inquiries and complaints. We have liaison with the field officers of the Ontario hospital services commission who have been indoctrinated in our methods and procedures and they are very helpful to people in various districts of the province. Then the subscriber has the right of medical or financial review, and the right of appeal to the medical services insurance council is available to all subscribers and/or doctors.

How many claims are at present awaiting payment or processing because of technical problems? Here again we had difficulty understanding what the hon. member meant by technical. In January, 1967, as I stated, the division paid over 400,000 claims. At

present there are 300,000 claims on hand which are being held for payment. All of these will be paid before or by the end of February.

At present also there are some 70,000 to 75,000 claims now in the process of going through the claims system and computing. Some may be rejected or sent back for review. Some preliminary review and adjudication has already been done on those. At the present time also there are approximately 17,000 claims under review, but not all of these will go back to the contract holder or doctor. In some cases we are able, as I have already stated, to make the correction simply by a telephone call.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in this Throne Debate, my first remarks are to the Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts). I wish him well. I hope his recovery is very speedy and that he once again will return to this House.

This afternoon in this chamber the city of Windsor was represented by 200 fine outstanding young men and women. I think that this is a record for any municipality at one given time in this House. We had Herman collegiate institute, with two teachers, Mr. George Hammerschmidt and Mr. Ross Robinson bringing 43 grade 12 students. I only wish that they had had an opportunity to have remained behind and hear their member speak. However, they had to catch a five o'clock train, and it was not possible for them to remain.

An hon. member: How lucky can you get?

Mr. Newman: Just like the man who was kicked by the donkey, I will consider that remark from where it came.

Mr. Speaker, also present in the chamber earlier, at the opening, were 154 students from Riverside high school, from the area so ably represented in this House by the hon. member for the new riding of Riverside-Sandwich. It is very good to see students take such an interest in the affairs of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I would like, as have previous speakers, to extend my commendations to you for the manner in which you are conducting the affairs of this House. You have done in the past, and are continuing to do, a very fine job of a most difficult task.

My congratulations and best wishes go to the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) on his re-election to the office of Deputy Speaker and chairman of the whole House.

His re-election is indicative of the high regard in which he is held by all members of this House.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not add my congratulations to the new hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) on his victory at the polls. May he find his days in this House most satisfying and rewarding and may he awaken this old—yes, 24-year-old Conservative government—to the needs of the forgotten far west, if even only for this final session before the election call.

Mr. Speaker, I have forgotten to extend my congratulations to the new members in the Cabinet and to the Ministers who have been juggled around. I could name each one individually, but for the sake of time, may I just say: Congratulations gentlemen, on your appointments.

As I had these comments prepared before the resignation of the hon. member for Prescott (Mr. Cecile), I would like to read these into the record:

To the former Minister of Public Welfare, who I understand will not be seeking re-election, my best wishes for his continued good health. I have always found him most considerate and cooperative when presented with a difficult or unpleasant problem. His kindness and consideration permeated throughout the difficult department he had the honour to head.

To the former hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. Allan) "Diamond Jim", or should I say "smiling Jim Allan", my thanks for taking into consideration over the years the many suggestions I have made to him concerning the department which he headed so ably for so many years, and also my thanks to him for his kind friendship.

I should also at this time thank the people of Ontario, the many clear-, forward-thinking people who have selected the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) as the leader of the Opposition, the new leader of the Liberal Party. To the people of Ontario I can just say, "Give the job to Bob."

Mr. Speaker, today is a very important day in the lives of people of Lithuanian background. Today is the 49th anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence and in my riding I have a fairly large number of Lithuanians. At this time I would like to extend felicitations and best wishes to them and hope that in the not too distant future they also may walk arm in arm with those of us on this side of the Iron Curtain. The city of Windsor, in the same way as I would

assume many other municipalities, allows the Lithuanian-Canadian federation to fly its flag on this day, alongside the Maple Leaf of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, may I turn to the topic of unemployment. Year after year I have brought to the attention of this House the most serious problem affecting my community—unemployment. From an all-time unemployment index low of 70 and with over 10,000 people unemployed, the picture has changed. Windsor has moved upward and upward. Windsor is recovering, but has not recovered fully.

It is said that Windsor is one of the best areas in Canada for job seekers. A survey of 17 cities conducted by manpower services Ontario limited, and of 597 companies coast to coast, showed Vancouver and Edmonton leading the list of the best bets for job seekers in the first quarter of 1967. Windsor was third.

But regardless of such survey comments, Mr. Speaker, may I bring out the actual picture as presented by the Canada manpower centre in Windsor? As of January 31, 1966, there were 5,157 seeking employment. This year, as of January 31, 6,594 persons were seeking work, 1,447 more looking for work this year as compared with last year, an increase of over 22 per cent, an increase of unemployment of 1967 over 1966 of 22 per cent.

However, Mr. Speaker, the numbers of employed this year over last in manufacturing alone increased by 752. So if you add the increase of the numbers seeking employment this year over last—that is 1,447—to the increase in the number employed this year over last—752—you get a figure of 2,199 more job seekers we had in the community, 2,199 more people seeking employment or employed, I should say, this year over last.

Mr. Speaker, Ontario's index of unemployment is 2.2. There are 60,000 unemployed. The figures presented, sir, by The Department of Public Welfare, research and statistics branch, and supplied to us just recently, in fact February 1, show 2.2 per cent of the work force in Ontario is unemployed.

Windsor has 6,000 unemployed, so you can see it has 10 per cent of the unemployment but three per cent of the total Ontario population.

The unemployment, Mr. Speaker, is serious from the fact that the cost of living in our area is substantially higher than it is right across the border where employment opportunities are more plentiful and where remuneration is much more attractive. The November 1966 cost of living index in the

United States is 140.6; in Canada, it is 145.9, approximately six percentage points higher than anywhere in the U.S.

So you can see, Mr. Speaker, that in spite of rosy conditions, the unemployed in the community of Windsor are fairly hard pressed with the high cost of living and the inability to get employment as a result of the large influx of job seekers into the community.

Mr. Speaker, the fact that there is an increase in the unemployed in the community as well as an increase in the number of employed, means that there must have been a substantial immigration into the area. This immigration total is estimated at approximately 5,000 people per year. This substantial population growth has put a tremendous strain on the housing situation. The most serious problem for the last several years has been an acute shortage of housing, even though the city has not been idle in its efforts to combat this housing crisis, the problem grows more acute daily. The immediate outlook is not the best. Even with steps taken by government combined with private enterprise, the current demands for housing will not be satisfied.

Over each of the last five years, Windsor completed 4.4 housing units per thousand population. Canada completed 6.8 housing units and our neighbours to the south of us, the United States, 8.6 housing units per thousand population or almost double the Windsor figure.

With a 40 per cent increase in employment in the automotive industry from October, 1965 to October, 1966, there was a 13 per cent increase in housing starts. In the automotive employment picture Mr. Speaker, in October, 1965 there were 14,666 people employed and in October, 1966, 21,522. Housing starts over the same period decreased from 1,438 to 1,259, an increase in population, an increase in unemployment and likewise a decrease in housing starts, making the situation quite serious.

Windsor, Ontario's fourth largest community, trails behind Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Kitchener and on a per capita basis, behind Sarnia and Chatham.

The Ontario housing corporation completed a study called the analysis of the Windsor housing market. This housing study provides a most useful service and, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to members from various communities throughout the province that they ask that similar studies be conducted in their own areas because I think this is an outstanding document. It certainly does pinpoint the needs of the community. It is estimated

—and this is by the Ontario housing corporation—that 1,650 new units will be needed in 1966 and another 1,650 in 1967. This document, by the way, was completed in June of 1966.

Windsor's industry has the building capacity to do the job, there is no shortage of skilled building labour. If construction does not meet the demand, possibly one of the answers is maybe the lack of serviced land. The greater Windsor homebuilders association passed a resolution at its meeting on October 16 requesting that immediate steps be taken to expedite the development of serviced land in the township of Tecumseh and the easterly portions of Windsor. Policies of the Ontario water resources commission make the servicing of substantial blocks of land most difficult. Capital works spending limits imposed on a municipality add to that difficulty. Mr. Speaker, how much longer are the citizens of my area going to have to be confronted with this?

I am quoting from a letter now, appearing in the Windsor paper and it reads:

Dear John:

I just want you to know the renting situation has not improved. Rented a two-bedroom duplex in Windsor three years ago at \$65 per. It climbed to \$90 and I did not complain too much. John, what am I going to do? Just got notice the rent will be \$180 a month.

Another article, Mr. Speaker, with a subtitle "Sowing the Seeds of Communism" told of a Windsor man who lived in a less than palatial home. Up to January of that year—and this was 1966—the rent was \$65 a month. In February, it climbed to \$70. In June it went to \$85. In August it went to \$115. And in September another increase made the rent as of that date \$155 a month—from \$65 to \$155. Surely rents would not skyrocket were there not an acute housing shortage.

A letter to the editor was entitled: Have You Tried Living in a Tent? This written by a Robert S. Dix, who had come to this country from Great Britain and who says: "Our first accommodation was a nine-by-nine tent on a camp site." After having lived there for a while he went to see the Windsor housing authority to find out just how long he would have to wait. To his disappointment he was told he would have to be a resident in Windsor for at least six months, but if he could pay \$165 a month rent he might be able to get an apartment at the Glengarry Court. The writer says:

We did not take up the offer, not at \$165 a month. We have since found temporary accommodation—two rooms at \$70 a month.

Listen to this, Mr. Speaker:

My wife has to cook in a bedroom on a two-ring hot plate. We have no means to store food and we get our water from the bathroom which we share with another family of seven.

Mr. Speaker, houses have been built in the community. They are built in every community. However when one of the projects was completed, which could house 132 people in the geared-to-income housing subdivision known as Glengarry Court, of the 798 who applied—many did not bother applying because they knew they had no chance of getting the accommodation—only 132 were selected. They could not select any more, this was the limit of the housing facility—132 out of 798 who wanted to move into the complex.

Mr. Speaker, headline after headline in our paper has stressed the housing shortage. Likewise, occasionally we find a headline stating: Housing Shortage Easing Seen. This may be true, but even one new home put up in a community eases the housing shortage to that one family or individuals. But Mr. Speaker, there are 2,379 homes in the community now that are in need of major repair—homes that probably would have been either demolished or replaced, but because of the acute shortage have to be kept, in spite of the fact that they need major repair. These homes, Mr. Speaker, must be considered substandard and must be substantially improved or replaced. If not improved, it means accommodation will have to be found for these 2,379 families. Here we have 2,379 substandard homes listed as homes.

One of the headlines—in spite of such an acute housing shortage—states: Brakes Put on Ontario Housing Corporation Housing. No Further Rental Units for a While.

Mr. Speaker, the Ontario housing corporation may come along and say that Windsor is a model for housing, and that with the completion of the present projects underway there will be 1,211 housing units in a geared-to-income category. The Ontario housing corporation may say that there are more housing units per capita in Windsor than in any other area in Ontario, second to Toronto. Mr. Speaker, we are indeed thankful that we do have these 1,211 housing units, but this does not solve the problem. The housing situation keeps getting serious and more serious day by day.

It is only two days ago that I received an urgent call while in the Legislature about a family of seven children having received a court eviction notice, effective as of February 27. Now the family had the home sold from under them. This family had the presence of mind to call. Had they not made the call, more than likely they would never have received accommodations in the city itself and may have had to move far beyond the bounds of the community.

Ontario housing corporation officials say a family of two children with an income of less than \$7,500 cannot afford to buy a new home. This means that 75 per cent of all Windsor households cannot afford a home in today's market. Even with the new HOME ownership plan—and HOME, Mr. Speaker, I read in one of the Toronto papers stood for "Help Out My Election"—this land-lease plan, 60 per cent of Windsor householders' earning power is now too low, that is below \$6,000, for them to be able to afford a new home. If this is home ownership, Mr. Speaker, well I think we have got another think coming.

In U.S. government circles, with the Viet Nam situation, we hear a comment concerning the credibility gap. If the Americans think they have a credibility gap, think of the credibility gap right here, Mr. Speaker. Back on February 23, 1962, Mr. Speaker, that is five years ago, the Prime Minister made the following comments, on page 579 in *Hansard*:

Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I have a statement to make which I do not think will be controversial, at least at this stage of the game. I think it is a statement that is of great interest to the people of the province and perhaps to the hon. members of the House. I have the pleasure of announcing today a new, broader and bolder approach to public housing on the part of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, this is the Prime Minister talking five years ago. Five long years ago.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Prime Minister continues:

The first such approach ever made in the province and far ahead of any comparable programme that we can find in any other jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, we are interested in this jurisdiction, not other jurisdictions. Five years ago promises! Credibility gap—it is no gap, it is a chasm.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, there were interjections as the Prime Minister made that comment, and then he continues:

Just wait for it; if the hon. members wait long enough.

Long enough? We have been waiting five years. Then he said:

They are going to hear quite a few things in the course of time.

The Prime Minister who preceded the present hon. Prime Minister used the comment "in the fullness of time". We are still waiting for that fullness:

The programme provides for four immediate things: an immediate and forward-looking attack on the major problems of housing and those presently in need of low rental housing.

That is the immediate attack, 1962? I would hate to think what urgent would be, then. Now the second point, Mr. Speaker:

Valuable implements to what is now available through the encouragement of various specialized types of ownership or non-profit low-rental housing.

Mr. Speaker, the third point as made by the Prime Minister in 1962:

It will embody an effort to encourage and assist in the conservation of housing in borderline areas, and of the acquisition and rehabilitation of housing earmarked for preservation in redevelopment areas.

This is five years ago. This is our Prime Minister talking. Mr. Speaker, this is a credibility gap.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: The whole point as brought out by the Prime Minister in 1962 was:

It will provide assistance to the solution of new and future housing problems in the province through the encouragement of special studies and research.

Mr. Speaker, where is the solution that the Prime Minister promised five years ago? Now all of a sudden we have a Home Ownership Made Easy plan. Some 24, 23 years, sitting across there with economic departments that can forecast everything for them—all of this that they could have foreseen—what were they doing?

An hon. member: Nothing.

Mr. Newman: Nothing, that is right, they were doing nothing. Mr. Speaker, I am willing to criticize any government that does not

provide housing. As I said previously I am willing to criticize any government that will not provide the basic need of housing the people. However, while I happen to be standing in this House—

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: Speak to your friends in Ottawa.

Mr. Newman: I cannot criticize there; they will not let me speak on the floor there, but I can speak here and I can point out that five years ago this was all promised. We had the utopia coming and what do we have now, Mr. Speaker?

An hon. member: GO transit!

Another hon. member: They are going, all right—going right out.

Mr. Newman: They are going right out, Mr. Speaker. Talking does not provide homes, however, I wanted to point out—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, it is just too bad Paul Martin is not here to reply to some of the comments, because you can rest assured, Mr. Speaker, Paul Martin has more ability in his little finger than you can find in the combined heads over there.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, may I continue? May I make a few suggestions, then? May we have consideration on the part of this government in an attempt to ease the housing shortage? Let them set the example and I challenge our federal authorities to follow—and this is the elimination of the sales tax on building materials. This five per cent should be eliminated here and likewise the 11 per cent should be eliminated up in Ottawa. I have told Paul Martin this, but I can tell more here to those who are in a position to be able to implement this.

Mr. Speaker, as a third suggestion, may I suggest that the down payment be lowered as suggested by my leader. The 7.5 per cent interest rates are much too exorbitant. Interest rates should be much lower to the home purchaser. The loan amortization period should be extended. Lower municipal taxes to encourage home ownership should be seriously considered, and to get low municipal taxes the burden of the tax rate on the homeowner has to be absorbed to a greater extent by this government opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I think Kitchener's attempt to ease the housing problem is one that deserves serious consideration. Municipalities may have to implement this, rather than the government opposite. However I think the fact that they have reduced lot frontage from 50 to 40 feet during these critical times is a consideration that should be given serious thought. They have reduced the lot size from 5,000 to 4,000 square feet as a minimum. The houses on such lots are not to exceed \$12,500; the cost of services, about \$1,700 per lot.

Town houses, semidetached, and small walk-up apartment blocks should be permissible in such areas. Sidewalks, curbs, gutters, could be eliminated, with possible elimination of underground wiring. Building code modifications could allow eight-inch concrete walls for crawl space, and ten-inch walls for a full basement. Kitchener has implemented such ideas and I think they are worthy of consideration. I do not know whether they are feasible in all municipalities. However, they should be given serious consideration.

Mr. Speaker, the land-lease bid plan as outlined by this government in Home Ownership Made Easy should be made known to all communities. It should be made known immediately. How are they going to attempt to implement or reduce the housing shortage in their own communities if they know nothing of the plan other than the general statement made by the Minister?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, my community is so interested in more information on the Home Ownership Made Easy plan that just recently, I think it was this week, it passed a resolution that had been first suggested by alderman Bert Weekes, that the provincial and federal governments inform municipalities of terms, including interest to be charged, which are to apply to land-lease projects. The communities want to get going with the project but they have no information. You can see that the scheme must have been cooked up overnight.

I can recall, Mr. Speaker, one year ago when I made comments concerning the easing of the housing situation by the use of 10,000 trailers. All the government has done in home ownership is take over the trailer idea. When you live in a trailer, you do not own the land, the services are provided for you by the owner of the trailer park, so it was not a home ownership plan then but trailer ownership. Now it is being applied by the hon. Minister of Economics and

Development (Mr. Randall) as home ownership. But the basic essentials were exactly the same with trailers as they are today in their programme.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East): Is there anything wrong with living in a trailer?

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I cannot hear the hon. member mumbling there. I would suggest he take the marbles out of his mouth and then I will hear him.

An hon. member: Take the marbles out of his head.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, if I may continue, the housing situation is of crisis proportions, not only in my community but throughout the province. To assist municipalities to meet the financial requirements, Mr. Speaker, I suggest, just as did my hon. leader, earlier in the Throne Debate, the following:

That the reliance on a property tax at the local level has become unworkable, so unworkable that all parts of the province suffer from some or all of the symptoms of this crisis. These include unequal educational facilities, housing shortages related to local high tax situations, and inadequate programmes for local roads, welfare, law enforcement, parks, sewage disposal and water supply. However, Mr. Speaker, the real symptom is the discontent of the people, particularly the homeowner who must suffer from the depressive load of local taxation. A greater portion of the municipal property tax must be absorbed by this government.

May I make a suggestion at this time, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Economics and Development; I know he will read these comments in *Hansard*, and will seriously consider them. We have attempted a geared-to-income housing programme in the community and we ran into the following things that made it embarrassing:

This is that there should be in the contract signed by whoever tenders for the construction of the housing units, a starting time and a completion time, otherwise—as we have found to our sorrow—the developer may get the tender and just sit on it and commence construction when he thinks it is most opportune for himself. Times must be set for starting and for completing. Likewise, the recommendation made by a group of interested individuals in the housing situation back home was that prequalification of contractors who bid on these housing units should also be considered.

Mr. Speaker, we will have difficulty overcoming the housing crisis up until the time greater consideration is given to the suggestions and the statement of policy by the Ontario mayors and reeves. This statement is that the senior governments should assume from 50 to 80 per cent of the cost of urban renewal, regional development, conservation, and local and arterial roads; and that the senior governments likewise absorb approximately 80 per cent of the cost of education, welfare, hospitals, administration of justice and connecting road links. Municipal property taxes have just about reached the maximum limits for the homeowner.

Mr. Speaker, living in a border town and seeing the acute housing shortage that we are going through, and then picking up a paper from across the border in the city of Detroit and looking at the ads concerning homes, it really makes you wonder. Here is a home, a brand new home in a new subdivision, with custom features in the home, aluminum storms and screens, brick on four sides, full basement, family kitchen, gas heat, family room available, for \$490 down. Practically anyone can afford a new home, an ideal home, for as little as \$590, and the minimum price of that home is \$17,490. At \$17,490 the person interested in that home only has to provide \$590 as a down payment for a brand new home.

Here is one in a completely new subdivision, priced from \$18,990, with a low down payment, or no money down for a veteran. A veteran has no down payment to make. Here is a home selling for \$14,500 with \$450 down. Here is one selling for \$18,900; \$800 down payment. Here is another one for \$9,900; down payment \$300. Mr. Speaker, this is home ownership made easy. Another sells for \$14,900; \$450 down payment. The last one that I will read, Mr. Speaker, is \$10,900; \$350 down payment. There are many workers in Detroit who will make \$350 for one week's work with overtime, so that with one week's employment they can afford to move into a home. What a difference half a mile of water makes.

Mr. Speaker, I am interested in housing for my area and any plan that will put a roof over the heads of the many householders who are now doubling up with friends or relatives, living in substandard accommodation, living in summer cottages, and so forth and so forth, will have my wholehearted support. This government has just built too many homes by headlines and if for no other reason at all but the housing mess that it is in—from

February 23, 1962, as enunciated by the Prime Minister, to today, five years later—it does not deserve the confidence and the support of the people of Ontario and should be turned out.

Mr. Speaker, just think of the unfortunate situation or position our pensioner and fixed-income citizen must be in as a result of a housing shortage and skyrocketing rental pictures. Too many of these senior citizens, Mr. Speaker, in the golden years of their lives, have to deprive themselves of proper foods in order to have enough money to pay the rent. Mr. Speaker, I will touch upon their plight in a few minutes.

When I spoke about relieving the housing situation by the use of trailers, this government did not take too kindly to it. However, when there was the need for a tourist reception centre, a source from which our visiting public could get tourist information in one location in the city of Windsor, the government used a trailer. It was good enough at that time. What is wrong with it today? It is not the complete answer, but I think we should grab at everything in an attempt to relieve the situation.

The Chem-Tar credit union, that is the employees of Dominion Tar, recently solved their accommodation problem by purchasing a \$2,000 trailer and providing adequate office facilities for the credit union. This happens to be located on company property and the credit union has 122 members. Mr. Speaker, it was good enough for them. It was good enough for The Department of Tourism and Information. It seems to be good enough for the federal government, because they are going to use three trailers as a nursing base in the Arctic.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the answers to solve part of the problem. It will not solve the whole problem. We do not want our people having to live in trailers permanently, but we can come along and accommodate a lot of them today that wish to live in trailers by providing such types of facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to touch on the topic of rental scales on the geared-to-income homes. It was over a year ago in this House that I asked the Minister of Economics and Development when he was going to come down with a plan that would lower the rentals in the geared-to-income housing in my own community. His reply was that it would have to be on a national level, it could not be in one city only. I accept that, I think that is all right. However, Mr. Speaker,

surely it should not have taken one year on the part of two governments to get together. One year to solve a rental situation? They have overcharged the people who have lived in those accommodations for one year, those whose rents you have lowered, and in most instances, those whose rents have been lowered are those on very meagre incomes.

Those at \$192 a month have had their rent cut so that they are only paying 16.7 per cent of their income. This is, Mr. Speaker, as it should be. An individual in a financial category such as that should not have to pay any more than 16 per cent of his income. At \$192 a month, I do not know how that person, or person's family, is able to survive. Naturally this geared-to-income situation increases. The percentage goes up from 16.7 per cent up to 30 per cent of income.

Well Mr. Speaker, the request for a change in this rent structure is well over a year old. Back on May 27, 1966, the residents of the Glengarry Court high rise project had a petition signed by all of the tenants, asking for consideration in the reduction of rentals. Mr. Speaker, on this list there were 61 different names of people asking for a rent reduction.

In August, 1966, CMHC was asked to decide rental scales. I am just going to read you a few of the headlines to show you how this has been slept on for almost a year.

October 4: Geared to Need an Income, an editorial requesting consideration that rentals be re-adjusted.

October, 1966: an editorial, Rental System Needs Revision.

October, 1966, from the real estate board: Rental Consideration Needing Revision.

October 28, 1966: resolution adopted by council originally submitted by local 444 of the united automobile workers asking for reconsideration of the geared-to-income rental scale.

November, 1966: Request to Ottawa Fully Justifiable, editorial.

December 2: New Look at Scales of Rentals.

December 5: No Further Action on Rent Adjustments.

And at that time, Mr. Speaker, I contacted the Ontario housing corporation and they said that they had received no request from Ottawa. I contacted Ottawa and Ottawa said they had received no request from the Ontario housing corporation.

In December, 1966, a comment in the press: Where is the Ontario Housing Corporation? This was directed to the geared-to-income rental.

December 6: Wheelton Plans Meeting for New Rent Scale Talk.

December 8: Mayor says Ontario Housing Corporation Hopeful of Solution.

December 15: Local MPs Get Pleas for Cut in Geared Rents.

January 12: More Rent Talks Set with MPs.

Mr. Speaker, headline after headline requesting action. Why does it take one year to get action on a request such as that? Why should we have to penalize those in the extremely low income bracket by hesitating to give them consideration on the geared-to-income rentals of their accommodations?

Mr. Speaker, I think that this government should consider not only those who are living in geared-to-income housing accommodation, but also the senior citizen who has not been fortunate, and in some instances politically able, to get geared-to-income accommodations. I am referring to the general citizen who has to rent accommodations from someone else. I think that persons living on a fixed income, especially on any of the government subsistence programmes—old age assistance, old age security, mother's allowance, and so forth, the total income of that family should be considered. At no time should more than the scale of rentals be applicable to them in private accommodations—the scale of rentals applicable to people who live in Ontario housing and/or central mortgage housing geared-to-income accommodations.

If that man in an Ontario housing corporation geared-to-income home pays 16.9 per cent of his income for rentals, then an individual not living in that type of accommodation, but with the same type of income, should not have to pay any more rent. If he is to pay more rent, he is simply depriving himself of the necessities of sustenance. He is slowly starving himself, and in this affluent province we should not have such a condition at all.

The geared-to-income rental proposition should be extended to all people. Those not living in geared-to-income homes should not have to pay any more rent than those living in geared-to-income.

Now our friends to the south of us have a scheme that seems to solve the problem. They have a federal housing authority rent aid plan and apparently it does work and I think it

should be considered here. The programme provides federal payments to make up the difference between what a tenant can afford and the economic rent. In New York, you can make up to \$6,100 a year and still qualify for federal assistance as far as your rent is concerned. In New Orleans, \$3,300 is the maximum which you would be allowed to make before you could get rent aid.

Mr. Speaker, the federal housing authority in the U.S. will pay the landlord the difference between what the tenant can afford to pay and the rent that the federal housing authority says that the accommodation is worth. What a tenant can afford is considered to be 25 per cent of his income.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): What was the reference to the landlord in that last sentence?

Mr. Newman: The federal housing authority will pay to your landlord the difference between what the renter can afford to pay, according to his income, and the rent that the federal housing authority says that that accommodation is worth. So if the federal housing authority—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, the rental supplement plan can be used—maybe this is not the ideal, maybe the Minister of Municipal Affairs can devise something that is fairer, but let this government institute some type of rent supplement programme so that the individual on the low income does not deprive himself of the means of sustenance because he has to have a roof over his head.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make another short suggestion and this is concerning the senior citizens where husband and wife are either both on old age assistance or old age security and one dies. They have geared their living to \$150 a month, and have no other type of income, then one dies and all of a sudden the living individual has only \$75 to live on—let us assume that now it will be \$105—it is impossible for that individual to live on that income.

I think consideration should be given to phasing out the reduction. In other words before one of the two pass away, the total income was \$150. The first month afterwards maybe the amount should be \$135, the second month if the one individual survives, the total might be \$120. Then over approximately six months that individual may have accustomed himself to a lower income or may have found another type of accommodation

and then be able to survive on the \$75, or \$105, as it will be according to the new federal programme. I think in the case of one individual passing away, one should phase out or stage the reduction in the total income of that individual.

Mr. Speaker, I have another topic here that I would like to bring up on the credibility gap.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): The gap is getting wider.

Mr. Newman: Back in 1962 we heard what the Prime Minister said about housing, and we know how we can believe what the present Minister is saying because the Prime Minister set the tone in 1962. Mr. Speaker, this was set long before this; this credibility gap goes back to 1959, back in my own community. In 1959, hon. members can recall there was a general election—

An hon. member: Who won it?

Mr. Newman: It did not matter who won the election, but hon. members will notice that that credibility gap keeps widening all the time. Back on May 1, 1959, the following story appeared in the *Windsor Star* under an eight-column black headline.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: I am beginning to tire of that *Windsor Star*.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I can understand the Minister being tired of the *Windsor Star*. How can I point out to the Minister of Municipal Affairs the credibility gap unless I refer back to his comments—the comments from the gentlemen across there. They are the ones who say all this. I am just giving back to them what they gave to the people in Windsor in 1959, but the people did not swallow it. They sent back three Liberal members from the city of Windsor in 1959.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Newman: Maybe it is because the people back in Windsor recognize baloney and would not swallow it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have to apologize to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I would suggest he plug his ears with cotton batting because we are going back into Windsor. And here is the eight-column headline, May 1, 1959: Select a Central Location for Provincial Offices. A provincial public

building, Mr. Speaker, in May, 1959. At that time we were in the throes of peak unemployment. The government could have helped us then in 1959 by putting up provincial institutions such as this provincial office building. Where were they? They were talking, asleep at the switch. More of the credibility gap. If we think Johnson is troubled with a credibility gap, think of this government and its credibility gap.

An hon. member: Incredible!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: May I continue, Mr. Speaker? The second headline, Mr. Speaker, is: Announce Early Start on Project. Do I have to read more?

Mr. Speaker: The member is quoting from the *Windsor Star*?

Mr. Newman: Just quoting from the *Windsor Star*. These are words from the government offices. The story follows:

The province will begin immediately the expropriation of a downtown block of land to clear the site for a new Ontario office building, William Griesinger, MPP for Windsor-Sandwich, announced today.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important sentence:

He said James N. Allan, Provincial Treasurer, had called him to say that Treasury board approval had been given to the project.

This was in 1959, just before an election. There is headline after headline on this provincial public building in Windsor.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): Read them all.

Mr. Newman: If I read them all, Mr. Speaker, we will be here until—at least a half hour on the provincial public building.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): And that is not even getting past the first floor.

Mr. Newman: January 17, 1961, nice headline, gentlemen: Demolition for Ontario Public Building to Start Soon; Minister Plans Winter Works. Then, Mr. Speaker, after a while I can recall they were going to put dinosaurs in the park up there.

An hon. member: Just some of the retired hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Well, I would say they could take some of the hon. members opposite and

put them in that park and they would not have to put in dinosaurs.

Mr. Speaker: Could I ask the member to continue with his speech now and not make it too thought provoking—

Mr. Singer: Oh, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order! With so many interjections, I might say the members are making it very difficult for our interjectionist and I would ask the members to please take that into account. I would ask the member to continue with his speech.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, you are not objecting to thought-provoking speeches, surely.

An hon. member: —accept the rules of the—

Mr. Newman: I will accede to your wishes, Mr. Speaker, but I must bring up comments that I see in the press concerning the provincial public buildings and the promises. All I am trying to show is that we cannot take what these gentlemen opposite say as being—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: —it does not happen. The credibility gap year by year widens, and I think if the call to arms is in May of this year, we will see that the public will not swallow this at all. How can they?

An hon. member: They will not swallow it now.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Most of the government hon. members will be getting old age pensions anyway.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): That \$105 looks pretty good to the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope).

Mr. Whicher: —who will get the \$105.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I will continue here with a clipping back in 1965.

An hon. member: Was that a by-election year?

Mr. Newman: Well, this was after the election. This was after the by-election. When a by-election is being called, the voters should elect a man on the side of the government and they will get everything in that area.

This is a public letter in the press in the "Inside Windsor" column:

Memo to Ivan Thrasher, MPP:

We were walking near city hall the other day and could not help but notice that big piece of land behind the Ontario tourist centre. This land is owned by the province. It is vacant. Knowing you want to help out this area since you became the only Tory to crack the provincial Grit stronghold down there, we think you should strongly request the government to build a provincial office building on the site. Such facilities are badly needed. Provincial offices are spread all over the place. Put them all under one roof. A little friendly fire under certain seats at Queen's Park might just do the trick to get what you thought of.

An hon. member: Someone blew the whistle on his fire.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I did not read that last sentence quite correctly.

A little friendly fire under certain seats at Queen's Park might just do the trick to get what you thought of by Queen's Park quite a while ago.

This was thought of by Queen's Park quite a while ago. Now in another comment, Mr. Speaker, here from "Inside Windsor":

The other day we wrote a public memo to Ivan Thrasher, the Tory MPP for Windsor-Sandwich. We asked him to get busy and get Windsor a provincial public building. We are happy to report Ivan is way ahead of us. He has quietly built up a case for the building long planned for Windsor and reports that we will have the building or his name is not Ivan.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Welcome John. Mr. Speaker, with the credibility gap how can we believe the gentlemen over there? Impossible, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): He is wise to them.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: He has been calling his lawyers.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, whether we get the building is beside the point. But when this government promises something to the people, I think it should fulfill its promise. It should not make the promise in the first place if it has no intention of constructing the building.

An hon. member: They said they did not want it done.

Mr. Newman: Well, maybe he does not want it, but let me say that commonsense would say when one is paying approximately \$30,000—and I am guessing at this—in rentals to about ten different locations in the community, or seven or eight, regardless of the number, it would be better to concentrate them. Why did the government put up this complex here? Why not have spread this complex in another area, part in another town? They built it here because they wanted the offices centralized. But when it comes to the city of Windsor, they do not want them centralized.

An hon. member: That is right.

Mr. Newman: It is good for them here but it is no good for the people back my way.

An hon. member: Promises, promises, promises.

Mr. Whicher: Well, their hon. member does not want it, anyway.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I do not care whether it goes into my riding or not—put it in any riding, but let them put it in eventually, and have plans prepared now so that when economic conditions reverse themselves in my community, they can go right ahead and start the construction of the project. They have the land there, they know what they want to put up there; make the plans and be ready.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to see the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle) here because my next comments will be directed to him. I know that the Minister of Lands and Forests is a forward-looking man. He is a gentleman.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): What does the hon. member want after that?

Mr. Newman: He is the type of a man who, when a case is presented to him, weighs the merits of it and will always do justice. I know he will put into operation what I suggest to him now.

An hon. member: Hear, hear, I am sure he will.

Mr. Whicher: He has not been there long enough to be tarnished.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, the need for provincial parks. There is no use discussing this, we all know that we need more and more

parks. But also we know that land is getting scarcer and scarcer, harder to buy along waterways, along Lake St. Clair, in the Detroit River area, on Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and so forth. The land is being purchased more and more by our friends to the south of us, the Americans. However back in my area there still is a piece of vacant land that could be taken over as a park and I had made this suggestion to the Minister of Municipal Affairs when he was Minister of Lands and Forests. At that time he had objections to the thing. I had made it to the Minister of Lands and Forests who followed him. None of the Ministers seemed to be interested in the fact that this land was available.

We can duplicate on the Canadian side what our American friends did on the American side, but whether we duplicate it this year or not is beside the point. Let us grab the land now. Let us buy it now, so that maybe 10 or 15 or 20 years from today we can develop it. The land is available and I certainly think that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Lands and Forests should consider the recommendation that was passed back in 1958 and submitted to Clare Mapledoram, who in that day was the Minister of Lands and Forests.

This recommendation was for the acquisition of frontage on Lake St. Clair for beaches and parks. There is approximately one mile of shoreline. Actually, the lake frontage is 6,380 feet. At that time it was assessed at \$8,000. In addition to that, there was a surf club which had another 5,600 feet of lake frontage, so that combined we would have had well over two miles of lake frontage. The total assessment of the surf club was \$43,000. So I would say that for probably \$100,000 or \$150,000 we would have bought both properties then.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Something wrong with the municipal assessment there.

Mr. Newman: These are 1958 figures. I am not trying to say that these are up-to-date figures. These are 1958 figures.

At that time we could have bought it for a song. But, Mr. Speaker, this government is slow to react to a thing like this. We say they have provided parks in the county. We commend them for it. They have done a good job on Holiday beach. They have done a good job in Wheatley. But, Mr. Speaker, as time passes by the megalopolis concept as presented by Professor Doxiadis, of Athens,

Greece, becomes more and more commonplace. From Minneapolis on the extreme west right to Montreal will be one solid complex. We are going to need area for park purposes, and we are going to have to provide it, and we might as well buy it now because it is only going to cost more later on. Mr. Speaker, a comment in the London *Free Press* on January 31 was: "Demand for area provincial park outstrips available land."

Here we have a regional park supervisor, Keith A. Cameron, making comments, stating that the demand is outstripping the available land. We have had the available land and to the best of my knowledge this land is still available. I would suggest to the hon. Minister that he grab it now. Buy the recreation site now, you will pay a lot more for it later.

As long as the Department of Tourism and Information is going to do a good job we will have more and more of our American friends coming to our beaches and parks. We welcome them over and, well, we like our friends to the south of us. They are fine people. We like their dollar—maybe some of you over there do not like them—but I find our American friends are very considerate. I think we should buy this piece of property and set it up, even if it is a long range programme and develop it as a park. If the hon. Minister would go over to see the development on Lake St. Clair on the American side he would see that the metropolitan Huron Clinton authority, I think, has developed a park that is outstanding, an excellent park on marsh land. They extended the beach well out into the lake and we can do exactly the same thing in our area. It might be a thing that you could plan or project for days when economic conditions might not be as rosy as they are today, but at least have the property.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to the hon. Minister that he take into consideration that since last year was the 1,000th anniversary of Christianity in Poland and that he would do the people of Polish extraction a real favour by naming a park after some distinguished Polish gentleman. You have Chopin as a musician—you could name a park after Chopin, or Gzowski. But I think you should name some park after a Pole in commemoration of their 1,000th anniversary. Please do not name it after Newman.

An hon. member: We will not.

Mr. Singer: We will. We will do it.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I have another topic and that is daylight saving time. As

you may recall, the U.S. federal authorities have passed a bill that requires the state authorities to have a uniform time in their state. I think we are getting into a position here that might be awfully difficult now with the auto trade pact if the state of Michigan goes on daylight saving time and the province of Ontario does not. I think there should be some cooperation between the two states, some talking to find out what they are going to do. Maybe it is a federal issue and should be resolved on a federal level but I think it is going to be something that is going to be a problem unless it is straightened out by conversation with provincial, state, and federal authorities.

An hon. member: The Tories are behind time no matter what time you use.

Mr. Newman: Very true.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: May I ask the hon. member a question? What difference does it make what time of the day it is?

Mr. Newman: What difference does it make—

Mr. Bryden: It does not make any difference to the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Does it make any difference whether you go to work at seven o'clock in the morning or at ten, as long as you put in a day's work?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Well I know, but what difference does it make? As a matter of fact we celebrate Sunday on a day that we think it is Sunday. I do not think it is Sunday at all—it was probably last Tuesday.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I was not being provocative there at all. The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs was being provocative. Mr. Speaker, there is a problem here from the fact that industry, especially in the automotive field, will be in direct communication with their counterparts in the U.S. and if they start one hour earlier in Ontario than they do over there and quit an hour later you can see there is a loss of an hour in communications between the two, and an hour is very important in that type of industry. We have gone through this at one time or another in my community. Leave the city of Windsor at five o'clock and you get to Detroit at four o'clock. You leave Detroit at five o'clock and you get home at seven o'clock.

While the Minister of Municipal Affairs is interjecting here, Mr. Speaker, may I make this suggestion to him—that in the built-up areas where parking is a serious problem maybe every seventh or every tenth lot in built-up areas be reserved for parking purposes so that we can get the cars off the streets. Maybe every tenth lot. If we had a parking facility in there, then the occupant of a home would not have to be worried about parking on his lawn or parking the car a half mile away, he would have a parking area in his block.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Can he not build a garage?

Mr. Newman: Well, let me ask the hon. Minister, where is he going to build a garage in areas where homes are practically one next to the other and there are no alleys? We have not developed sky hooks, Mr. Minister, where we can put those garages yet.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Can he not build a garage under the house?

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make comments on just one other topic before I sit down. Mind you I have a lot of others that I can talk on. We have a lot of problems back our way and we have problems as a result of this government. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the House that the students of the Lowe technical school have undertaken as a Centennial project the donation of 500 pints of blood during the course of this year.

Now the students at that school year after year donated blood to the red cross blood bank in the community and for this Canada's Centennial year, they are attempting to donate approximately 100 pints of blood per month with a total of approximately 500 pints. I think this speaks very, very well for our younger generation. I think the principal of the school, Mr. L. F. McGee, the technical director, Mr. Fred Barnes, the academic director, Mr. Gene Durocher, and the member of the staff who is responsible for this, a Mr. Ron Malkin, certainly deserve the commendation of each and every member of this House for such a worthwhile Centennial project.

Mr. Speaker, may I suggest to the House leader that this being Centennial year, the government consider bringing to this Legislature the student leader of every secondary school in the province at some time or other. There are 1,000 student leaders or so. We could have them at 100 a week or so and let

them see how things operate here. These students are going to be the future leaders in our country in the not too distant future and they will be assuming responsibility and sitting in these seats. Bring them down as a Centennial gesture. Let them see this House in operation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk on the auto trade pact and its impact. However, time really does not permit. I have the statistics on the number of jobs it has created, but rather than go into any detail, I think, Mr. Speaker, that the federal government should provide statistics and figures to show the actual effect of the auto trade pact on every community manufacturing automobiles or auto parts in Canada. I know there is quite a bit of discontent in the city of Oshawa as a result of mass layoffs and this is attributed by some to the auto agreement. If this is the case, then it is kind of hard to come along and see that the overall employment in the province of Ontario as a result has increased substantially and overall investment has increased.

I think the federal authorities owe it to the public, to the auto workers, to everyone, to publish statistics showing how many jobs were in the automobile industry before the auto pact was signed, and how many there are in that same community now that the auto pact agreement has been in operation, showing how many jobs have been created and how many jobs have been lost in the community. They should show the amount of investment in the various centres in Ontario, and what effect it has had on these centres. They should present a complete clear picture so that once and for all, all auto manufacturing centres could get the real facts concerning the auto trade agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I could continue with remarks but I think I have taken up more than enough time in this House. My prime concern is that the housing situation be remedied, not only in my city but throughout the province of Ontario.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues, my first words are words or expressions of good wishes to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), of this province, who is ill at the present time. I am sure that we were all very much surprised to hear about his illness and we certainly join with the members of his family and all his friends across the province in wishing him improved health and we hope that he will be back in this Legislature and actively participating very, very soon.

In rising to participate in the Throne Debate in this our Centennial year, may I join with the other speakers who have gone before me in offering words of commendation to you, Mr. Speaker. When one enters the debate at this point it is rather difficult to find anything new to say about your efficient and capable manner of handling the affairs of this House. However, I do join with others in saying what a tremendous job you have done in this regard.

My congratulations also to the Deputy Speaker. This is the second year in a row that he has been elected Deputy Speaker. I think that testifies to his ability in conducting the affairs of the House and keeping things under control when the debates get a little bit out of hand.

I also want to associate myself with the remarks have been directed toward the new members of the Cabinet and to those who have been transferred from one to the other in the process, as well as the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). I am sure that the hon. member will make a significant contribution in this House as will the new hon. members who have taken up their seats in the councils of the executive council. My congratulations to all of these members and we wish them the very best.

In recent weeks we have seen the frantic attempts of the government to cover up what I would call years of neglect and lethargy by slick phrases and agency promotions. The Throne Speech was a good example of this very thing, yet it will not work, Mr. Speaker. The people are catching on to this game. They are now beginning to realize that the only cure is to replace this government with the only reasonable alternative, a Liberal government, under the capable and able leadership of the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon). This, I am sure, they will do at the next election.

I want to say also at this point that we were very shocked and saddened to learn of the illness of the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson), some few months ago. We in this party, and I am sure in all parties, appreciate his dedication, his sincerity and the many hours of work that he spent in the cause of bettering this province. And I know that we all wish him a very speedy and complete recovery and we hope to see him in his seat before this present session comes to a conclusion. At the same time, of course, I want to offer my congratulations to the hon. member for Brant, who, as I have indicated

earlier, will be the next Prime Minister in this province.

Just before I get into the body of my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of the House a resolution which was brought to my attention by the Kincardine town council. This resolution was sent to me and I will read it. It goes as follows:

That this council request members of Parliament Ross Whicher and Murray Gaunt to press for a report from the Smith committee on taxation.

Municipalities across this province are very anxious that this Smith committee report be tabled, and be tabled as quickly as possible. Many hon. members in this House have stated on different occasions that the taxation burden on the municipalities is oppressive. People who are heading up municipalities at the present time are faced with a very difficult job of either carrying on proposed programmes which in some cases cost a lot of money—money they do not have at the present time—and by the way, if they do that, they will have to increase taxes—or the other alternative of scrapping the programme and maintaining the taxation level as it is presently constituted.

What I am saying is, Mr. Speaker, the municipalities across this province are placed in a very, very difficult position, an intolerable position, and they hope against hope that some relief will be forthcoming in the Smith committee, depending, of course, if the government acts on the suggestions made by that committee. So I think I reflect accurately the feeling by all municipalities across the province that as soon as the Smith committee report is tabled, and made public, the government should act on what will hopefully be some remedial measures to alleviate the heavy taxation burden on the municipalities at the present time.

This past number of months have seen numerous developments in respect to the federal government's programme of unification of the armed services. There are many advantages to this programme, as I am sure hon. members are already aware, but there have been a number of dislocations caused by it. Servicemen who have been involved in active service over the years have suggested to me and to others that the unification programme was inevitable, it makes common sense, it was a good approach. But nonetheless there have been many dislocations, there have been many areas affected econom-

ically, and I say at this point that one of those areas is the southern part of Huron county.

I am referring specifically to the Centralia air force base. It is not in my riding, it is in the riding of the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). In the process of unification this air force base has been closed down and it has had rather serious repercussions as far as the economy of that particular region goes. Indeed, it has had repercussions as far as the whole county goes. There have been numerous attempts to attract industry to the region, none of which up until now has been successful. We hope that there will be some successes in the near future, because there are many facilities there that could be used by a number of industries, I am sure, if they would in their good judgment wish to come up to that part of the country.

The Provincial Treasurer and the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) some two months ago visited the air force base. At that time it was suggested that perhaps it could be made into an agricultural research farm. The two gentlemen I referred to earlier came up there and they made several tests. I have not heard anything about those tests. I have not heard anything about the decision and I do not know what is taking place in that regard. Hopefully, something will happen.

In this connection, I received a letter from a Mrs. Florence Reevey who is principal of the Golden Circle retarded school in Wingham. The Provincial Treasurer also received this letter and I want to read a portion of it at this time. She is, of course, referring to the Centralia air force training school. The letter says in part, quote:

From the daily papers I see they are wondering what to do with it. In fact it was stated that a government commission had been brought up to see what could be done with it. The thought I had was, could this place not be used as a young adult centre for the retarded? As I understand it at Centralia there are buildings which would be suitable for workshops, and so on. There are houses to house the staff as well as the retarded. There are recreational facilities including an artificial ice rink. The place is centrally located in southwestern Ontario.

While I realize some think community residences and workshops are the ideal situation, many communities find they cannot cope with it and anyway they would not take in the young adults who are already institutionalized. There are enough

buildings at Centralia for the different age groups to be housed together as the years go by.

I am principal of the Golden Circle school in Wingham and have been working with the children in some capacity ever since the school opened nearly 10 years ago. When the children graduate at 18 I know how lonesome some of them are and how much they miss the companionship of those of their own calibre. And, too, there comes the time when the parents are getting older and wonder what is ahead. The skills we have taught them, the parents do not in many cases have time to continue with; or to supervise them in what skill they can do, so they lose the feeling of usefulness.

However, I pass the thought to you that Centralia might be a ready-made centre that could quickly and economically be adapted to the needs of the young adult retarded with workshop facilities. I understand you are head of the professional advisory council—

I neglected to state at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that this letter was addressed to Dr. Zarfas of The Department of Education.

I understand you are head of the professional advisory council and make decisions or recommendations of this kind. If in your opinion you think this might be a feasible solution for the young adult retarded I am sure you will look into the possibility before something else is done with it.

I put that letter on the record, Mr. Speaker, to indicate some of the concern that is felt throughout the county. As a result of this letter, I contacted The Department of Education yesterday. I was told that The Department of Education would be happy to consider the possibility of making this particular centre into an adult training centre for the retarded. However there arose a number of problems in this regard.

First of all, it is a big facility and such a programme could not utilize all the amenities that are available in that particular complex. In addition, the department feels that it is somewhat isolated. It is isolated from a placement point of view. In the discussions it was mentioned that perhaps a small portion of the air school could be used for an adult training centre for the retarded. There are buildings, as I have indicated, which are suitable for workshops, for recreational activities, as well as living quarters for the staff and the

retardees. I suggest to the Provincial Treasurer that he pursue this further with his colleagues because I feel that the idea is worth exploring.

I want to turn now to an area which is viewed as a rather delicate but nonetheless very important area. This area is the area of drugs, and more particularly pesticides. It is just in these past few years that we have begun to learn more and more about the potential dangers inherent in the use of these particular drugs and chemicals. Rachael Carson, in her book, perhaps overstated the case in citing the dangers inherent in the uses and abuses of these particular substances. It all started very innocently during the war. Mild chlorinated hydrocarbons, such as DDT and related chemicals were discovered to have pest-killing qualities. Naturally we began to use them in our agricultural processes to rid ourselves, as we thought, of some of the enemies of the farmer. As a result, agricultural production was increased quite significantly throughout the world.

The chemical industry has subsequently grown into a multi-million-dollar industry reflecting the dependence of agriculture on chemical control. However, little did we think, Mr. Speaker, that these new-found friends would create perhaps more problems than they cured. For one thing, pesticides destroyed various insects as well as the beneficial insects; in other words, the pesticides destroyed not only the harmful ones, they destroyed the beneficial ones, including the predators of the insects we wanted to destroy in the first instance.

It was also discovered that in the natural evolutionary process, insects began to build up a resistance to these particular chemicals even though that resistance was developed because the insecticide was used at a low level. In some cases where an insecticide was used at a stronger level, the resistance was even more apparent and seemed to follow through in a very definite pattern. We began to realize that these were very potent and dangerous chemical compositions. It became sort of a vicious circle.

The potential hazards of many of these chemicals were dealt with at some length by a conference held in Galt in 1965. I believe the hon. member for Woodbine (Mr. Bryden) made mention of this particular conference last year. At that conference, it was pointed out that one of the alarming things that can happen with these chemicals is something called "potentiation". This means that in lactating mammals a concentration of any chlori-

nated hydrocarbon that is ingested can greatly be increased.

An example that was used at the conference was one in which a cow was fed alfalfa containing a concentration of DDT at decimal two parts per million. This can show up in the milk of the animal as four parts per million. In other words, decimal two parts per million becomes four parts per million. If that milk should happen to be consumed by a mother who is breast feeding an infant, the same process will take place in the body of the mother and the milk that is fed to the infant can have as much as 30 parts per million.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Nearly pure poison.

Mr. Gaunt: Right. My hon. friend says it is at that point almost pure poison. This is the type of hazard we are facing. In addition, these chemicals are cumulative in the body.

I have said before and I say again, if we had done as much research and spent as much money in exploring biological controls rather than chemical controls, we would not be faced with this problem today. Biological controls, of course, leave no residue. They are self-perpetuating and in the long term are more effective simply because one does not have this resistance-building that seems to go on with insects who are subjected to pesticides over a period of time.

However, I am under no illusion, Mr. Speaker—the economic pressures are tremendous for the continued use of chemical controls and so it appears that we are going to have to live with the situation. In view of this it would seem sensible to take every precaution in order to make the use of chemicals as safe as possible. As I said before, pesticides have made a great contribution to the agricultural industry and I do not want to underestimate them; they have become an essential factor in food production.

I realize The Department of Agriculture and Food, in cooperation with the University of Guelph, conducts tests on a continuous basis. I realize also that an interdepartmental committee of senior personnel has been established in order to make recommendations on needed areas of pesticide research. I realize in 1965 the pesticides control programme was re-organized to establish a licensing section, a field inspection section and an educational section. These things are good, Mr. Speaker, but they are not good enough. More has to be done.

Now is the time to deal with the matter before an outraged public demands the complete withdrawal of many of these chemicals. If we meet the problem head on now, then we can continue to use pesticides and drugs under a well-supervised and controlled system with a very minimum of danger to public health. The other alternative is to allow their use to be relatively unrestricted until public health is endangered and more drastic measures such as outright banning have to be undertaken.

Let me state quite emphatically and succinctly that there is no reason for alarm at the moment. Oh, we have had our problems in exporting fruit products, on one or two occasions, as the result of pesticide residues, but these were confined to two relatively minor foodstuffs. Canada is not the only country which has encountered difficulties in this area. It is a world-wide problem. In this connection I noticed an article in the *Rural Cooperator*, dated October 25 and headed: Let's Face Up to Pesticides. The article in part reads:

Residue problems have become so serious in some countries that checks have been introduced on the use of some chlorinated hydrocarbons. In Britain, for example, the government persuaded manufacturers to stop making some chemicals such as heptachlor, dieldrin and aldrin. This severe measure was taken when voluntary restrictions failed to produce results.

According to an official of the British national conservancy council, the residue problem is now well on the way to being licked. However, the problem is still terribly serious.

Interestingly, he notes that Britain's residue levels are appreciably lower than in Canada or the United States and always have been. The article goes on to say:

If the situation is still terribly serious in the United Kingdom, what is it in Canada where there are no restrictions on manufacturing highly undesirable pesticides? In fact in Ontario there are few restrictions on their use. Any woman, man or child can walk into a store, buy pesticide in any quantity and then apply it on any application.

It is obvious that legislation in the province is just not adequate to do the job. Lest anyone from the government benches dispute that, let me point out that The Department of Health has six inspectors for the entire province to maintain a watchful eye and enforce

the regulations of The Pesticides Act. The Act should be amended this session, in my opinion, to allow pesticides to be sold only through registered outlets. In addition to that, of course, I think The Department of Health should take upon itself immediately to increase the staff of the field inspection branch, because it is rather obvious that six people for the entire province just cannot do the job.

When the legislation—and this legislation is operative in one or two provinces; that is to say one or two provinces in Canada, and I am thinking of Alberta in particular—does require registered outlets, the user should have to sign for every purchase and state the level of application plus the location. This would be comparable legislation to what is now in effect in the state of California and it is vitally important that we adopt similar measures here in Ontario.

I made reference earlier to the province of Alberta, I believe the province of Alberta has done more in the drug end than it has in the pesticides end. The state of California apparently is the leader in bringing forth legislation to control and to supervise adequately the use of pesticides. I think they are the leader, Mr. Speaker, on the North American continent as far as I know.

Earlier I made reference to the use of drugs. The miracle drugs that we have been using to combat and control infections have resulted in reaction that threaten to leave many of them, perhaps most of them, ineffectual and powerless. In recent years, medical research scientists have reported increasing evidence of antibiotics-resistant bacteria comparable to insects developing resistance to pesticides, which formerly destroyed them. In Japan, research scientists discovered that bacterium could hand over its drug resistance to bacteria by simple touch, making the six most widely used antibiotics ineffective. These findings were confirmed by the University of Guelph here in Ontario.

As was pointed out in yesterday's *Toronto Telegram* in an article that was written by Mr. Ken MacTaggart, veterinarians in Canada and the United States have called for a survey of this phenomenon. They have submitted a brief, I believe, to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food asking for a rigid control on the sale of drugs. The Ontario medical association has joined the Ontario veterinary association in this particular stand. The Ontario farmers union and the Ontario federation of agriculture also support this stand.

Mr. Speaker, with such august bodies as the Ontario veterinary association, the Ontario medical association, the Ontario farmers union, the Ontario federation of agriculture, supporting restrictive sale practices as they apply to drugs similar to what Alberta now has, surely the government will see fit to take similar steps here.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister of Agriculture and Food pretends there is no problem, so does the Minister of Health.

Mr. Gaunt: My friend says that the Minister of Agriculture and Food pretends there is no problem. I suggest that there certainly is a problem and I suggest that if we meet it now, then the effects will be minimal.

It was reported in the *Telegram* yesterday that Manitoba was the province which has the most up-to-date legislation dealing with restrictive practices as they relate to the sale of drugs. My information leads me to believe that it is Alberta, Mr. Speaker. I think Alberta is at the moment ahead of Manitoba in this particular field. In Alberta, as I understand it, all outlets such as hatcheries and feed stores are licensed. Their legislation is very comprehensive in terms of how these drugs should be handled. There is no restriction on availability—and I stress that—nor do I think there should be one here at the moment.

However, our legislation in this regard must be updated and revised. I stress again, and I repeat, in order to underscore the point that I made earlier, that we must meet the

problem head on and we must meet it now. I do not think that I can overstress that particular point. If we are to continue using the drugs and pesticides, then I think it must be under a well supervised and controlled system with a very minimum danger to public health.

Mr. Speaker, I had intended to speak for a few moments on the problems of agriculture but the House leader has indicated that the estimates will be before the House in the next few days and so I will save my remarks on that subject until that time. I do not want to give him the opportunity or provide him with the convenience of anticipating me, and perhaps if I give some suggestion in my remarks at this time as to what I am going to say in the estimates he will have very ready answers available, so I—

Mr. Bryden: Not good answers.

Mr. Gaunt: Well I want him to have answers and I want him to have good answers but sometimes—

Mr. Singer: It is not much of a danger. All these years he has never anticipated anything so why should he start now?

Mr. Gaunt: Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, in some of these areas I must admit that my hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture and Food does not have very good answers, and with that I will adjourn the debate.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

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Thursday, February 16, 1967

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and tonight we welcome as guests, members of Grantham high school history club, of St. Catharines, in the Speaker's gallery.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE (Continued)

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank you for allowing me the privilege of taking part in this debate and also for the gracious way that you handle this House and the nice things that you say about members on both sides of the chamber.

I also want to express some good news of our hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) about whom we were so worried. I understand that he is in excellent shape and it will not be too long before he is back in his usual good health. I know everyone in this House will rejoice to hear that.

I am sorry, sir, that the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) is not here, because I wanted to congratulate him on his success. To me, he is a very fine boy. Through the years I have known his father and family. They have made a great contribution to this province and he is one young man I am sure everybody in this House is very proud of, especially those who have known his lovely family and his father for so many years.

I also want to congratulate the new member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier). I am sorry he is not here tonight.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): The Minister does not have much of an audience does he?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I have known him, Mr. Speaker, ever since he was a baby. In my years up in the north country, his wife's father was a partner of mine in the grocery business and his father used to supply our transportation company into Red Lake and so on, with their groceries and other things. So I do know him since childhood and I know he will make a tremendous impact on this Legislature and represent the people in his area as nobody

else can, because he has been brought up and lived with them for a great many years and knows their needs. I am sure he will see that those needs are supplied.

My congratulations also to the new members of our Cabinet. Whoever picked them certainly made a fine choice. Young men, knowledgeable men.

Mr. Bryden: Has the Minister any guess as to who picked them?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Men that will certainly keep this government in power for many years to come.

I cannot understand, Mr. Speaker, why so many speeches have been made about north-western Ontario this session. This is the first time that part of our province has been honoured with so much attention from members of the New Democratic Party and the Liberal Party. The hon. member for Nipissing (Mr. Smith) talked a lot about the north in his speech—the first time I have ever heard him mention it.

I imagine it is because there has been so much progress and growth in that area that it has attracted the envy of the members of the Opposition and they, of course, must in some way counteract this feeling among the people generally in this province.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: I forgot about the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Freeman). He has been very kind to the north.

Mr. Bryden: He has been there once in a while.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: That is right.

A delegation of about 50 top businessmen from the Lakehead district were in today and had an interview with the Cabinet. They discussed present and future business developments. It was a splendid meeting and many matters of future development were discussed. I wish tonight to tell you about some of the accomplishments of northwestern Ontario. However, I am really of too retiring a nature to boast about this area that I have the

honour to represent, with the members for Kenora and Rainy River (Mr. Noden). We are all rather bashful about our wonderful area, perhaps too silent in this House in our praise of that great part of the province and its people.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we received this piece of a newspaper, which says: "In northwest future are seven mines like this". I am going to send it over to the acting leader of the Liberal Party and the NDP afterwards. It is a picture of the Caland Ore Company pellet plant which is in that great western part of the province, next to Steep Rock. It says this:

Currently underway in northwestern Ontario are iron mining and pelletizing plant projects plus rail, power and ancillary programmes to serve them, representing a capital outlay of more than \$100 million. When completed this year—

I am not talking about old stuff:

—and next, the northwest will have three producers with a capacity of 3.85 million tons of pellets a year. In full production this trio of natural resource industries will employ more than 1,000 permanent workers, provide a combined payroll of more than \$5 million and convert raw ore into more than \$65 million in new wealth every year. Every facet of the region's economy will feel the impact of these massive operations.

But, wait, this is just the beginning.

From the known iron ore bodies in northwestern Ontario top mining executives foresee seven more potential mines of similar size. Indeed, at Lake St. Joseph now fully engineered, is the largest known open pit reserve of iron ore in all Ontario with an estimated capability of providing 160 million tons of pellets down to a depth of only 500 feet. These frozen assets are located in all parts of Ontario's northwest. Hence their development ultimately will benefit directly every section of our immense region. It is estimated that these seven potential mines plus those in production or under development could produce 17 million tons of high quality pellets worth more than \$250 million a year, provide 5,000 jobs and a payroll of \$25 million and add 40,000 to the population. Secondary industries to serve them would follow fast.

That is an article that came out today. I am going to pass it on to the Opposition for them to look and see, read and be amazed.

Mr. Bryden: How is the north doing with natural gas?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Well, as far as I am concerned, the pipe line for natural gas is going to go through our area and I was—

Mr. Bryden: What has the Minister done about it?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Now, wait a minute, I was one of the first—if the member looks at the first petition of names that went down to the dominion government, he will find my name, I think fifth on the list.

Mr. Bryden: What did the government do?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Where is the member for the Timmins area? He is on that list too.

Mr. Bryden: Well, what did the government do?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: They were behind us.

Mr. Bryden: A long way behind—they did nothing.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): The member was not even here at that time.

Mr. Bryden: The government has been close to losing it.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: We have spoken about it, and the member will notice that we have not lost it yet, and we will have it for good.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, mining and pulp and paper will be the big money-earners in northwest Ontario for a great many years and I could tell you of more enormous quantities of minerals in northwestern Ontario that will produce great riches in the future in that part of the country. These are already discovered but at this time it would not be wise for me to name properties or areas that will produce future wealth for Ontario, but I will say it is great indeed and I will tell you only of the ones about ready to produce.

One thing I wanted to mention, Mr. Speaker, is that last week the hon. member for Algoma-Manitoulin (Mr. Farquhar)—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): A fine fellow.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Yes, I would say that—the hon. member implied in the House that the government had been remiss when it selected the Onakawana area as the site of its bid for the construction of the proposed Canadian General Electric heavy water plant. He suggested there was another area in Ontario where the plant would have been much more feasible and by reason of federal designation

would have been economically more defensible. Well, I agree with that. I would like to set the record straight and tell him that three specific areas were considered when our bid was made last year for a heavy water plant in Ontario. One was the Lakehead area, a second was Manitoulin Island and third, Onakawana.

Mr. Bryden: And they all lost.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: That is right. And the member knows why as well as I do.

Mr. Bryden: Because the government is asleep.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: This government? Oh no, just a minute.

Mr. Bryden: The government lost both the gas pipeline and the heavy water plant.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: We could not be made a designated area; the dominion government would not do it, the member knows that as well as I do. Do not blame us. Canadian General Electric had contracted with the federal government to produce heavy water in an \$18.50 per pound range. However, regardless of any support that the company hoped to receive from the federal government's designated area programme, stringent site-location conditions were imposed in order that production would be economic.

The most stringent limiting factor was fuel cost. Canadian General Electric stipulated that if the vast amounts of steam required in the operation were generated from coal "about 2,000 tons of coal per day" would be required and the cost was to be approximately 12.5 cents per million BTU's. If the plant was gas-fired, cost was to be "about 15.5 cents per million BTU's".

The Lakehead area was ruled out when it was established that the minimum cost for natural gas at that site would have been in the 30-cent-per-million-BTU range.

Manitoulin Island presented a similar picture. A proposal had been made that a heavy water plant in that area might be coal-fired. There was no doubt that if Nova Scotia coal was used, fuel costs would have exceeded present costs for this coal at Toronto, roughly 32 cents per million BTU's. Some slight reduction in cost might have been achieved through the use of U.S. coal, but the upper limits set by Canadian General Electric for a coal-fired operation still could not be met. In addition, the volumes used—some one million tons per year—could have had a very serious effect on our national trade accounts.

When it was established that Onakawana lignite might be used with an on-site heavy water plant and provide a fuel cost in a 12 to 14 cent range, it was obvious that this area offered the most economically feasible site in Ontario.

Finally, I would like to point out that this government is not overlooking the potential of this vast deposit of low-cost fuel at Onakawana as has already been shown by our successful efforts to interest Alberta Coal Company in exploring the area at their own expense—the Ontario government's expense and this company's expense—and at some profit to the province with an ultimate view of generating electrical power from the Onakawana lignite.

I quote that, Mr. Speaker, because it shows that we do not quit. The federal government would not go along with us on a designated area so now we are trying it on our own, and we will probably produce great plants up there to give future power at a low cost to the people of this province.

Mr. Singer: Did that happen at about the same time as the Minister's diamond mine?

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Oh, the member would not know anything about it down here.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: One of these days, the member is going to laugh on the other side of his face. I will grin and bear it up to that time, and then, after we find them he will go out and say, "Boy, wasn't it a wonderful thing? I certainly stuck by that through, thick and thin".

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Now, is the member not ashamed of himself?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Now I would like to read from the *Northern Miner*, Mr. Speaker, an article which I like very much entitled: Northern Vision Pays Off in Hard Cash to Benefit Southern Industry. And I am talking about Toronto now.

The north's too cold. There are too many mosquitoes. Living costs are too high, social life is limited, and recreation is restricted.

Can you not see those Toronto boys talking? Is that not the theme?

And besides, it places too many demands on the south with its requirements for subsidies and tax relief.

Is that not too bad?

This sick, sick philosophy astounded Canadians everywhere, both in the north and the south, when it was expounded in the columns of a Toronto metropolitan daily a couple of weeks ago. It appeared not on the kindergarten page, mind you, but on the financial page of the Toronto *Daily Star*.

That great paper.

This is Canada's Centennial year when Canadians of all levels of society are undergoing any amount of soul-searching to try and establish a Canadian identity, to satisfy themselves, what kind of people Canadians really are, to prove themselves, and bolster their pride of citizenship by a study of their Canadian heritage. No wonder so many of them feel betrayed and sickened to see such ideas promoted by an influential metropolitan daily.

Man is a tropical animal, says the *Star* writer. This will surely be news to anthropologists the world over who have long contended that man thrives best in the temperate zones, that this is where civilizations have developed and expanded, the areas that have produced the great thinkers and scientists.

That is Toronto.

But, according to the *Star*, Canadians would much prefer the softer living to be found in California or Florida. We do not doubt but what the *Star* has heard enough from its own readers to cause it to reconsider this assessment of the Canadian character.

But what concerns us most are the false assumptions on which the *Star's* attack on the north is based.

Climate is a matter of opinion—some like it hot, some like it cold. But let us not have anybody kid themselves that people live in the north only because they have no better place to go. A great many northerners love it with passionate fervour.

To have the north represented as an area dependent for its existence on the bounty of the south—

The Bay Street of Toronto and so on—

—is a calumny that is not easily forgiven. But much more than any wounded feelings is the damage that can be caused by the spread of such misguided information.

From an industry standpoint the north's great claim to fame is mining. And, without mining and all that it means the south's

prosperity would soon be shown to be an empty façade.

One out of every three dollars that Canada earns in foreign exchange comes from mining. And if pulp and paper, another northern industry, were added in, we suspect that it would be found that the north is responsible for well over half of Canada's foreign earnings.

What would happen to the Canadian dollar without these exports? Without them, we would be lucky if the dollar was reduced to only half its present value. It could very well drop much further. And what would happen then to the Florida vacations, for those effete southerners who find the winter climate more than they care to bear? More disastrous, think of what would happen to industry and those manufacturing businesses that need to import a certain amount of material. Our automotive plants, for instance, would slam shut in a hurry.

We would like to ask the *Star* who supplies the bulk of the traffic on the St. Lawrence seaway, an engineering feat in which the south takes considerable pride—the mining industry—that is who. The last time we saw the figures, although they are a couple of years old, mine products accounted for 45 per cent of traffic and one single mine item, iron ore, at 28 per cent, was greater than any other grouping, such as manufactured or agricultural products. That, we would say, is a classic example of how the north supports southern enterprise.

The northern vision, cracking open the north, call it what you will, has enabled the south to wax fat these many years. Where would Toronto be if it had not had Sudbury, Timmins, Kirkland Lake, to supply a market for its growing industries? When the Ontario Northland Railway was pushed north of North Bay by an intrepid provincial government, there were no mines at Cobalt. That farsightedness has been repaid many times over to the people of the province.

Since the end of World War II, more than 1,800 miles of new railway track have been laid, all of it to new mining areas. The rails and the rolling stock entailed have meant a mighty nice piece of business for industry in southern Canada. Some of these communities will still be thriving centres well into the next century. Thank goodness the Calamity Janes have not yet been able to restrict northern development.

Output from Canada's mines was close to \$3 billion last year. We do not know how it was all spent but let us say that over \$750 billion went in wages and salaries. Many more millions were spent on materials and supplies, the bulk of them coming from southern communities. And on our front page this week is a story outlining that capital expenditures for new mining projects over the next several years will amount to over \$1 billion. The bulk of this will accrue to southern industry which supplies the equipment needed.

We could go on and on. The north is not the poor relation of the south. It carries its own weight and then some. And out of all the outpouring of new wealth, a great deal of it either directly or indirectly benefits the south. The mines, let it be said, pay their full share of the taxes. Such differences that do exist, as depletion allowances and the three year tax exemption for new industry, are an effort to redress the balance that other industry enjoys because it is not based on an ore deposit of limited life.

Mr. Singer: The member for Sudbury violently disagrees with that.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Well, he has not thought too violently then.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): The member is not here.

Mr. Bryden: The closest the *Northern Miner* got to the north was—

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I know it is pretty hard for the member to take, because he has never worked at anything like that.

Mr. Bryden: The *Northern Miner* is a newspaper—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I continue quoting, Mr. Speaker:

It does not require the tremendous pre-production expenses that are involved in finding an ore body. The uranium mines, the *Star* columnist infers, left the government holding the bag on housing. Quite the contrary, it was the government which insisted on the housing and municipal expenditures despite the fact that the mines had contracts to keep them going for only five years. To be sure there were great hopes that those contracts would be ex-

tended but individuals or governments which make expenditures on the basis of hope must be prepared to accept the losses if the hopes fail to materialize. The cost-aid paid out to the gold mines is by no means a one-way street. For every dollar in cost-paid, a payroll of at least \$3 is protected according to a brief of the gold mining communities. Close to 50 per cent of the cost-aid, the Quebec metal mining association calculates, is paid back to the federal government in the form of taxes and it has been estimated that the percentage would be close to 75 per cent if payments to all levels of government were included.

But, enough! The north doesn't need an apologist. The facts are there for anybody who wants to read them and those facts speak for themselves.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that that is evidence enough that the north bears its own share of the load in this province and in this dominion.

In the last few days, charges that the Lakehead area—that is my area of Ontario—is stagnating from an industrial and economic point of view, are greatly exaggerated. Growth at the Lakehead may not have proceeded at the same pace as in Metropolitan Toronto or the golden horseshoe, but it was nonetheless the scene of much healthy activity.

Herewith a few quotes from the news bulletin of the northwestern Ontario development association, dated February 3, 1967, which is not very long ago, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): The Minister should tell us what he thinks about it.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: What I think about it? The north? Well it is the place where I have lived most of my life, and I love it. I love the people and I know it is going ahead faster than any place in Canada. That is all I know about it.

Mr. Bryden: Why does the Minister have to read the *Northern Miner* to find out about it?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I like the story.

Mr. Bryden: Even if it is not true.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: It was a factual story and it depicts what the great north is doing for the rest of this country. I quote:

Northwestern Ontario rolled up a total of \$33 million in new construction in 1966, an impressive figure for a population of less than a quarter of a million, and exceeding the previous year by more than \$3 million.

Based on reports supplied by 32 municipalities of the region, the survey showed \$10.1 million spent on residential building, \$10.6 million on industrial and commercial projects, and \$12.9 million on institutional construction.

The reports embrace structures only. Highways, bridges, causeways, harbour works and similar projects are not included in the total.

Approximately two-thirds of the year's total of new construction was concentrated in the Lakehead community.

Fort William, total \$11.4 million; Port Arthur, \$10.3 million.

The member for Fort William will see that he was a little ahead of us there. From the council's December 14 bulletin:

It was a year of peak employment with shortages in skilled labour needs, business buoyancy and production increases.

Industrial projects representing capital investment of more than \$75 million were brought into operation while major enterprises exceeding \$150 million were launched toward full-scale construction and completion in 1967 and 1968.

Some of the projects, Mr. Speaker, are amazing and I do not think that many of the people here realize just what industrial complexes are going up there. In Fort William, the Great Lakes Paper Company Limited are putting up a \$42 million kraft plant and have brought it into production now.

Northland Machinery and Supply Company Limited, a new plant and air handling dust division, part of a \$750,000 expansion.

Tee-Kay Apparel (Lakehead) Limited, staff training and garment production as first step toward a \$500,000 plant to employ 500.

Dow Chemical Canada Limited, \$9 million chemical plant brought into production.

Western Iron and Metals (Fort William) Limited, \$200,000 installation of 165 ton baling press to process auto bodies into high quality scrap.

Those are some of the ones that get into trouble on the highway in wrecks such as we have seen.

Ontario Hydro: \$27 million, 100,000 kilowatt thermal electric plant, activated.

Port Arthur—Abitibi Paper Company Ltd.: \$8 million provincial mill improvement completed.

Hinspergers of Port Arthur: plant expansion and additional products, part of \$1 million growth programme.

Federal Grain Ltd.: \$1 million, two-million bushel capacity addition to Stewart Grain Terminal elevator.

Lakehead Expressway: \$15 million transport artery construction begun.

Lakehead University: \$22.5 million expansion programme underway.

Mr. Gisborn: Is that project started yet?

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I was talking about so many—which one does the member mean?

Mr. Gisborn: The one the Minister was just quoting.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: The university?

Mr. Gisborn: No. No.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: The Lakehead expressway?

Mr. Speaker: I would remind the members if they have a question to ask they should stand and ask the member the question and not speak back and forth across the floor. At all times the speaker is supposed to address the chair.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Thank you sir. As a conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say a few things about the situation in Ontario. I have heard from time to time, criticism in this House—and of course I do not blame the members in the Opposition for it—but the picture as far as Ontario generally is concerned, in growth, prosperity and everything, is amazing, and we do not stop to think it over. So let us look at the situation now.

To begin, I believe that two simple statistics will indicate to you our importance in the national economy of Canada. While our population of less than seven million is only one third of the population of our country, we produce over 40 per cent of the national income, and contribute some 50 per cent of the direct taxes collected in Canada.

In other words Ontario, predominant as it is in finance, transportation and manufacturing, and with abundant natural resources of many kinds, is of singular importance in the Canadian economy.

But let me, for a moment, deal with this aspect in a little more detail. Ontario factories produce 96 per cent of all the motor

vehicles produced in Canada; 94 per cent of all automotive parts and accessories; 92 per cent of all office furniture; 90 per cent of all production of the electrical industries; 87 per cent of all agricultural implements; and 86 per cent of all iron and steel production.

Factory shipments of manufactured goods have risen to \$17.8 billion in 1966; from \$5.7 billion in 1948, an increase of more than 200 per cent in 19 years. Similarly spectacular statistics could readily be related for other areas of our economy. I congratulate the eastern part of Ontario—Toronto and these other cities for that wonderful production that shows in these figures. They have certainly done their share too.

How has this come about? I should like to indicate briefly some of the more salient features of our social and economic structure. Ontario possesses certain advantages which have made it the centre of Canadian manufacturing. It is located in approximately the geographic centre of Canada. Extending as it does so far southward, it is immediately adjacent to the most heavily populated and most highly industrialized sections of the United States. While the province itself has fewer than seven million people, there are almost 100 million people living within a single day's trucking distance of our provincial capital. Within this radius lie such markets as the cities of Montreal, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit and Chicago, to name the most obvious.

The St. Lawrence-Great Lakes system has traditionally been a key to the transportation of goods between Ontario and the rest of the world and it continues so today. Indeed, since the St. Lawrence seaway was opened in 1959, the increase in foreign trade handled through the ports of Ontario has been little short of spectacular, rising in a period of only five or six years by 47 per cent to 32.9 million tons in 1965. Shipments approached 40 million tons in 1966 and the seaway's greatest bottleneck at the Welland canal is presently being overcome by the construction of those twin locks, which will be a great improvement.

In addition, this excellent system of inland water transportation is supplemented by one of the finest systems of highways in North America, a network of railways, abundant and efficient air services—

Mr. Edwards: They are trying to cut them off, though.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Which?

Mr. Edwards: The railway.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: No, they will never do that. They think too much of your area where those beautiful trains are. As I said, abundant and efficient air services, and a system of gas and petroleum pipelines that extend throughout the province. Mr. Speaker, from this one can, I believe, readily appreciate that Ontario's location is excellent in terms of markets for its products and facilities for transporting products. These factors above are sufficient to guarantee the development of Ontario as a major manufacturing centre.

Another key factor in the equation is, however, the enormous natural wealth of the land itself. Now we are getting down to the good old farmer. The fertile fields of southern Ontario support a flourishing agricultural economy. The forests of northern Ontario provide bountiful harvests of timber, from which come lumber, pulp and paper in great quantity. We are so fortunate to have that wonderful stand of timber up in my own area. Abundant and accessible water power has been harnessed to provide enormous supplies of hydro-electric energy, sir. The pre-cambrian shield yields the basic raw materials of our burgeoning industrial development.

In agriculture, Ontario, with only one tenth of the occupied farmlands of our country, out-produces all other provinces in terms of market value of its products. These range from grapes, peaches and tobacco, to soft wheat. As a matter of fact, Ontario produces one quarter of the agricultural production value of Canada. Last year, Ontario's farm crops were valued at just over \$1 billion, an increase of 97 per cent, gentlemen, in just three years.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): How much?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: How much money?

Mr. Oliver: No—percentage.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Ninety-seven per cent in just three years—three years, you check it.

Now in forestry, and I see our new Minister (Mr. Brunelle), is here, God bless him, the chief products are, of course, lumber, pulp and newsprint. This has been a mainstay of our economy for many years and continues to hold a key position despite the development of secondary manufacturing industries in recent years. Overall output of forest products has remained fairly constant

since 1945, but is expected to grow by some four per cent in the 1965-70 period. Total production in 1964 was valued at more than \$1.2 billion. Preliminary estimates for 1967 indicate, and I may be a little low here, Mr. Speaker, that the total will reach or exceed \$1.4 billion. Current expansion in the pulp and paper, lumber and plywood industries will ensure a satisfactory rate of growth during 1967.

In the development of hydro-electric power, Ontario has long been in the forefront. Our hydro-electric system is recognized internationally, not only on this continent. Today, virtually all of the economically available water power of our province has been developed, as a result of which a great part of our province has been developed. Now we are directing a great deal of research for other sources of power.

Mr. Yakabuski: It is a far cry from the Hepburn days; we have come a long way.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: We have that, we have that. We have directed a great deal of research into the feasibility of utilizing nuclear energy. We expect to begin production of thermo-electric power from one plant of 200,000 kilowatts capacity now, and from one of over one million kilowatts in 1970. Needless to say, Mr. Speaker, construction of both plants is well under way.

From this necessarily brief and generalized account, I believe you will readily agree that Ontario is one of the very few industrialized regions of the world which contains within its borders all the elements basic to the development of a modern, diversified, industrial economy.

To this I would add that Ontario's industrious population is making use of these resources and has already created one of the major industrial complexes of North America in the southwestern part of the province. To underscore this importance, I would note that the output of Ontario's manufacturing industries accounts for more than 50 per cent of total manufacturing output of the entire Canadian industry, and in terms of total production of goods and services, Ontario accounts for more than 40 per cent of the Canadian gross national product.

Perhaps I might express our economic development in another way. Canada is considered to have the second highest standard of living of any country in the world and Ontario rates high within our borders. This, it seems to me, is the most cogent indication

that Ontario is indeed a province of opportunity and of prosperity.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Good government.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Ontario is suffering from a severe shortage of labour, especially skilled labour. Our seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the month of January last was just over two per cent. This means that unemployment is down to a hard core, made up very largely of seasonal workers and unemployables. Current output is being held down by shortages, not only of skilled workers but in some industries even semi-skilled and virtually unskilled.

A recent survey of our requirements in this area revealed that the greatest shortages were machinists and other metal workers and operators of power sewing machines. But many other skills are also sorely needed. There is, for example, serious concern with the short supply of labour, both skilled and semi-skilled, in the mining and agricultural industries.

So as we look to the future, one must note that our foreign markets are extremely important. Canada ranks among the world's top six trading nations and each year we export about 20 per cent of our gross national product. Last year we exported over \$1.3 billion in manufactured goods and, in the past two years, Canada's secondary manufacturing exports have increased by 67 per cent.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Thanks to the Liberal government in Ottawa.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): The hon. member does not really mean that.

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: No, that is the first time I have heard that and it is not in this address.

Canada, Mr. Speaker, is a trading nation. Indeed, some historians attribute the very existence of this country in its present form to the activities of those fabled adventurers of the 18th century, the fur traders. Certainly these men, at once traders and explorers, unrolled the map of Canada and established our trading tradition.

Ontario has the resources and the determination to perpetuate this tradition and to sustain our booming economy. We will continue to stress industrial development and trade promotion in both the export and domestic markets. We will continue and intensify our already substantially successful

efforts to attract new industry, managerial skill, technology and capital to this province.

I particularly invite the hon. members opposite us in this House to be here with us today and at all times to share in the continued development and prosperity of Ontario, the province of opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: I have been asked to welcome a group of young people under the Speaker's gallery west, who are members of the political club from O'Neill collegiate, Oshawa.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in this debate, having listened to the glowing speech presented by the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope), I must admit that I do so with some concern and trepidation. Because I feel, really, after that wonderful oration we have had that anything I might say might be anti-climatic.

However, I must say this—I am sorry the time has passed on from the day when I used to sit—well, perhaps a little further back—and listen to the Minister of Mines deliver what I think were better presentations.

I can well remember the day when he used to rise in his place in the House and pick up a blank sheet of paper and tell us about the trials and tribulations of some of his constituents as written in a letter which he made up as he went along. He could go on for an hour-and-a-half explaining how difficult this particular constituent found his way through the toils and turmoils of the province of Ontario.

And those speeches were really much better, Mr. Speaker, because he did not have to resort at that time to long editorials written by a southern newspaper glorifying the north. I am sorry those days apparently have disappeared. I think he did better in those days than he did this evening.

In joining in this debate, let me pay the usual tributes to all of the people who deserve them, and the usual condemnations to all those who deserve those. Let me say this. As I began to think about what I might present to the House this evening, it occurred to me on reading about the illness of the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), that it was a very sad thing that it happened not only to him and to his party but to all of us. In recent months we have experienced three such instances in this House of noteworthy prominence and several lesser incidents that did not attract the same public attention.

I just wonder if the people of Ontario have begun to realize the sacrifices which so many people make in presenting themselves to public life, and in taking the time and the trouble and the nervous aggravation that goes with it. Certainly my colleagues and I express to the Prime Minister, his family and to his colleagues in the House, our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

In a more personal way, let me say that I have known the Prime Minister over a long period of years. He and I went to law school together, and from a personal aspect I feel very deeply his present illness. And from a more personal aspect as well, as I was thinking about what I might say tonight I was hoping the Prime Minister would be sitting in his seat, because I had several remarks that I did want to address to him in relation to his carrying on of the affairs of the province of Ontario, which would be unfortunately less than praiseworthy. I had hoped that when I addressed those remarks to him I could possibly have evinced some reply.

That privilege is being denied me. But as I say, it is unfortunate that incidents of this type bring into focus—and I hope with some real purpose—to the minds of all the people of Ontario, the sacrifices that so many people do make in presenting themselves in the political atmosphere that we see every day.

I thought I would say a word or two about the speech delivered by His Honour at the opening of the proceedings in this Legislature. It was surrounded with glowing phrases. The hon. member for Scarborough North (Mr. Wells), Minister without Portfolio, was wondering sort of *sotto voce* this afternoon whether the same speech writer was writing all our speeches over here. I think I can assure him that not having had the facilities of ex-members of the Canadian Press or CKEY or of the Hamilton *Spectator*, that we have to think these things up on our own and it is just obvious as we listen to that speech what emerged from it.

We do not have the facilities, as 23 Cabinet Ministers do have on that side of the House, of hiring at public expense executive assistants, speech writers, PR men and so on, who can rehearse each one of our members in their own speeches, adopt excellent phrases—go-go, wild rivers, HOME, and on and on. So we just have to think these things up for ourselves. Hopefully they are at least as good or as reasonable in presenting the other view in the province of Ontario as these things that are done at government expense to apparently delude the people of Ontario.

Shakespeare said, Mr. Speaker, in one of his plays, "what is in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet", and I think this really is the most applicable phrase that we can apply to all of the nonsense we have heard in this Throne Speech.

My colleague from Windsor this afternoon (Mr. Newman) read, and he read well the remarks made by the Prime Minister in 1962 regarding the new housing programme; the 12-point housing programme inspired by "leaping Robert" who was a Minister of note at that time, presented through the words of the Prime Minister, and this was going to solve all of the problems of housing that we had in the province of Ontario. Fascinating, Mr. Speaker. In the short eight years I have spent here, it seems to me that on the eve of every single election we have a new housing programme. We had one in 1959, we had one in 1962. And now in 1967, a brand new one.

Well, "leaping Robert" is not here any more, so instead of a 12-point programme, and if you remember the gentleman to whom I refer as "leaping Robert", he always lined up his speeches in points. Sometimes there were 35 points, sometimes 17.5, but the housing programme was only 12. Now those 12 points, and my friend from Windsor dealt with them most ably this afternoon, those 12 points were going to solve all of our problems.

Well they were presented. They were presented through the mouth of the Prime Minister. I would hesitate to say that the Prime Minister was the puppet for that Minister, but in any event, it was that Minister's line of thinking, it was his pre-propaganda, his post-propaganda, his housing-by-headline, that he did so well. I remember, sir, and I am sure you will with me, the magnificent apartment building that he designed in the newspaper in his own riding. Lovely pictures appeared day after day and week after week. We have never seen the apartment building in his riding, nor will we ever. But he had a very effective PR group that presented these things in a meaningful way and deluded some people into believing that the government was really doing something.

Well the faces change, Mr. Speaker. The faces change. The PR men change and the phrases change, but again, "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet". Today, in 1967 we have this programme called HOME—Home Ownership Made Easy. Well, what does it mean, Mr. Speaker? Let us see what

His Honour said in the Throne Speech. I am quoting His Honour's remarks:

A matter of great concern to my government is the steadily increasing cost of home ownership. My government subscribes to the principle of the desirability of home ownership.

An hon. member: You do not read it as well as he did.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I believe the rules of the House prescribe me from saying any pertinent remarks in reply to that last interjection.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Singer: I will continue:

Rental accommodation has an important role to play but home ownership can enhance the pride of being a part of the community and of having personal involvement in the future of our province and country.

Applause.

Mr. Singer: I am delighted that that has evinced applause. It is in keeping with the thought expressed in that same speech that we believe in plans for people and I commend the government on having discovered that Ontario is inhabited by people. I think this is a very notable advance and hopefully we can move forward from that point.

But other than that, Mr. Speaker, I think the words are just as hollow as that discovery, that Ontario is inhabited by people and they are going to plan for people. Let me go on, if I may:

Plans have been formulated to bring into operation a new housing programme to be known as Home Ownership Made Easy which through the use of the first letter—

And this was clever, Machiavellian really in its concept.

—through the use of the first letter in each of the words called the HOME programme.

I do not know which one of the gentlemen that they have stolen from the press gallery dreamed that one up, but I think he should get an extra pat on the back and three gold stars for that advanced thinking.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: To continue:

This greatly expanded programme of the Ontario housing corporation will remove many of the major obstacles that have been restricted to housing development and home ownership in the past. The HOME programme will incorporate land development, land-lease, encouragement of home ownership, residential community development and housing to encourage industrial development across the province.

Applause.

Mr. Singer: I do not know if the hon. Ministers started that applause, whether it was the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) or my friend the Minister of Reform Institutions, but I think that they should have been applauding just as loudly in 1962 and in 1959.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Well, we did.

Mr. Singer: And having been prominent and able members of the government over all those years any one of those gentlemen should have had the intestinal fortitude to say, "If we believe in housing let us do something about it or else we will quit." But not one of them has done it.

They are still here, they are still applauding hollow phrases, PR men's shibboleths, nothing, Mr. Speaker. Nothing at all. Before I am through I think the record will reveal abundantly clearly that the record of this government in housing is a shameful disgrace to all of the people of Ontario.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): You have got trouble with your jails, my friend, never mind housing.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, His Honour went on to say:

My government recognizes the problem of the small homeowner who, through expropriation, loses his home for the good of the community and thereby faces relocation. This is a matter that will be settled satisfactorily for all concerned. Embodied in the programme for my government will be provisions to deal with such situations.

Let me deal just very briefly with that last paragraph about expropriation procedures.

My good friend, the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) is just coming back to his seat. He has heard what I have had to say and what my colleagues have had to say; what the members of the NDP have had to say about expropriation procedures; what even the member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) had to say about its injurious effects not too long ago.

It may be that the member for Armourdale was so frank in expressing his views that he was not looked on with favour when the recent appointments were made, but I do not know that we can speculate too long about that.

I wonder how long, Mr. Speaker, it is going to be until the Attorney General or the Prime Minister of the province brings into this House meaningful laws respecting expropriation? How long it is going to be that we are going to have this jungle of 6,000 expropriating authorities, that ramble on substantially on their own without any real responsibility to elected officials, causing genuine hardship to thousands of people in the province of Ontario without this government being able to bring some order out of the chaos that exists in this field?

No one can gainsay for a moment, sir, that the public good, when it demands that new highways be built, or new schools be built, or universities, or conservation areas be created, the public good must take precedence over the private good. But surely the theory that a man's home is his castle, that an individual, even an unsophisticated individual—and I am going to come to that later, this is a phrase that the Attorney General seems to glory in—even an unsophisticated individual is entitled to have his rights protected. A government that prides itself on launching programmes for people, one would think, would take care of people whose land is being taken for the public good. We see no such efforts at all, Mr. Speaker.

We have had a nibbling—a minor and ineffective nibbling—at The Expropriation Procedures Act at the last session of the Legislature. There is no real determination of what value is; there is no real concern in planning about how you are going to relocate the people who are going to be dispossessed; there is no real concern in protecting the ordinary homeowner who loses his house, in providing him with the tools in money and legal advice, to enable him to fight that monolith of power over there, that exists through the Ministers and through the nameless and faceless civil service that seems to believe that taking a person's house has to be done in the most demeaning way; that the government has to grind out its last nickel; and that there is no real purpose in trying to provide, when this unusual remedy is resorted to, fairness and equity to the persons being disturbed.

Hopefully, sir, we will see some sort of legislation brought before this House soon by the Attorney General, which will give us an opportunity to go into this field fully.

But let me return now to this whole question of homes and housing and house bills.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Singer: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Is it your opinion that the elected municipal officials are irresponsible people or do you call them nameless or something like that in dealing with matters of this kind?

Mr. Singer: Let me say that I am very pleased that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has asked me that question because perhaps now I will elaborate a bit. I would say this—amongst our at least 6,000 expropriating authorities that there are so many incidents—the Minister asked his question and I will answer him in my way—and in due course. More than 6,000 authorities have the right to expropriate, and these include in addition to municipal councils and boards of education, conservation authorities, hospitals, hydro, liquor control board, railways, highways, universities, and on and on, that there could be catalogued hundreds, in fact thousands, of irresponsible attitudes, irresponsible approaches, and irresponsible incidents. And I say this sir, that while by and large most elected municipal officials are responsible people who try to do their best, the ground rules have never been properly set down by the people who create these municipal authorities, the people who control these municipal authorities, and the people who legislate in regard thereto.

And where there are—to borrow the phrase “unsophisticated” again from the Attorney General—where there are perhaps less sophisticated councils who believe they are doing a favour for their municipality if they grind the expropriatee—the person whose land has been taken—a bit further into the ground—I daresay that even the Minister of Municipal Affairs will agree with me that this has happened in many, many incidents.

The problem, Mr. Speaker, is this, the province of Ontario, the government of this province which has the responsibility to outline and define the rules, has never bothered to do so. The government of the province of Ontario, which has a responsibility to allow a fair and impartial appeal, has never provided that for him. The government of the province of Ontario has never bothered to arm the small homeowner with the ammunition to allow him to fight the expropriating

authorities, and I challenge any member on the government benches to stand up and defend the present system of expropriation procedures.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question?

Mr. Singer: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would just like to ask the hon. member if he is aware that the matter of expropriation was referred to the law reform commission—that is in addition to all the procedures we now have—it was referred last year for a study and the report is expected quite soon, on this matter of expropriation.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of that. I am aware of the fact that the civil rights commission—is that Mr. Justice McRuer's group?—is also studying another aspect of it. I am aware of the fact that a select committee of this House unanimously recommended certain changes which were never implemented. I am aware of the fact that I could list—if you want to give me a minute or two—20, 30, 50 different studies by commissions, groups, appointees, bodies, experts, and so on, that are going to bring forward to the government in due course of time, additional recommendations about any variety of subjects. I say, sir, that the government's record in accepting recommendations carefully considered is one to which they can point with no pride. I can say, sir, that it is no answer to a problem to identify it my name. Yes, expropriation is a problem and we have put it away by referring it to the law reform commission, or to Mr. Justice McRuer, or to a select committee, because in the few years that I have sat in this House I have seen these reports come to us day after day, and month after month, and the responsible Minister stands up and says, “This is a very important report and believe me we are going to consider it.” How long have they been considering the report of the select committee on expropriation?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: They passed legislation last year.

Mr. Singer: Oh, they passed legislation last year certainly, and I am sure the Minister of Municipal Affairs, as he sat in the House and listened to the debates on that, will agree with me that that legislation only nibbled at the edges of this very serious problem. It is no answer at all.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: I am not concerned with that—but as far as sitting in the House I think that my record in his House is perhaps as good as any other member's.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I agree with that and I mentioned to this Minister outside the House today that I was very delighted that he was one of the few members of the Cabinet who sat here and who did listen, and listened very carefully to what goes on. My criticism of him is not in his attendance or in his listening. My criticism to him is that having listened, he did not listen well, and in his position in the Cabinet he did not bring into force some of the legitimate decisions that have been thrown in that direction. That is my criticism of him, sir.

Now, back to housing. Housing starts in any one year represent only a small percentage—from some 2 to 2.5 per cent of the existing stock of some 5.5 dwelling units in Canada. Ontario has a stock of some 1,850,000 units of which 68 per cent are owner-occupied. Metropolitan Toronto at the moment has an estimated 555,000 dwelling units of all types, including some 320,000 owner-occupied houses and 235,000 apartments. Being a Metro member, sir, and having had some better knowledge of the problem in Metro than perhaps I have in other sections of the province, a substantial part of my remarks in this matter are going to be directed to the problem as it presently exists in Metropolitan Toronto.

I think it can be gathered from these figures that Metro accounts for about 10 per cent of all of Canada's housing. It is also noted here that Metro's population now represents one tenth of the nation's population. Metro achieved a population growth of four and a half per cent in 1966. Well Mr. Speaker, housing starts in all areas of Ontario dropped to 52,355 units in 1966, compared with 66,767 in 1965. In Metropolitan Toronto housing starts slumped to 22,155 in 1966 as against 32,506 in 1965. The substantial point that I am trying to make is that the areas in Canada that suffered the greatest decline in housing starts, namely Metropolitan Toronto, which was down 32 per cent—and Ontario, as some of my friends were saying, is the province of opportunity. I am glad to see the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) is here, and I hope he will stay for the duration of these remarks because a substantial part of them are directed at him. Ontario—down 22 per cent in this province of opportunity—in the last year recorded the biggest gain in net family forma-

tion because of the large increase in immigration: more than 30 per cent. In marriages eight per cent. In other words, the population in Ontario went up and the housing accommodation went down.

Mr. W. B. Lewis (Humber): Who caused that?

Mr. Singer: I am very happy that the member for Humber asked that question, and I am sure that even he will agree with me after I am through—if he does not now—that the substantial cause of it is the lack of action by the Conservative government of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, some additional figures, I think, may be of interest to my friend who has substantial municipal experience, knows land values, building costs, and so on. I think these figures will impress him. The unusual increase in demand coupled with the equally unusual drop in housing supplies has its effect on house prices in Metropolitan Toronto, as evidenced by the following statistics.

On July 15, 1963, the average price of new houses in Metropolitan Toronto was some \$20,811. On January 30, 1967, something less than four years later, the average price of all new houses in Metropolitan Toronto, had risen to the figure of \$29,666. In other words, Mr. Speaker, the average price of new houses in that period of something less than four years, had risen by \$9,000. I do not think even the member for Humber, Mr. Speaker, would express the opinion that the average income of people had increased in anywhere near that percentage.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: What caused that?

Mr. Singer: What caused that? Lack of action by the member's government. It is just as simple as that.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: May I ask the member, did he ever hear of the word "money"?

Mr. Singer: What caused that was lack of action by the government.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Oh, a lot of fuff—

Mr. Singer: And I am going to delineate this, letter for letter and fact for fact, Mr. Speaker, and I hope the member for Humber will stay with it so he can hear the full argument.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: I will be here, the member should not worry.

Mr. Singer: Being the intelligent man that he is he will be convinced when he has the facts before him.

Mr. Speaker, in 1953 the average price of all sales listed by the Toronto real estate board was a figure of \$14,424. In 1966, some 13 years later, the average price had risen to \$21,950. That is, all houses, new and old ones together. Well, Mr. Speaker, these figures should make even the member for Humber think about what has been happening. Residential sales, Mr. Speaker, from May of 1955 to May of 1966—the average price throughout all of Metro and including Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan — the average sale price was \$26,173. Mr. Speaker if you listen to these figures, you just wonder how any ordinary person living in the province of Ontario, living in Metropolitan Toronto, can come close to affording this kind of house price. What these figures in fact mean is that most families who come into the market for a new house do not have the necessary down payment or income to afford the 27 per cent income to debt ratio, and I am sure the hon. member for Humber will agree that is a reasonable assumption by which home buying should be done today.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: That is not the answer, though.

Mr. Singer: Oh, I have not come to the answers; I am presenting the criticism first.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Oh!

Mr. Singer: No, the answers are going to come and if my friend will bear with me he will have them.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: I will be here.

Mr. Singer: These people are forced to compete for accommodation in the resale house or apartment market, but because of the drastic 44 per cent decline in apartment building, the vacancy rate in Metropolitan Toronto has fallen below one and a half per cent. Because of increased operating cost, municipal taxes and demand, **rents are raised**, thus causing greater hardship for those of modest means.

To further aggravate the problem, hundreds of housing units—and this is what I was touching on earlier in relation to expropriation—are being removed from the market every year, through demolition, for public urban renewal and private development. This means that as many families upgrade their standards of housing there is

no feathering down or less expensive or lower rental dwellings to accommodate the lower income group.

For example, demolition removed 3,067 housing units from the market in the city of Toronto in the last three years. Yet urban planners are encouraging great schemes to remove thousands upon thousands of the lowest-priced units from the market before knowing quite where the evicted and expropriated residents are going to be relocated. And there is no effort at all on the government benches to try and work this sort of thing out in advance; none at all.

I suggest that in many cases it is debatable whether many of these dwellings in urban renewal areas are blighted to the point where they cannot be rehabilitated. The government gets caught up in these great phrases and these great schemes. Redevelopment is the thing. It does not matter, unfortunately, that 300 people have to go because we are going to clean up a blight area, but where are they going to? Who knows? It sounds good and maybe our phrase makers will give us another phrase that will sound good when we go out onto the hustings next time around.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that we must and we can make it possible for the person with \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year income—this is the sort of person that we have to worry about, all of us, including the government—to provide through his own resources, without subsidy, a decent home for his family.

Housing legislation should be changed and must be changed to allow a man earning \$100 to \$120 a week to purchase a \$20,000 home with a thousand dollar down payment and a \$19,000 mortgage or mortgages, amortized over a 40-year period. This is why you have heard my leader say that this province has to get back into the second mortgage field and do it as quickly as possible, but we have not heard a murmur about that from the government benches. So the problem gets worse and worse as time goes on.

Another serious problem, and this concerns the Minister of Municipal Affairs in the overall programme. It is that the housing shortage in Metro is partially attributable to the existence of multiplicity of building codes and zoning standards which are enforced by municipalities in such a way as to make the production of low-cost housing almost impossible.

Mass production techniques should be employed and can be employed, and the use of new cost-cutting materials encouraged.

Prefabrication can reduce costs without reducing quality. I would think it would be a very simple and obvious thing for this government to use its power to bring about a standard building code at least in the Metropolitan Toronto planning region.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, would the member permit a question?

Mr. Singer: Sure.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: I understand the hon. member for Downsview was one of the main architects of the master plan of North York; am I right or wrong?

Mr. Singer: No, it was passed actually before I entered on the council. I support it.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Then the member is suggesting that we abolish the master plan of the major municipalities and have this government stampede and standardize all zoning by-laws?

Mr. Singer: No, I am surprised, Mr. Speaker, that that sort of a question can come from a man like the hon. member for Humber, who has had substantial experience on a municipal council. It was good experience and he gave great public service in that capacity. What I am suggesting is this: that surely our intelligence has moved far enough along the way that it would be possible to make a common set of zoning by-laws throughout the Metropolitan area—

Mr. W. B. Lewis: That is what I said.

Mr. Singer:—and have a common set of building by-laws. And I would think the experience that has been gained in the boroughs of Etobicoke, Scarborough and North York, along with the experience in the city of Toronto, brings enough intelligence to that problem today. I would think as well, that it makes sense to encourage and allow the use of prefabricated materials, encourage new techniques and that sort of thing. And also to remove so many of the burdens the municipal process places in the way of development. I am going to come to that in detail a little later.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member a question? Is he aware of the address that the Minister of Municipal Affairs made to the housing conference last Friday at the Royal York hotel in which he spoke on this very matter that the member is speaking of? The work of the national research council in this particular field and how

municipalities should take advantage of that research work was also discussed at that conference—

Mr. Singer: Well, I was going to tell you about my views of that conference. Perhaps this is as good a time as any to divert to that point. I was very interested to see my friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, appear there, and also the Minister of Economics and Development and Mr. Nicholson, from another jurisdiction. They all patted each other on the back and there was sort of mild criticism. One said, "Maybe you shouldn't have gone that far". But the interesting thing that emerged from that conference is that the conferees, the people they assembled to hear all of this collective wisdom, rebelled.

They were not accepting this pap any more and they made their opinions quite clear and they expressed them most vociferously and most ably. And there was real criticism directed at the responsible provincial people and the responsible federal people for their lack of action. There was a violent condemnation directed to government on both levels and I am not here as an apologist for the federal government's actions in this field. I do not think they were any better than the provincial government. There was a violent and justified condemnation directed at both levels of government in regard to their lack of action which has brought about this housing crisis.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: May I suggest to the hon. member that his opinion of what went on at that meeting is quite incorrect.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, this is neither a question nor even a point of order. Now the Minister would be entitled—I would welcome his participation in this debate. I would welcome his participation and that of the Minister of Economics and Development, because we would certainly love to hear what HOME means; what home ownership made easy is really going to do and when it is going to do it. And again diverting, and I am not going to be forced from the plan I have in regard to these remarks.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Do not depart. Do not depart.

Mr. Singer: I would be delighted to hear from the Ministers—and if I have not named the right ones, from whoever is responsible—what this programme is going to do, when it is going to do it and how it is going to do it.

The record in the past speaks for itself. It is shameful and it is disgraceful.

Now again, for the third time since I have been in the House we have a brand new programme. It has got a fancier name, the fanciest name yet. I suppose as they bring down more and more people from the press gallery, there will be more and more ideas and use of initials and so on, to put a nicer binding, to put a nicer silver wrapping on the package. But it is what is in the package that counts, and up to now we do not know. All our questions directed to the government since the Speech from the Throne have brought forth really no answers.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me get back. I would say that the absolute shortage of housing, and I think this is established, and the astronomical rise in costs can be most directly attributed to the failure of this government to develop adequate housing policies. The provincial government has abandoned its municipalities and left them financially incapable of supporting adequate residential growth. The pressing load of education costs borne by municipalities, coupled with their inadequate non-residential tax base, has forced municipalities to prohibit new housing in many major urban areas. Such new housing has been prohibited because the municipalities cannot afford the cost inherent in the residential growth.

Mr. Speaker, as we listen to the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) introduce his Budget, we on this side of the House had hoped at long last there was going to be some recognition of the problems of municipalities. But we listened in vain. The figures sounded great and the old saw about figures do not lie, but liars can figure, came back to me most forcefully as I tried to analyze the costs and the manner of procedure that was set out in this Budget. There is no relief for municipalities in this Budget. None whatsoever, Mr. Speaker.

The government proudly adds together all sorts of figures and says we are going to spend a billion dollars and some odd, on education, but when you break this down and recognize that they are getting four more points on personal income tax from Ottawa, one more point on corporation tax from Ottawa, \$150 million of money that Ottawa used to spend on vocational institutions and another \$250 million more—when you break all of this down, you recognize that the only real increase in education that Ontario is giving in this Budget, over what it did last year, is a paltry \$60 million, which no more than takes

care of the growth rate because we have more pupils and higher operating costs. That is all it does. It does not even take care of it at that. So, Mr. Speaker, in fact, in the whole Budget there is no relief at all to municipalities for education costs. They are in a worse position in 1967-68 than they were in 1966-67. And those figures are, in fact, the true figures and I defy any member of the government to stand up and challenge that, and especially defy the Minister of Education or the Provincial Treasurer to produce figures that are contrary to that. So what have we got? We have got our municipalities in a worse position from an education position than they were before and this is one of the major reasons why municipalities have been hamstrung in allowing the provision of more housing.

There are 1,500 fine acres of residential land in Metropolitan Toronto today that have trunk services to their borders and they are standing idle now. Why are they standing idle, Mr. Speaker? Because the municipalities are unable to allow those developments to continue in an economic way. The cost of new housing is beyond the reach of most of the residents of this province, predominantly because of the policies and the demands of the provincial and the municipal governments. And this is where the bottleneck is, Mr. Speaker, and no new combination of letters of the alphabet is going to change it. We need some action and we are not getting it.

This government's failure to organize its municipalities on a sound regional and financial basis, and I am going to come to that later on in my remarks, has forced many municipalities to plan their communities on the basis of assessment revenues and impose excessive capital imposts on the limited amount of housing they will permit.

And at that point, Mr. Speaker, let me make this abundantly clear as well. The imposition of imposts on builders or developers really is not soaking the builders or developers at all. I have yet to see a builder or developer who paid any more money to build his houses because of these additional imposts. I have yet to see a builder or developer, if he is able to manoeuvre at all, lose money because of these imposts. What happens with these imposts? They are passed on to the home buyer and they are paid for by the home buyer with additional profits piled upon them. And this government allows it to happen.

The provincial government's failure to organize its municipalities on a sound regional and financial basis has forced many municipi-

palties to plan their communities on the basis of assessment revenues, and I repeat that again for the particular benefit of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. This planning by assessment blocks the construction of smaller houses and higher density and correspondingly lower costs. This is absolutely contrary to housing needs. The municipalities cannot afford this type of housing because it does not generate enough taxes to support increasing education costs. We go round in this ever-increasing circle, Mr. Speaker, and a combination of the letters of the alphabet does nothing to alleviate the problem at all.

There are many examples in Metropolitan Toronto. The fine old residential communities built on 25 foot or 35 foot lots in the city of Toronto alone. Permission to build on lots of this size would, in itself, reduce low-cost by almost 50 per cent. But this is an anathema to the provincial plan. This is an anathema to the municipal plan. But there has been no leadership come at all from this government, by way of real research, or real decision in allowing cost-saving methods of construction or smaller lot use to be carried on.

In the climate that has been created by the provincial government the municipalities are only too willing to impose—not only willing, but they are anxious and eager they are forced to impose—arbitrary and unrealistic conditions upon new development. Virtually all of these unrealistic conditions are sanctioned and encouraged by the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs. The municipalities are utterly neglecting the fact that it is the consumer that ultimately pays the cost of each and every demand they are so ready to make. I cannot over-emphasize this. Really these are not levies. In no way are they levies on the builder or the developer. They are levies on the home buyer.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The ultimate consumer.

Mr. Singer: Of course, of course. So one would serve no purpose because I have sat on councils, and I have sat in these halls, and I have sat on committees, and everybody rubs their hands and says, 'let us soak the developer, we are really going to get him'. Nobody soaks the developer. You are soaking the ordinary citizen of Ontario that has to go out and buy that house. And this is what we are sanctioning and encouraging in allowing them to continue and it is getting worse as time goes on.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: May I ask the hon. member another question? Do you realize

that one of the things that has greatly increased the cost of housing in recent years, is the federal sales tax? That is a statement, not a question.

The question I wanted to ask you was that, do you think—in your opinion—is it better that the cost of local improvements should be paid for in cash and borne as part of the mortgage financing of a home, or do you think that they should be added to the taxes and financed by the municipalities over a long period of time, as we used to do many years ago?

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, the second part of the Minister's statement is only academic. There is no ability to pay for them in cash now. If you have to wait to do it on the local improvement basis, it cannot be done, because the municipalities have run out of credit. They cannot—

Hon. Mr. Spooner: That is not right.

Mr. Singer: No. In my municipality, in the township of North York it is, and I served on that council for five years. I am sorry the member for Humber has gone—he would confirm it for Etobicoke—and I am sure if there were any of the members here from Scarborough, they would confirm it as well.

There just is not enough capital borrowing power in those municipalities to let them put these services in by local improvement. They just cannot do it. The other day the Metropolitan executive committee said, "We are not criticizing the education demands. But even though you want and probably you need \$150 million in capital money, we can only give you \$50 million." This is the bind that takes place, this is the squeeze in which everybody is caught. So the Minister poses only an academic question.

There is no question now of putting these things on locals. The ordinary expanding municipality in Ontario today cannot put them on locals because they have not that much borrowing power. They need their borrowing power to build incinerators and parks and schools and so on. They cannot put these locals on if they have a burgeoning and expanding residential development; the Minister knows that far better than I.

Now, as to the first part of his remarks: "Is it not true that the federal sales tax is added to the cost?" I say yes, this is true. And as I said earlier too, I make no apologies for the actions of the federal government in this regard. The federal government in their housing policy is in the same bed and is

equally blameworthy with this government. But we can talk about this government here and hopefully we can do something about it. The federal government's record in this field is not praiseworthy at all, but the provincial government which has more effective control can, and should, do something about it.

Now, back to the sales tax. The 11 per cent federal sales tax certainly has some effect on raising the cost, as does the 5 per cent provincial tax. We have just had this new advanced "go-go" budget. Did anybody see in the budget any removal of the provincial sales tax on building materials?

Mr. Speaker, I just do not understand the mentality of this government, that when they get into trouble or when they have a bad record being brought home to them, they say, "Well, it is not our fault, those fellows up in Ottawa are all to blame." There is a substantial field of responsibility here. Their record is shameful and disgraceful and we get no answers. I say with the greatest respect to my good friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who listens and who does his homework and who makes most frequently intelligent remarks in the affairs of the province, that it is no answer to say "Isn't it terrible that Ottawa puts on an 11 per cent tax." The Minister should look to himself and to his colleagues. The government has just put on a five per cent sales tax, and did not disturb it at all in its last budget.

Mr. Speaker, in the climate that has been created by the provincial government, the municipalities are only too willing to impose arbitrary and unrealistic conditions on new development. Virtually all of these unrealistic conditions are sanctioned by the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs. I recall that I read that before and that is what brought the Minister to his feet, but it is worthy of repetition. Municipalities are utterly neglecting the fact that it is the consumer who ultimately pays the cost of each and every demand. Many of these conditions, such as the mandatory provisions of underground hydro—and these provisions are getting more and more severe—may be considered to have merit in themselves. Certainly it would be wonderful if we had all the wires buried underground, it would be wonderful if we all had five garages, colour television sets in every room, and we all drove Cadillacs. We on this side of the House have to drive our own cars; we do not have drivers provided for us. These things would all be wonderful, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: A weird view of life.

Mr. Singer: Weird?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Five television sets and ten automobiles—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is here and making his usual erudite contribution to this debate. I am going to come to him later in the substantial part of my speech when I want to deal with the affairs of his department. At the moment I am dealing with housing.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member is boasting.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I think these things would be great; I think it would be a wonderful thing if we buried all hydro wires, buried television aerial wires and so on; it would be wonderful, but can we afford it, Mr. Speaker? This is the point. Can we afford all of these new gimmicks that the municipalities are dreaming up to make houses more expensive? All these gimmicks are being encouraged by The Department of Municipal Affairs. Now this is what is happening, this is why these prices have gone so high. Can we afford it? Has the time not come, Mr. Speaker, when a realistic look at the essentials that go into the houses has to be taken?

Is it not important, Mr. Speaker, that the government began to provide some leadership on the size of lots, on building standards, on considering whether or not it is important today that every service wire must be buried underground, that everyone must have sidewalks, that there must be 28-foot paved roads, that there must be storm sewers that are nicely buried and on and on and on, that we must have the large-sized lots and two-car garages and all these things. Is it not important today when we are faced with a housing crisis, Mr. Speaker, that the government begin to examine these standards and see if, realistically, something could not be done to bring down the cost of housing? It is my opinion, sir, that if the government realistically looked at this and gave the leadership in this problem that it has the responsibility to do, the cost of houses could be drastically dropped and the person who earns an average income would be in a far better position to provide himself with housing accommodation, rather than to have to look to government by way of subsidies.

Mr. Speaker, a major cause of the high cost of housing is the excessively high cost of land. The supply of developable land is far short of the demand. In Metropolitan Toronto, its cost has more than doubled in three years. Believe it or not, Mr. Speaker, in my municipality today a 50-foot lot at Jane Street and Sheppard Avenue in a new subdivision, is being sold—a 50-foot vacant lot—at the price of \$14,000. Mr. Speaker, what kind of a housing climate have we in this province, when this is in fact what is happening? At the corner of Jane and Sheppard, way out in the northwest corner of Metropolitan Toronto, a 50-foot ordinary, single-family housing lot is commanding and getting a sale price of \$14,000. What kind of a house can you put on that? My builder friends tell me that the least cost of a house is another \$15,000. If you take \$14,000 for the lot and \$15,000 for the house and you put a profit on top of that, the cheapest house in these new subdivisions that you are able to get towards the end of February 1967, is over \$30,000.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Well, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs could—

Mr. Singer: It is just fantastic, Mr. Speaker. And what do we get? We get four initials out of the alphabet that are supposed to solve everybody's problems.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, these are the facts and I think there are several obvious things that must be done. I think the province must re-organize its municipalities on a regional basis. I am going to come to that at greater length because I do want to comment on several remarks that were made earlier in this plan called design for development, and the remarks that were added to it this year. There must be substantial relief, as my leader has so well said, given to municipalities for the cost of education, so that the municipalities are financially capable of accepting residential growth. The province must work out a scheme whereby major trunk services are provided—and not provided at a cost that is put back on the municipality. Somewhere along the line there has to be provincial financing in this. Levy it back in due course over the homeowners if you will, but somewhere along the line you have to allow the municipalities to be able to function. There must be control over arbitrary and unrealistic demands placed on housing

by the agencies of government and by the municipalities. And finally, there must be a complete revision in planning and appeal procedures so that there can be efficient operation with all possible speed.

That is one aspect of it. I think it is worthwhile spending a little time, Mr. Speaker, in talking about the problems that face ex-urban development. That is to say, beyond the boundaries of Metropolitan Toronto, north of Steeles Avenue in the townships of Vaughan and Markham. And this is where there are large tracts of vacant land available for development. With what hope can we look forward to anything meaningful being done in these two large and substantially undeveloped townships insofar as providing accommodation is concerned? Some of the typical problems facing developers in the northern ex-urban area are these: There are no sanitary sewage facilities available for the new houses. I am sorry the Minister of Economics and Development has gone because I did hear a rumour and I want to confirm it. Maybe the Minister of Municipal Affairs can confirm it—about the Vaughan and Markham and Malvern areas. I hope there is no truth in the thought that in the government's panic to try to get something going it is going to get back into the package sewer plant business in this area. I wish somebody would answer that one for me, because if it is—if the Minister of Municipal Affairs cannot tell me, I hope somebody can tell me over there if the government is going to allow the construction of package sewer plants all over again—after Metro, in the last 13 years has spent millions, even hundreds of millions, of dollars to do away with those and to build big trunk sewers and proper sewage treatment plants—if you are going to get back into the package sewer business you will just set the clock back and destroy the 15 years of progress that it has already made.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Who gave the member that idea that we were planning on package sewers for Malvern? Where did he get that information, may I ask?

Mr. Singer: Well, I have heard this.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Well who did he hear it from?

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would just restrain his temper I will tell him. I have heard this from many people who are anxious to know how HOME is going to work. We have asked questions of

the Minister of Economics and Development about how he is going to get services into Malvern. The questions are here but there are no answers, and so we have begun to inquire around and those of us who know a little bit about this, by reason of experience, recognize that if anything close to the Minister's fancy ideas about quick development can be done it has to be done by emergency measures such as the creation of package sewer plants. Now this illusion, if I am wrong—I hope I am wrong—this illusion can be dispelled and quickly, if either my good friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, or his colleague, the Minister of Economics and Development, will stand up and tell us how he is going to do it and when he is going to do it.

It is just as simple as that, Mr. Speaker. We are not dreaming up any horror stories because we like to. We want whys and we want to know how the government is going to do it. I know how many millions of dollars went into planning a new sewerage system in Metropolitan Toronto. I know how hard it was to get those moneys by borrowing and by raising taxes. I know how difficult it was to build these new sewage treatment plants. I know how hard it has been to try to clear up pollution in the Don River and the Humber River and to try to get it out of Lake Ontario, and it is my genuine fear that this government is about to set the clock back.

I hope I am wrong. I hope we are not going to get into the package sewer plant business again in this area, but if I am wrong, for goodness sake let one responsible Minister, Mr. Speaker, get up and tell us how they are going to build these houses in Malvern and Vaughan and other places. Let them tell us. They have not taken the members of this House into their confidence. They have not taken the public of Ontario into their confidence. They have not even taken into their confidence the council of the township of Scarborough.

I heard the Prime Minister on Friday morning saying, "Oh well, that fellow LaMille of Scarborough—he was a Liberal candidate in the last election, what can you expect from him? He was criticizing us—he was a terrible fellow—he ran as a Liberal candidate—he has no right to criticize us". Surely, Mr. Speaker, the mayor of the borough of Scarborough, if there is going to be housing development in his area, has every right to be consulted about how it is going to be done. But neither he nor his council, nor his expert advisors, have been

brought into this picture at all. And I say, Mr. Speaker, that the more we hear about the so-called HOME the bigger farce, it becomes obvious, that it is. There just is no development plan for housing at all that means anything—that is worth the paper on which it is written.

Well, let us go back to the problems that are facing those people who think that maybe there is some potential for development in the ex-urban areas in Vaughan and Markham. There are no sewage treatment facilities available for new housing. The water resources commission will not allow the construction of any further treatment plants—at least that is the position at the moment. Hopefully we will not depart from that.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Let us not depart from that.

Mr. Singer: No, because the rivers and streams are already over-polluted. The result is: no plans for subdivisions. My friend the Minister of Municipal Affairs knows this full well; if you cannot process a plan of subdivision you are not going to build any houses on these vacant areas, are you? No plans of subdivision can be processed and no houses can be built until a long range sewage plan is prepared and adopted and under construction. The best we could get from the Minister of Economics and Development is "I think they are considering appointing some consultants who in due course are going to examine a plan and in due course present something that somebody might pay for, so that maybe, hopefully, somebody can build some sewers." Now that is about as far as we seem to have gotten in this. No name consultants have been appointed. There is no target date on sewage disposal plans, and there is no recognition of the responsibility for building those sewers in the event that such plans are produced, so how are they going to get houses into Markham and Vaughan? The water resources commission has retained consulting engineers to produce a scheme for massive trunk collector sewers which could collect sewage in the Vaughan-Markham area, and to take it to a treatment plant in Lake Ontario. That is the Metro plan. So the government will have to enlarge that and enlarge it substantially, perhaps even double it.

This study should be completed, some guesses are, within three months, but the next step is for the water resources commission to work out a proposal with Vaughan and Markham and Richmond Hill whereby, if

the water resources commission installs and pays for such a main collector sewer—and it would have to be large enough to be called a sewage tunnel—the local municipalities would have to pay a user tax at so much per thousand gallons in order to retire the capital cost and maintain the operation. The cost of construction could be in the neighbourhood of \$100 million, or even more. Now, Mr. Speaker, we are talking about figures in that range and if the government has any serious intention of doing anything about this problem, it should tell us where that money is going to come from, how it is going to be financed, and how we are going to solve the housing problem.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: That is pretty good, is it not?

Mr. Singer: Well, will the Minister tell me? Can he tell me?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: No, I am not prepared to tell the hon. member now.

Mr. Singer: No, I know he is not. He is not the Provincial Treasurer and the Treasurer says "It is not my responsibility—it is the responsibility of the Minister of Economics and Development", and the Minister of Economics and Development calls conferences and brings in a Minister from Ottawa and everybody gets up and makes nice speeches, and we have our PR men sit down and invent new initials—but we do not get houses built. It is nobody's responsibility and we do not build any houses. This is the problem and this is what we are complaining about.

The water resources commission will probably not have a proposal ready until this summer and if it does start construction it will probably not get under way until mid-1968. This is looking at it with a liberal point of view. This is presuming everything could move as fast as is humanly possible and one figured out how it was going to be done. Probably 1969 would be a more appropriate commencement date, and hopefully, the project might be completed about 1970. If all the affected northern ex-urban municipalities—Vaughan, Markham and Richmond Hill—agree with this scheme, the water resources commission will probably permit something to start reasonably quickly but there have not even been conferences in this regard.

On the other hand the water resources commission cannot finance or build such a big sewage collector system for these ex-urban areas unless the area produces sufficient popu-

lation to support it, so if the Minister is listening to me he will recognize how we go round and round the circle and end up back at the exact, same starting spot—unless there is an irrevocable commitment by Vaughan and Markham that they will allow themselves to become urbanized and turned into a residential, industrial, commercial and recreation area, which over the next 20 or 30 years will convert the northern ex-urban areas into an urban component of Metro. These are the problems.

One of the prime difficulties in all this is that while the water resources commission may be prepared to build this great sewer and see a supply of lake water to Vaughan and Markham, and while Ontario housing corporation may want to buy huge tracts of land on which to build satellite towns in this ex-urban area, it may well be that the community planning branch of The Department of Municipal Affairs will say, "Oh horrors, let us not have that—this area should remain rural and a green belt". These are facts that come out of the Minister's branch and he knows that full well. There is no coordination in this at all. When are these fellows going to get together and work out a plan? It may be that the Metro planning board—and this is part of the fantastic mass of legislation that has been produced, which has overriding planning jurisdiction over this northern ex-urban area, which they know. They have that opportunity too, under the present legislation because the Metro draft official plan shows the area to be substantially rural. The Metro planning board land-use map shows this, in fact—80 per cent rural for future development.

Furthermore, the councils and planning boards in Vaughan and Markham have produced and enacted official plans, which similarly show how these areas would be reserved for rural use. How do you make any sense out of all this, Mr. Speaker? Who is there to coordinate all this variety of authorities and bring them together in a manner that is going to produce a reasonable plan for producing housing? I wish, Mr. Speaker, that one of the Ministers would like to interrupt me at this point and give me a few answers, because, try as we might in our probing and questions, in our listening and reading and re-reading the statements of the various Ministers, we have had no answers forthcoming. None at all. Unfortunately and with great regret we are forced to come to the conclusion that home ownership made easy is nothing more than a farce and a delusion—a further delusion to be perpetrated on the people of

Ontario on the eve of yet another provincial election.

Mr. Speaker, let me say this in summing up about the ex-urban development. No urban development in the northern area, north of Metro, will occur unless a massive collective sewer is constructed and lake water is supplied. I perhaps omitted the question of bringing the water in, but bring the water in and take the sewage out. Such sewer collector and water facilities will not be supplied unless a population is permitted, sufficient to support the payment of the capital costs in the operation—the population necessary to acquire the urbanization of the whole area.

How do you solve that problem? If you are going to develop up there, you have got to have a population to support it and if you do not have the population, you cannot develop.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: That is quite elementary.

Mr. Singer: Well, it is so elementary that hopefully the government would have come to grips with it. But the government has not. All you do is announce fancy-name schemes, but you do not build any houses and you do not allow houses to be built. The existing official plans of Vaughan and Markham and the Metro draft plans of the area show it to be primarily rural and, therefore, it will now not allow the population necessary to support the collector sewers and the water system. The local municipalities of Vaughan and Markham have no proposals at all before them to recast their official plans in such a way as to permit urbanization. If and when such large scale official plans are brought forward, other than as to piecemeal sections of land which developers are now attempting, Vaughan and Markham will have to study them, hold public hearings and make their decision. Then the Metro planning board will have to study them and decide whether to accept or reject them. The community planning branch will have to study them and put in their two cents' worth.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: More than that.

Mr. Singer: All right. I was being a bit flippant with the abilities in that branch. They will have to carefully consider it and make their representations. Finally, Mr. Speaker, after everyone has carefully considered it and ventured their opinion, the whole bundle will go before the Ontario municipal board which will make the decision.

By that time, we are all going to be old and tired and I doubt very much whether any of us are really going to be sitting in this

House and physically or mentally able to concern ourselves too violently with the problems of housing in Markham and Vaughan. I just do not think we are going to get any.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: What about the housing in Metropolitan Toronto?

Mr. Singer: I told you about that. That was the first part of my remarks. The housing authority in Metropolitan Toronto, by not exerting any control over municipal plans, by allowing and forcing these councils to put additional burdens, by extending the planning requirements, bigger lots, better services, wider roads, better pavement, buried service wires, more trees—some of the municipalities are telling you what colour roof you can put on—all these things are costing money. You have got the serviced 50-foot lot at Jane and Sheppard selling for \$14,000 today. That is for new things within Metro.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: That is not all.

Mr. Singer: All right. The Minister's department has allowed this to happen and has exercised no control over it. It is getting worse instead of better and those figures I gave earlier indicate that.

The department is allowing these massive redevelopment schemes and throwing people out of houses, many of which are quite good, and saying, "go find yourself a place to live. We are not worried, we are interested in the redevelopment. We are going to put up another Moss Park. High rents, no children. We are going to put up another good-looking apartment development. But for you poor people who are dispossessed, we have got something in mind. We have got a programme called HOME and sometime soon, we are going to have some housing available for you." That is the situation in Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the government, I beg them, I plead with them, for goodness sake let us not play fast and loose any longer with the problem of housing in the province of Ontario. If there is any meaning, if there is any sincerity in the government's expressed view in the Throne Speech that they want to do something about housing, let us be told how it is going to work. Let the responsible Ministers meet together and talk together and come to the House with a plan that is going to produce housing. Let us not just have these great conferences, where everybody in high feather goes down to the Royal York hotel and makes nice speeches and they go

away a day later and say, "we have had another conference, are we not doing great?" Let us figure out how it is going to be done. Let us figure out how we are going to allow the municipalities to finance these things.

Our great concern about this Budget is that there is no relief in it for home-owners and it is going to get worse. There is no ability now, with the educational problems—and I am sorry the Minister of Education has left—the demands of the school teachers for salaries, the pressures for additional accommodation. What are you going to do? Tell us what you are going to do about providing school accommodation for these thousands of youngsters that apparently are going to be without it, if Metro is unable to give them the \$150 million they feel they are entitled to. What are you going to do?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: We will just wait for developments.

Mr. Singer: We wait and we wait and it gets worse. We are so tired of waiting.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: It does not get worse.

Mr. Singer: Not only are we tired of waiting, the people of Ontario are tired of waiting. And so Mr. Speaker, this is another reason I am sorry that the Prime Minister is not here tonight. Mr. Speaker, I wish he were here tonight, because I could urge upon him to take this problem, just as quickly as he can, to the people of Ontario and let them determine whether or not they have waited long enough.

Mr. S. Lewis: Look who came in. Here come the answers.

Mr. Singer: Well, I am sorry my good friend the Minister was not here. He could have helped out his colleague the Minister of Municipal Affairs, he needed some help.

Mr. Bryden (Woodbine): He can read it in *Hansard*.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): I like to read *Hansard* by the fireplace.

Mr. Bryden: That is where you spend all your time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I think we will leave the housing. I have many more remarks but I think I have made my point. If I have not made it now, I do not suppose I will ever make it—at least with these fellows—I am sure I am making it in another place.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: It is unparliamentary.

Mr. Singer: I thought one remark in the Throne Speech caught my eye particularly, and that was the suggestion that:

My government will bring forward legislation to provide compensation for those who are injured while assisting police in maintaining law and order.

I am sure my good friend the Attorney General had something to do with the inclusion of that paragraph in the Throne Speech. But I wondered if anybody ever bothered to point out to him, or if he knew, that there is a provision in The Workmen's Compensation Act and that it was revised in 1966 to allow them to do just that? It is rather fascinating that they bothered to include it in the Speech from the Throne when there has been a provision in The Workmen's Compensation Act for a long time and presently, in 1966, they revised that upward. Let us read it: section 122 of The Workmen's Compensation Act now says:

For the purpose of this Act, every person who under clause B of section 110 of the criminal code is required to assist in arresting any person or in preserving the peace, shall be deemed to be an employee of the Crown in the light of Ontario, and his average earnings shall be deemed to be the same in the amount as his average earnings at his regular employment, in any case not less than \$30 a week and not more than \$6,000 per annum.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Would the hon. member permit an answer to his question?

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He asked if the Attorney General knew that, and I would answer, yes. I think if he will examine the Speech from the Throne he will perhaps find it indicates not just those who are required to assist, which is the language of The Workmen's Compensation Act, but those who may go to the assistance.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You are going to lose your Q.C.

Mr. Singer: Well, my friend the Attorney General reads a lot into the words "compensation for those who are injured". It does not really say "required" or "go to". So if he wants to interpret "are" that way, perhaps they have made another slow and halting advance. But I would be interested, Mr. Speaker, in finding out—since I got the

Attorney General into this—why, having considered this problem at all, the government was not prepared to go to the extent that we have urged it to go to for several years now, and that is to provide compensation for victims of crime.

There are ample precedents within the British commonwealth where this has been done and where it has worked effectively. I am not going to make a long speech about that, but I would think that since the government has suddenly become concerned and is just parting a little bit from this section that is in The Workmen's Compensation Act, that it could have gone much further and considered the broad problem, because really it is doing nothing. It is doing nothing for the widow of Jean Blanc, because, under what is in The Workmen's Compensation Act, she would get some death benefit, I suppose. But she would not get the sort of compensation that so many people think that she should have received in a modern system of law—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben) does not think that she should have gotten anything!

Mr. Singer: —that New Zealand provides and that many other jurisdictions provide.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am at a disadvantage because I cannot debate the legislation before I get it before the House.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I wish we would see some legislation come before the House. The order paper—here we are on February 16—the order paper contains no bill of any moment, nor has it in the better part of the month that we have been here. Only one bill—that emergency bill, and I am going to come to that one a little later, too—only one bill of substance has been brought before us and we got all those loud-sounding promises in the speech from the Throne which, when they are examined, are meaningless. HOME is meaningless.

Hopefully, this paragraph that I just read has a little more bite in it than the HOME programme apparently has, and will provide a better service. But it struck me as rather fascinating that the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Eagleson)—he is not here tonight—put on the order paper a resolution to be debated in private members' hour fairly soon, which suggests that legislation be enacted for persons suffering injury or loss while assisting police in the performance of their duties or as a direct result of a criminal offence, rather than impaired or drunken driving.

So I would think that it must have occurred to the hon. member for Lakeshore when he drafted that resolution and put it forward in his name, that he was not quite as sure as the Attorney General that that paragraph in the Throne Speech was so all-embracing. I would hope the Attorney General would hasten to assure the hon. member for Lakeshore that his doubts are ill-founded and will hasten to bring in the legislation so that we can really see what the government means when they put this kind of a phrase into the Throne Speech.

I thought I would deal for a moment or two with the question of regional development—regional government. I recall very well the speech delivered by the Prime Minister on April 5, 1966, called "Design for Development," and in the speech on page 7, paragraph 8, of *Hansard*, he says this:

Finally, it must be emphasized that this statement is concerned with regional development and not regional government. Any regional development structures created by this government will be such that they will not disturb the existing power and authority of the municipal and county councils within the regions. Great caution has been exercised to avoid the imposition of new forms of government. Moreover, studies are now being conducted in certain areas of the province which could lead to recommendations for adjustment in local area government. The implementation of our regional development policy will in no way interfere with such considerations of area government, but rather could well lay the groundwork for changes which might eventually be appropriate.

I suppose that statement was supposed to convey something to us. I read it over very carefully and I wondered about it, because as you know, Mr. Speaker, you and I were on the same committee dealing with municipal affairs, and one of the things that concerned me throughout the sittings of that committee was the fact that you could not separate regional development and regional government. The two things had to go hand in hand, and so when I heard that paragraph delivered by the Prime Minister when he gave that speech last April, I wondered about how this was going to work.

Strange to say, on February 2, when the Prime Minister has his second go in this Throne debate, he said:

I wanted to talk today about regional development, with which is inevitably associated the whole problem of regional government.

Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister, from April 5, 1966 to February 2, 1967, cannot have a consistent path in this important field that concerns us all, how then can it be expected that his Ministers who accept his leadership and direction can go off on any meaningful programme that is going to produce anything?

Then, having delivered himself of those remarks, there follows the most fascinating series of remarks about what the future of Ontario might be insofar as municipal government is concerned. He says—and I quote from page 166 of *Hansard*:

In discussing the design for development, let us be quite clear that we are speaking of two separate compartments of regional planning and regional activity. On the one hand, we have the government expenditure and government investment activity under the general heading of economic development. On the other hand, we have the equally important function of environmental planning so that our land use and our physical development proceeds with order and care.

The second area is much more difficult to execute and much more difficult to change. This is an area which comes essentially under the administration of The Department of Municipal Affairs and the municipalities which make up the face of this province. Here, the problem is to develop land use plans and physical environmental plans through the medium of the municipalities and under the broad guidance of The Department of Municipal Affairs in a manner which also will take account of the economic development aspects of our programme.

The task of the Cabinet committee on regional development is to bring together the twin aspects which add up to a total development strategy; the economic development planning and the environmental or physical development planning.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that this is the greatest gobbledygook that has ever been attempted to be unloaded on the unsuspecting members of the Legislature as being definitive of any programme of government intention about regional planning or regional development or municipal reorganization.

I am convinced that one of the new brain trusts, the people who reside over there and employ, sat down and wrote two or three pages, handed it to the Prime Minister and the poor fellow just read those pages. Because that was the point he had arrived at in his speech, and I wish that either he, or whoever

is going to be speaking in his place in the next few days, would please come up before us and tell us what this government plans to do or intends to do about regional government and regional development.

He goes on, and as he goes on he gets worse. He says:

At some point it becomes clear that the instrument of government by which all of these measures are brought to bear on development is critical.

Well, maybe he was right on that! I continue:

And this, of course, accounts for the recent interest in the whole question of regional government. Regional government and regional economic development are separate compartments, as we have indicated, in the design for development. But they also are closely interrelated and we must consider our policy in one area in the light of the other.

Then finally, he goes on and says this:

I will just tell the member the steps we have taken and those that are presently completed. First of all—

And now he hurls a series of questions at us—after all these years: The Baldwin Act, 120 years old, the clear, and I thought concise and important report of the select committee on municipal affairs. The Prime Minister still, in 1967, is asking questions:

First of all, are we talking about a fourth level of government interposed between the provincial and municipal governments?

Do we not have the right, Mr. Speaker, to ask the Prime Minister not for the questions, but for the answers? But on February 2, 1967, he is still asking questions. I continue:

Are we talking about scrapping the old municipalities as a new form of third-level government?

Speeches have been delivered, learned arguments have been presented, capable and expensive studies have been undertaken, and the Prime Minister is still asking questions.

Are we talking about leaving the present structure as it is, but having the provincial government extend its powers into those areas that overlap municipal boundaries?

Who should have the answers? We have tried to supply them over here but we do not seem to be getting through at all, but on February 2, 1967 the Prime Minister is still asking questions, and even the Minister of Municipal Affairs is not here to answer them.

Mr. Speaker, if this government cannot provide leadership, it is time they got out and let somebody else in who can provide that leadership.

Or are we talking of new institutions, such as commissions or other government agencies, that would be empowered to plan in areas of mutual interest and mutual overlap?

A whole paragraph of questions, but not one single answer, Mr. Speaker. Then the Prime Minister goes on to say: "Mr. Speaker, I think these choices are fairly clear."

Well, anyone who has been at all astute on municipal affairs certainly can pose the questions, but one would think that the people of Ontario, when they go through their quadrennial exercise of choosing a government, hopefully expect that the people they choose will provide answers, not just questions, and this government does not do it.

It is also very clear that the methods chosen are of profound importance—

And I say that that is a very profound statement.

—to the daily life of all of the citizens of this province.

Well, that is in keeping with the theme of the Throne Speech—that we are in favour of people.

It is for this reason that we are studying with the greatest care a position that could well stamp an imprint on our municipal life for the next 100 years, and at a time when we are developing our regional activities as rapidly as possible. We want to be quite certain that any changes made in regional government are changes suited to our people and that they have the prospect of some durability.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that anyone, even in his wildest imagination, accuses this government of being rash in the field of municipal reform. We have an Act that is 120 years old, and tired and outdated; and in 1967 and apparently on the eve of an election, the Prime Minister is still asking his questions.

Well, there it is.

One other thing that struck me, Mr. Speaker, about the Speech from the Throne, was a reference to the studies in regard to divorce. I gather that there is going to be a committee set up to study that. I cannot help but think back to the debate on the resolution put forward by my friend, the hon. member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton) relating to the same problem. His resolution,

as I recall it, recommended that just such a committee be set up to consider this very serious problem and to make recommendations that could be transmitted to Ottawa. I recall that very well.

I recall again— the hon. member for Lakeshore and the hon. member for Halton (Mr. Kerr) are not here—but I recall that the two of them were very brave, rash young backbenchers at that time.

Their brashness has not, perhaps, stood them in too good stead, because they were not among the elite who were summoned over to the front benches. In any event, they stood up and said, "This is an important problem, let us do it now, let us vote now."

And it is only a year ago that the Prime Minister said, "We have no opinion on this matter," and the debate was adjourned. I suppose all things come to those who wait and a year later it has now been deemed meet and proper and useful and again, coincidentally on the eve of an election that the government is going to do what our resolution said. We have no corner on the idea and we do not even mind that the government is going to claim credit for taking this advanced step, but I am a little disappointed that the Prime Minister did not recognize a year ago that it was a good step then and would not allow the matter to proceed and would not listen to the urgings of his backbenchers.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to get into a very important subject. It is going to take me quite some time; and that is, dealing with the whole matter of financial and commercial management, and dealing particularly with the latest of many scandals that have been visited upon us, the Prudential Finance Corporation Limited.

Mr. Speaker, I read with very great interest—and I hope with substantial care—the statement given by the Attorney General dated December 21, 1966. This statement runs some 15 pages, and as you read this you wonder what has been going on in the province of Ontario. There have been admissions all the way through the piece that there has been some concern—not recent concern, but a concern going back as far as 1963—about the affairs of the Prudential Finance Corporation Limited. In fact, on the first page of this statement, the Attorney General says, and I am quoting from the last paragraph on the first page:

The company issued, in 1962, short-term notes to mature in 360 days. This was an obvious and directed attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding full disclosure.

Let me read that sentence again:

This was an obvious and directed attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding strict disclosure.

What, in fact, the Attorney General says in that statement, is this. He says, "At that period of time we knew that there was something wrong." It is as though the police had discovered a plot to burgle a bank. Now, had that happened, would the police have sat back the way the government of Ontario sat back and let the deed take place?

Three—almost four years ago—the Attorney General said:

This was an obvious and directed attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding full disclosure.

There is the indictment, and he is indicted by his own words. What follows is an admission of failure—a complete admission of failure by this government to do anything about a situation of which they were fully aware.

Now we are going to go into this in greater detail, and into the efforts to push off the blame on almost everybody else. He points out that the government—

—through the requirements of the Ontario securities commission also drew to the attention of the public—

Oh, I am sorry—I will go back even a little further.

There was a change in the law, an amendment to The Securities Act and the government now required a prospectus. What did it show? They forced certain words to be put on the front cover of the prospectus.

Mr. Speaker, I was able to obtain a copy of the prospectus and there may be some members of the House who have not seen it. It is a very fascinating document. It runs through 22 pages of single line, small type, and it has all sorts of financial statements. I would think that it would require people of very substantial experience in law, accountancy, and in the business field, even to begin to understand what this prospectus attempts to deal with.

Well, let us look at it. I agree that what the Attorney General says is true; he is an honest man and he states the case as best he can. There is no word of a lie in this; it is just his excuses that I do not accept; I do not accept them at all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is entirely a statement of fact. There are no excuses.

Mr. Singer: There are, and I am going to show them to you; I am going to show them to you before this night is over.

These words that were put on here, on this 22-page document, require a person of very substantial experience and — what was the Attorney General's word? — "Sophistication." It would mean something to those people, but to the poor, unsophisticated citizens of Ontario — and there are so many of us, Mr. Speaker, poor, unsophisticated persons in the province of Ontario — this might as well have been written in Greek or Chinese for all the use it would have been.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting that the insertion of the eight lines on the front of this complicated document really were of very little warning or of very little help to anyone except the most sophisticated person.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member should read them; they are pretty simple.

Mr. Singer: Yes, I have read them; the Attorney General has read them, and I will read them again:

The short term promissory notes offered by this prospectus are unsecured and the holders thereof rank with all other unsecured creditors of the company after all the secured creditors.

Just a simple statement of fact and I am certain that the ordinary unsophisticated person who lives in the province of Ontario would understand at a glance what that meant. He would know what secured creditors are, what unsecured creditors are; he would know where various indebtednesses would rank. He would know all sorts of these things.

The second paragraph is in even more simple language:

The short-term promissory notes offered by this prospectus may be honoured in whole or in part by the proceeds derived from the sale of additional securities.

Well, Mr. Speaker, sophisticated or unsophisticated, it seems to me that the government of Ontario has a job to protect the unsophisticated people if there has to be a choice. I would think that the sophisticated people can protect themselves, but the Attorney General says, "Well, it is tough; unsophisticated people could not understand this—could not understand this clear and lucid document."

Let me show you what is in it, apart from what is on the front page. There are a series of financial statements which at first glance seem to be exactly the same, but you have to read them very closely. The first set is:

Prudential Finance Corporation Limited and its subsidiary companies—

and in smaller type—

—Prudential Family Credit Limited and Wentworth Housing—consolidated statement of earnings for the ten years and two months ended February 28, 1963.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is using the wrong sound effects.

Mr. Singer: You go through all of these figures, Mr. Speaker, and you come down to 1963—two months of it—and there seems to be a net loss, in parentheses, of \$2,210.12. Then you go down to the next table on the same page, and it seems to say just about the same thing:

Prudential Finance Corporation Limited and its subsidiary companies: consolidated statement of earnings for the ten years and two months ended February 28, 1963.

Now, at first glance you would wonder why there were two sets of tables. The lowest figure in the right hand column has in brackets, as a loss, \$5,813.92, which is double what the similar column is in the corresponding table above.

It is hard to describe the difficulty I had in trying to interpret this and as I say, I am an unsophisticated person—without supplying every member of the House with one of these things—but there are a series of tables in here with slight variations. Sometimes you add a company and sometimes you subtract a company and sometimes there is a profit and sometimes the term of years is longer and sometimes it is shorter.

Mr. Speaker, the confusion that must have existed in the minds of most of the people—other than bank managers and accountants and very high people in the managerial business ranks who got this and tried to make anything out of it—the confusion that existed in their minds must have been just beyond belief.

And then you read all through these notes and try to understand the complicated dealings of the company and—well, it is a language unto itself. Many crafts and many professions have their own language. My friend, the hon. Minister of Health, when he talks to his colleagues about the symptoms of diseases and treatments and so on, the average person such as myself, cannot really follow it because they are using their trade language, and the same thing exists as amongst lawyers.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know why it is beyond the belief, the imagination and the understanding of government, when they

insist and attach such importance to a prospectus that it cannot be written in language that unsophisticated people can understand. I say this document was Greek to the average person it was intended to inform and the government invited this tragedy by not having taken steps much earlier than it did. That is point number one.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Was that in 1963?

Mr. Singer: 1963.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: In 1961 they were more interested in obtaining double the interest rate they could get anywhere else!

Mr. Singer: All right, my friend makes a very fascinating point. The defender of Bay Street—the hon. member for St. George—makes a very fascinating point.

I was most interested in his remarks the other night and I am most interested in the fact that he now accepts the common opprobrium that is heaped on these unsophisticated investors. "They were going to get double their money." In fact, they were going to get 7.25 per cent, rather than the 5 per cent they were getting in other forms of investment.

Now, where the hon. member gets this "double" nonsense I do not know and neither does anybody else. This is one of the popular fables that has grown up in the minds of people such as himself who try to explain away the lack of action by government to control matters of this sort. The government, through the requirements of the Ontario securities commission, also drew to the attention of the public, the potential confusion arising from the use of the word "Prudential" in the name of the company. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, and I am reading from the Attorney General's statement:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America started an action against the Prudential Finance Corporation in June, 1963. The commission required that an amendment be filed and delivered with the prospectus. The amendment described the litigation and highlighted the distinction between the two companies.

Can the Attorney General tell us, Mr. Speaker, why the government did not enter into the picture about the confusion in names? As I read The Corporations Act, the government had the power and the ability—and I suggest had the duty—to get into this whole question of the confusion in names

without waiting for the private lawsuit, and if my memory serves me correctly, that provision is contained in section 12 (1) of The Corporations Act. The government had the right, the power and, I say, in addition to that, the duty to get into that problem.

As soon as they began to discover in 1963 that this was an "obvious and directed attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding full disclosure," they must have, at the same time, being the intelligent men that they are, have recognized that there was a design and intended attempt to confuse the public by reason of the confusion in names. It took no genius to discover that. What did the government do? They sat back on their haunches and did nothing and they waited for Prudential to start its own action through the courts. Was there any government representative at that action? Did they make any representations? They have the power; they have the power to order a change of name. When they saw the trend that this was taking, why did they not do something about it? Again, the government sat back and did absolutely nothing.

Mr. Speaker, this is one of the bulletins that was sent out. It shows "Prudential Finance" in large letters and a special bulletin in blue and white colours, with a tower on it. Surely, none of us is so naive as not to recognize that the other Prudential whose name was being capitalized upon had throughout the length and breadth of North America for many, many years, established its reputation and its slogan by using the Rock of Gibraltar. I guess the unsophisticated person could easily have imagined that the Rock of Gibraltar was not too dissimilar from a lighthouse, and I guess that this was what was designed to be done and I guess, Mr. Speaker, that this should have indicated itself to the government, because this was a designed effort to perpetrate upon certain unsuspecting members of the public exactly what, in fact, happened. And the government sat on its haunches and did absolutely nothing.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: The Minister of Mines says "Yes, they did." Now, if the hon. Minister wants to join this debate, I will sit down for a few minutes and let him tell me what the government did. Would he like to do that?

Hon. Mr. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): No, I would not.

Mr. Singer: I did not think he would.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Why did the Liberal government not make them change their name?

Mr. Singer: There is a very interesting thing. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Reform Institutions is—I am afraid—not too well informed on this subject. This company was formed back in 1928 and carried on as a one-man, one-office operation until 1962.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What was the name?

Mr. Singer: It was exactly the same name—and I hope the Minister of Reform Institutions will follow this very carefully—and until it was taken over by a new management, a new president in any event it had one name constantly from 1935 on, the name Carruthers of a certain legal firm. That remained with it from 1935 until after the collapse; that name was always there, but until 1962 when the new management took over, it was a one-man, one-office operation carried on in the city of London—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What was the name?

Mr. Singer: Oh, Mr. Speaker, how naive can that Minister be?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Because the member is making the point of the use of the name.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if he would just bear with me, I am sure it will get through, even to him.

Until 1962, a small operation carried on by one man in one office in the city of London dealing only in a very modest way with an automobile paper, not appealing to the public for funds, getting its funds privately, doing its own business in a legitimate way, presented no threat to anybody. But after 1962, when all this began to take place, when the Attorney General says in his statement "This was an obvious and directed attempt to obtain money from the public while avoiding full disclosure," that was the time when the warning signals were sounded.

That was the time when the Attorney General says, "We, the government, knew there was something wrong." And I say, why did they not do something about it? Why did they not first of all force the change of name that they have a right to do? And I say they did not do it—it is obvious, the facts are there—they did not do it. They had the power to do it under The Corporations Act, they had the right to do it and they did not. They sent out a little notice saying, "Beware, don't get caught by the confusion."

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: What happened to the passing-off action?

Mr. Singer: I have no idea what happened to the passing-off action.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Really?

Mr. Singer: Well, all right. My friend, the hon. member for St. George says what happened to the passing-off action. I am not awfully interested, Mr. Speaker, in a struggle between two people who are very able financially and through intelligence to take care of themselves. I am much more interested in the efforts of the government of Ontario being directed to protecting unsophisticated investors. And I say that whatever happened in the passing-off action, the passing-off action was only a last resort and it was resorted to after the government would not move; it would not move at all.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member just said he knew nothing about it.

Mr. Singer: I know this is not tasteful to the members of the government. I would like to hear a defence; I do not think there is one, and I am sure that no amount of barracking or heckling from that side of the House is going to change what happened one iota. I say that they stand condemned because they knew about it in 1963 and they did nothing about it.

The second point I make is that they had the power when they knew there was trouble to force a change in name and they did nothing about it. In fact, they invited the situation. We will skip over now to page 4. There are several—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Why does the member not read page 3?

Mr. Singer: Well, I am going to let Attorney General read it.

I will read page 3. The top of page 3 deals with names.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The first two paragraphs.

Mr. Singer: The first two paragraphs in the circular sent out, and I say that was ineffective. It was found to be ineffective, and that you had a positive remedy available to you and you did not do it. Now does the Attorney General want me to tell him any more about page 3? I will tell him about that, too.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The member is asking the questions; there is the answer, on page 3.

Mr. Singer: The answers are indicative of a lack of action, a lack of concern and a lack of care.

Mr. Speaker, on page 4—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Read page 3.

Mr. Singer: I will read whatever page I want, when I want, and if the Attorney General has any answer to make let him read his pages.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member does not want the answer.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, if it will serve any useful purpose, if it will keep him quiet, I can read the whole 15 pages. Then I will go back again and I will still make my speech. This is on page 4.

In 1966, the government through the Ontario securities commission demanded and received additional information from Prudential. This disclosed the possibility of insolvency. This was, however, no indication of an inability of the company to meet its current liabilities nor any act of bankruptcy. In March, 1966 the commission held a hearing and reviewed the financial situation and in April the Quebec government—
did certain things.

While Prudential at this time appeared to be in a difficult financial position, neither the government of Ontario nor the creditors of the company had a right to precipitate bankruptcy proceedings in the absence of any bankruptcy.

Now, I would like the Attorney General to tell me all about that one, particularly when it is related to section 27 of The Securities Act. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General is quite familiar with section 27 of The Securities Act where the commission may, where it is about to investigate or during or after investigation of any company or person, where it is about to or has made a direction, or where criminal proceedings or proceedings in respect to contravention of the Act or regulations are about to be or have been instituted by originating notice, apply to a judge of the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver and trustee and manager of the property of such person or such company.

In light of section 27 of the Act, I suggest that it is abundantly clear that the government had the power to move into that com-

pany when they said positively in 1966 there was trouble. And the Attorney General, by the time he reaches page 5, says there was nothing under the bankruptcy laws that allowed us to do this. I say that is a snare and a delusion. The bankruptcy laws had nothing whatsoever to do with it. Under section 27 of The Ontario Securities Act, the government had the power and the right and the duty to move in and they did not move in; they did not apply for the appointment of a receiver. And why not, Mr. Speaker? This is one of the questions that we have received no answer to at all.

Now let me refer to section 36 of The Ontario Securities Act. We have heard here, in answer to some of the questions that have been put forward, about the difficulties the government was having in getting a proper statement of the financial affairs of the company. There were delays, there were uncertified statements. They had to be sent back for correction and so on.

In light of all this, I wonder, Mr. Speaker, why the government did not look at section 36 of the Act, why they did not take advantage of the provisions in that section that allowed them to go in, allowed them to take their books and allowed them to do their own auditing?

Will the Attorney General please explain to us why the government ignored the provisions of section 27 of the Act and of section 36 of the Act? Was it the fault of the government at Ottawa? Was it the fault of Mr. Brien, was it the fault of somebody else? Why did the government not move under section 27? Why did they not move under section 36? Why did the government allow this thing to happen?

There is great silence here tonight now, Mr. Speaker. There is the admission of original guilt; that they discovered it. There is their lack of action to take any proceedings about the name. There is their lack of action under section 27, and their lack of action under section 36. How then in view of this shocking recital of factual events can this government attempt to explain away the greatest negligence that one could possibly imagine in an affair of this sort? This is 15 pages of really nothing but excuse making, Mr. Speaker. There is no real answer in this at all.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Just read page 3.

Mr. Singer: Well, by the time we get down to the bottom of page 5 I suppose the philosophy of this government is made abundantly

clear, when the Attorney General plaintively asks the question, in fact what is the obligation of government in these matters?

Well, Mr. Speaker, if they do not know what the obligation of government is, then it is time they gave up. Certainly, the obvious obligation they have is to protect the unsophisticated people in the province of Ontario, and they missed, they neglected, they negligently refused to take the steps allowed to them by the provincial laws to protect these people, and they stand condemned. And I do not believe there can be any logical explanation that can avoid that condemnation.

At the bottom of page 6:

The government has under consideration the question of whether duties of auditors should be not more clearly set forward.

This is a worthy objective and in due course there will be recommendations about this and in due course we are going to have some new legislation. But they did not have to wait for that, Mr. Speaker. There is no point in trying to slough off the ineffectiveness, or worse, of the auditors of this company. The government had the power under section 36 to send its own auditors in to do its own audit, and they did not do it. Another red herring dragged across the trail.

The Attorney General complains about amendments being required to the criminal code. Almost anywhere where it is at all remotely possible to slough off the blame, the Attorney General puts that kind of a sentence in. Maybe there should be amendments to the criminal code. Well, maybe there should. But you had power to do something, you collectively, and it was not done. The government had the power to do things and they did not do them.

Mr. Bryden: That was the page that was left blank. It was the best that the Attorney General could do.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Read page 3.

Mr. Singer: Well finally, Mr. Speaker, by the time we come to page 8 we have the definition again of the government's attitude and this is where we talk about unsophisticated investors. I have made that point and I do not think there is any purpose in gilding the lily. The government's responsibility I think is clear. I think the people of Ontario recognize that it is clear.

The Attorney General again on page 8—and we have taken out the bottom paragraph. I do not know—he did not make

available to me what he had there at the bottom paragraph of page 8 before he edited it out, but it might have made interesting reading if you had supplied it to us.

Proper criminal and bankruptcy laws as enacted would also provide the sanctions required to deter persons responsible from failing in their duties and responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, this all may be very true but I say that the ammunition was there, there were statutory provisions, valid ones, that would allow the government to act. They did not need to have anything more from Ottawa or from any other jurisdiction, they could have and should have moved and they did not.

By the time we come to page 9 the Attorney General says:

Surely it must be recognized by everyone that no legislation can ensure that investors will never lose money. Securities legislation in every jurisdiction is aimed at ensuring that the investor is provided with adequate information upon which he or she can decide whether or not the investment is sound and offers a reasonable risk. It also aims at ensuring that abuses in the trading market are eliminated insofar as it is humanly possible.

I do not know whether the Attorney General listened to the remarks of one of his predecessors, the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts) and I am a little sorry for the hon. member for St. Patrick when he was making those remarks that he did not make it clearer to the House why he did not enunciate those thoughts while he was a member of the Cabinet and, if the Cabinet refused to go along with him on those ideas, how he could continue to sit there. That does not detract from the validity of the ideas that he put forward. In fact, those ideas have been put forward from this side of House on many occasions in the past few years. What this has to do, particularly with this whole series of events leading to the Prudential scandal, I do not know, but I would commend to the Attorney General, if he wants to read something, the speech of the hon. member for St. Patrick. The hon. member dealt very carefully and very ably with what might be done with the stock market, and this has not yet been done.

Now then—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: If you are waiting for applause it is not coming.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Not from that side anyway.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, skipping through to the bottom of page 13:

The government recognizes it has an obligation to enforce what criminal law exists. There is also an obligation on other levels of government to inform the provincial authorities of the information those governments have which indicate an offence has been committed in this province.

Now the Attorney General has chosen his language very carefully in that paragraph and I want to ask him if he implies by it that the federal government at Ottawa had information of any value in relation to this matter which was withheld from the people in the province of Ontario, from the Attorney General and his associates or from the securities commission. I think this is a very important thing in view of the patent and obvious attempt throughout this whole 15-page press release to shift the blame, or attempt to shift the blame, from the shoulders of this government to the shoulders of another government.

I want to know, and I think we are entitled to know, Mr. Speaker, if the Attorney General is just asking a rhetorical question when he says that on page 13, or whether he in fact believes, or his advisers believe, the federal government withheld any information from them in regard to this matter.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No question, rhetorical or otherwise.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General says there is no question there, rhetorical or otherwise. Then what, Mr. Speaker, is the purpose of that statement? Is it a statement of equal value to the one in the Throne Debate, saying we believe in people? He says if one government finds out that there is something going on it should inform another government. Is that all it means? Is he just making a nice little homily to include in the 15-page press release, to flesh out its length? Is that all?

Certainly the implication at that time is they were looking around for a whipping boy; it was that everyone was to blame except themselves and certainly, as I read that statement for the first time, the obvious implication was that those terrible fellows in Ottawa knew something and they would not tell us. Maybe this sort of thought had occurred to the Attorney General — to the people who helped him prepare this speech, by reason of the various statements attributed to a man named Gruber.

If that is so, Mr. Speaker, I suggested to this House before and I suggest again, that if the Attorney General thought there was any value in any of those statements, that man should be brought before a public forum and allowed to say his piece.

If the Attorney General thinks there is any value in what that man had to say, either in Ottawa or in Toronto, then let him say it, but let him say it in public.

Finally, sir, the last paragraph, and this is just really the end in this sad, sad story.

This government is not and never has been complacent about the protection of the investor. We are fully aware of the never-ending battle to ensure protection. Our actions have graphically demonstrated our concern. We have accomplished more in this area than any other government in Canada. We will continue to do so.

I cannot think of a more inaccurate, inexact, self-excusing and useless statement in relation to these affairs, that could possibly be made.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of all this series of events, inquiries have been instituted. Inquiries have been instituted behind closed doors by the Ontario securities commission which, in fact, has been instructed to inquire into the causes and effects of this serious tragedy. Certainly someone should inquire into the causes and effects of the lack of government action.

I ask you, sir, is an arm of government, behind closed doors, able to inquire into its own efficiency? How can the Ontario securities commission possibly be expected to say, "We, the Ontario securities commission, were negligent"? How can the Ontario securities commission be expected to say that Attorney General A or B or C or D was negligent? How can the Ontario securities commission be expected to say that the supervisor of loan and trust corporations was negligent, or that the Provincial Secretary was negligent? How can that possibly happen in an inquiry that is carried on behind closed doors?

Mr. Speaker, we need a far better explanation than we have had as to why there cannot be a full and open public inquiry. We suggested, and we suggested early in the session, that this matter could and should be sent to the legal bills committee and that committee be empowered to conduct a full and complete investigation into all of the details surrounding this whole matter.

A multi-party political committee of that kind, made up from all sections of the House,

could, I believe, conduct in the public eye, a fair and reasonable kind of investigation. And it might be, as has happened in the past in other jurisdictions, and in this jurisdiction, that a standing committee of this House could make recommendations that would lead to a Royal commission.

But this government, and for good reason, wants none of that. Oh, yes, they will investigate. They will investigate themselves behind closed doors and the whitewash report will come out and the whitewash brush will be applied backwards and forwards. We are going to get nice 15-page statements saying, "We are the greatest government in the world and what more could you expect us to do?"

That is all we are going to get out of it, Mr. Speaker, a complete abdication of a sense of public responsibility.

Let me bring one more thing to the attention of the House, and that is my feelings about the bill that the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs brought before the House and treated in such an urgent way.

Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I submit the discussion of legislation not before the House, which has been passed by this House, is out of order.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I fail to understand why a bill, having passed this House is not a subject of discussion. After we are all through with this, I will accept your ruling. I will listen to it anyway.

Mr. Speaker: I understand that there is a section in May—or in our own rules—stating that a matter which has been brought before the House this session, and has been settled, cannot be discussed again at the same session.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I was quite familiar with that rule; I was not going to talk about the matter. I was going to talk about the manner in which the matter was brought before us. I object to procedures and I think this is certainly valid criticism. I just did not like the way it was railroaded through the House in such a short period of time.

I would think, Mr. Speaker, that the people of Ontario needed, and were entitled to get, a better explanation of this urgent type of proceeding and, Mr. Speaker, it was not forthcoming.

The hour is late and I have been talking a long time. I hope that I have been able to

convey to you, sir, some of the concern that my colleagues and myself have about some very serious problems that affect the people of the province of Ontario. The record of performance of this government over the years and in this session, as indicated by their Throne Speech, as indicated by the legislation we have seen, as indicated by the contributions made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and by the Ministers of Economics and Development and Financial and Commercial Affairs, and the sort of wild statements that we get from the member for St. George—not one of these things, Mr. Speaker, has shed any light on this sorry history of bad government. Hopefully, Mr. Speaker, the people of Ontario will realize just how bad things are. Hopefully, they will have an opportunity to decide these matters just as quickly as possible.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale) moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomor-

row we will proceed with the Throne Debate and I gather from the indications from the Whips that we will probably have a vote on this debate tomorrow morning.

Next week, with respect to estimates, I would like to suggest that we deal with Agriculture first and then The Departments of the Provincial Secretary, Economics and Development, the Attorney General and Highways. That will give members some indication—

Mr. Singer: Will the Minister let us have that a little more slowly?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Agriculture and Food, the Provincial Secretary, Economics and Development, the Attorney General and The Department of Highways, and that will give members an opportunity to do some preparation.

Tomorrow, as I say, we will continue with the Throne Debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11 o'clock, p.m.

ERRATUM

February 14, 1967 (Afternoon session)

<i>Page</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Line</i>
501	2	46

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Is the member suggesting.

Change to read:

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member is suggesting.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, February 17, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1967

The House met at 10:30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary) begs leave to present to the House the annual report of the agricultural research institute of Ontario for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Does the Provincial Treasurer have a statement before the orders of the day?

Hon. S. C. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, if time permits, I would like a few more moments before making the statement or it may even be necessary to revert; otherwise, I shall have to wait, sir.

Mr. Speaker: We shall go ahead with the questions.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, on Valentine's day I directed a question to the Minister of Public Welfare. I wonder if he has a reply for me as yet?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, that is still being prepared.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Welfare: What steps does The Department of Public Welfare take to reimburse welfare recipients for that portion of the medical bill not paid by OMSIP?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, to the knowledge of the senior officials of our department there never has been a case brought to our attention that required such reimbursement.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister: Is it not the case that where the doctor bills the patient and the patient recovers from OMSIP at the 90 per cent level, if that patient is a welfare recipient the irony is that under this scheme he then has

to pay the 10 per cent difference? I do have such a case and would bring it to the Minister's attention. There may well be others of that kind.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I would be very pleased to look into the matter, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, with respect to a question submitted by the hon. member for Riverdale, and in keeping with my undertaking, I obtained the following information from the chairman of the Ontario securities commission: There is no record that a member of the staff of the Ontario securities commission four years ago, in 1963, requested that the words "these securities are speculative" be inserted on the front page of the prospectus. The registrar has some recollection that he discussed some form of front page disclosure with the solicitor for the company and these words may have been put forward.

A hearing before the chairman of the Ontario securities commission was held to settle various items in the prospectus including what, if any, disclosures should be made about the securities on the front page.

Neither the chairman nor the chief auditor, who was present at the meeting, recall any discussion of the use of the words, "these are speculative securities" as part of the front page disclosure.

No reporter was present at this type of meeting of the commission and there is, therefore, no transcript of the hearing now available. It was at this meeting that the commission insisted on some front page disclosure, a novel step at that time and for which there was no specific statutory power.

Subsequently, this concept of front page disclosure has been developed by the commission, and by the Kimber committee, and has now been given statutory recognition by The Securities Act, 1966, and the regulations thereunder.

The question has been put: Why were these speculative securities not included in the prospectus? Since there is no recollection that this was part of the consideration at

the hearing, the question and answer can only be hypothetical.

It must be borne in mind that any decision made in 1963 was based on the facts submitted to the commission at that time and the argument made thereon. Further, the use of the word "speculative" is inappropriate to debt securities. It is truly only applicable to equities—securities where there is a possibility of both depreciation and appreciation in the value of the securities—and is most often applied to mining shares.

Last, the commission by statute does not embark upon evaluating the merits of securities and, as it did in this case, limits disclosure to a disclosure of the facts.

The Prudential prospectus followed this rule and not only disclosed that the notes were unsecured, but that the probability was that the company would have to sell additional securities in order to honour the notes offered by the prospectus.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that a number of proposals have been made with regard to racing charters for agricultural societies. These proposals have been worked out in co-operation with officials of the federal Department of Agriculture as the wagering aspects of racing come within federal jurisdiction.

The officials of the federal Department of Agriculture have been most helpful in this matter which, of course, lies mainly in their hands.

(a) An agricultural society must have been incorporated before 1912 to participate in this plan.

(b) An agricultural society can only lease its parimutuel privileges to another agricultural society in the same county.

(c) An agricultural society operating a race meeting may lease racing days from another agricultural society in the same county providing the lease is for not more than five years.

(d) An agricultural society cannot enter into a second leasing agreement with the society until the first one has expired.

(e) An agricultural society can only lease the racing days from two other agricultural societies, for example, it cannot have more than 42 days racing per year.

(f) Agricultural societies without track and other necessary racing facilities may engage racing associations to conduct and manage race meets under the auspices of the agricultural society.

It is felt that not every agricultural association will want as much as 14 days racing and some will only want two days racing.

The federal Department of Agriculture has informed us that departmental procedures will be changed to enable the validation of the racing charters of an agricultural society incorporated before 1912. A time limit will be set within which an agricultural society must have held a race meeting in order for its racing charter to be "validated".

The effect of this change of procedure will be to enable agricultural societies that so desire to obtain the number of racing days that will meet their requirements.

The matter of establishing four racing circuits—southwestern Ontario, central Ontario, eastern Ontario and northwestern Ontario—is presently under consideration. This is being considered as a means of facilitating the efficient allocation of racing days.

In the matter of allocation of racing days and track supervision, the Ontario racing commission and the federal Department of Agriculture will collaborate.

The changes in government policy during the last few years have brought about a resurgence in the standard bred racing industry and this has been a boon to many small breeders across the province. The proposals I am suggesting today will be of further assistance to our agricultural community.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): May I ask my hon. friend what is the significance of the year 1912? Why does it have to go back that far?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is a very good question, Mr. Speaker.

The criminal code presently provides that charters as they presently exist—the form in which my hon. friend will be familiar with them—as private Act or letters patent can only be issued to groups existing prior to 1912. It is felt by the federal authorities that agricultural societies can be brought under the same provision of the criminal code without any amending legislation, and this is the method that has been proposed by the federal Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the racing commission; and indeed to the Cabinet sub-committee that has been studying this matter for about a year. The understanding is that this meets the present provisions of the criminal code.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, because I think it is a matter of interest, that there are not too many agricultural societies that will not

qualify; the preponderant number of agricultural societies were chartered prior to 1912.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, in rising to wind up the debate on behalf of our group in this Legislature, I would first of all like to extend our compliments to you, sir, for the way in which you conduct the business of the House, as has been stated on many occasions during the course of this debate.

I would like, sir, to tell you that I have the authority of the leader of our party to say that should we fall somewhat short in the next general election of electing 67 members in '67—should we return but 59 or 60 members—and should you, sir, be returned, I can assure you that we will invite you to continue in the position which you now hold.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the members of this group I would ask the House leader to extend to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) our wishes for his prompt and immediate recovery and return to this Legislature. I would ask him if he would convey that message to him because we are as concerned as anyone about the state of his health and the loss of the contribution which he has made, and we hope will continue to make, to the public life of the province of Ontario.

I would ask the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) if he would be good enough to convey also from this group our best wishes to the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson) who has unfortunately not been able to attend in this session. I did not have the privilege of knowing the member for Dovercourt for any lengthy period of time, but in the short period of my acquaintance, and I am sure all in the House would agree, he is a warm, human and civilized person and it may well be that those characteristics are not quite as compatible as some people would think with the leadership of a political party. We hope that he, too, will have a speedy recovery.

To the leader of the Opposition himself, we wish him all the success that he might

think he deserves, but of course will not attain.

Mr. Speaker, we have been in session some 18 days and I would draw to the attention of the House that there are on the order paper about 15 pieces of relatively insignificant legislation introduced by the government. If members will peruse the order paper they will find there are four pieces of legislation standing in the name of the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), all of which are amending pieces of legislation; three in the name of the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart); three in the name of the hon. Minister of Land and Forests (Mr. Brunelle); two in the name of the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton); one in the name of the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond); and one in the name of the hon. Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko).

Apart from the bill introduced by the Minister of Public Welfare, and with one other exception, all the bills are simply amending bills of no particular moment. They will require consideration but cannot be called in any sense significant legislation. It is difficult at this point to know whether or not the legislation introduced by the Minister of Public Welfare is or is not significant. There is but one government motion on the paper and there is notice of intention by the government to introduce four amendments to bills falling within The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, and three pieces of legislation further amending bills which fall in The Department of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest, having sat for 18 days and having read the Throne Speech, I would have assumed that by this time some of the significant legislation required to implement the words of the Throne Speech would have been before this assembly. We have had, as you know, but one debate and that was a hurried, rushed debate, to pass through the bill relating to deposit insurance.

Mr. Speaker, I have not been long in this House, but I would have assumed that after this period of time the order paper would have contained some pieces of legislation which we would have been able to study to prepare ourselves for the debates which will be necessary in consideration of such bills. At this point I can only urge the government to please place on the order paper the bills which will require our study. There is no question, for example, that if the government intends in fact to introduce the bill

relating to condominium it will require substantial study. There is also no question that if the government intends to deal with the question of expropriation and the compensation to be paid persons who are to be expropriated, it will require considerable study.

There are many other bills which the government needs to introduce and must introduce. I refer only to one, in the particular area of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree). We just cannot go any longer past this session without adequate legislation dealing with the requirements of disclosure and supervision and regulation of finance and loan companies.

It is just not sufficient that the Ontario securities commission should announce in its latest bulletin, for example, that they are now making public certain rules to improve the disclosure of finance companies. Such companies fall within an entirely different category and require specific legislation to provide for adequate supervision and regulation, as well as improving the area of public disclosure of their affairs.

These are but a few of the items. I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, there are many more.

Ask the government to let us get on with the business of the legislation! Let us see if we cannot effectively deal with legislation. I think the House proved last Thursday that it is quite capable of dealing in an adequate way with important legislation in a very short period of time, but legislation requires much more concerted study and attention than we were able to give to that particular bill in such a short period of time.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I have a particular hobby-horse in connection with the affairs of this House. I am now going to refer to it again; that is the position of the standing committee on government commissions.

In my view, Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely essential to the operation of the democratic process, as this Legislature adapts itself to cope with the problems of our society, that that committee—I am certain there are other committees that are of equal merit and importance where there should be improvements, but I am speaking specifically of that committee—that that standing committee on government commissions of necessity have three things:

A record, a public record of what takes place at those hearings; a staff which is capable on behalf of the members of this Legislature, on a non-partisan basis, of prepar-

ing the kind of intelligent, thrustful requests for information from the hundred or more commissions and boards which sit throughout the province of Ontario; and third, a public notice of when those hearing are going to be held so that interested members of the public can appear before it.

Last year at the opening meeting of the standing committee on government commissions, we moved a resolution asking that this matter be dealt with. A minor gesture was made last year and a reporter was provided who took a transcript of what took place. Well to my surprise, when we appeared at the first meeting of the standing committee on government commissions this year, even that minor concession had disappeared and no record was taken of the proceedings of that hearing.

Appearing before that standing committee was one of the most important commissions in the province of Ontario, and that is the Ontario commission on human rights. There was no public notice, nobody knew that for the one time in the year, for one hour, that commission was going to appear before a group of the elected members of the Legislature of the province of Ontario for the purpose of being asked questions. Indeed, the members of that committee themselves had about 24 hours' notice that the commission was going to be called that day.

I simply say, Mr. Speaker, that is totally inadequate in a Legislature such as this in the province of Ontario. When you consider a body such as the—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, might I ask a question?

Was there any request made before that committee when the human rights commission was before it, for the meeting to be adjourned? My information was to the contrary, that all the questions asked by the members of the committee were answered and there were very few asked.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): The government gave them no time to get ready.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I did not ask that that meeting be adjourned. We have in this province of Ontario, under the system which this government is using, a large number of commissions, we have over 100. For me to have asked for an adjournment of that particular meeting would simply have meant one less commission heard, even in the very superficial way in which they are now heard.

The leader of the House knows very well that with the best intention in the world that standing committee cannot deal with more than 15 or 20 of the 100 commissions. For him to stand up this morning and ask whether we requested an adjournment is simply not a significant contribution to the point which I am making.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is pertinent.

Mr. Renwick: The point is perfectly clear! Having made our resolution last year, we would have expected and anticipated, without having to bring the matter back before this assembly, that some consideration would be given to the responsibilities of that commission.

I am saying to the Minister, having nothing to do with the parties in this Legislature at all, but collectively, as members of this Legislature, that those bodies are responsible and accountable in a democratic society to no one other than that standing committee on government commissions, in the real sense of the political operation of the province of Ontario.

Now I am asking again! We in this group are putting a specific request to the government that that committee be provided with a staff; be provided with adequate facilities to give public notice which commissions are going to be called and on what days; and that the records of that committee be not only transcribed and recorded but be published.

I think you will find, Mr. Speaker, that the lack of concern, in our provincial universities for example, in the proceedings of this Legislature, and part of the reason what we are trying to do here is so desperately difficult for all the members, is that there is not that kind of material available which will prompt and motivate research into the activities of this Legislature.

Now surely, Mr. Speaker, those three particular facilities can be provided to that committee so that we can have useful, productive, intelligent discussions about the affairs of such bodies.

I leave it with the extreme example of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. How, in one hour a year, a group of the members of this Legislature, without the assistance of any staff, without any prior record of other years and what questions have been asked of that commission; how can it be possible for the Legislature to enquire intelligently and knowingly into the affairs of that commission?

Mr. Speaker, I wish the member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root) were in his seat this morning. I am glad to see the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) is in his seat, because there is a river, which at the present time is the west boundary of the riding of Riverdale and the east boundary of the riding of St. David. It is also the dividing line between ward 1 and ward 2 in the city of Toronto and is known as the Don River. I simply say to the member for Wellington-Dufferin, in his capacity as vice-chairman of the Ontario water resources commission, and to the chairman and to the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, as the three of them tiptoe daintily through the polluted waters of the province of Ontario looking for the Minister who is going to introduce a programme of wild rivers, I ask them to consider including the Don River in that programme; because, Mr. Speaker, it is wild.

Mr. Bryden: It is one of the wildest.

Mr. Renwick: I am quite sure that for the members who come from the west end of Toronto, the Humber River falls in very much the same category.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Wildly flows the Don.

Mr. Bryden: Wildly flows the sewage in the Don.

Mr. Renwick: I have been concerned about the editorial reporting of the newspaper which holds itself out as being the leading newspaper in Canada, the *Globe and Mail*. My remarks that I am now going to make are directed solely to the editorial page of that newspaper. I draw the attention of the members of the Legislature to four editorials which have appeared, there may well have been others, but I am dealing with four editorials which have appeared since this House reconvened.

I would suggest to the editorial board of the *Globe and Mail* that they take those editorials and they look at them in the light of the proceedings which have taken place in this Legislature.

In the first one that I refer to is the editorial on February 10, which was headed: Helping the Wrong People. It had the very laudable task of placing before the public of the province of Ontario the proposition that if anyone was to be assisted in housing, the persons who had priority were the low-income groups. It contained this sentence in the midst of that editorial: "It baffles us that

this point should have escaped the New Democrats and the Liberals”.

Now Mr. Speaker, I know that in due course the *Globe and Mail* published a letter from the leader of this party (Mr. MacDonald) pointing out the contribution which he had made in two instances in the Throne Debate about housing.

But I simply say, Mr. Speaker, to that editorial board, that they have every right to disclose whatever viewpoint they wish to disclose, but the requirements of the integrity of that kind of editorializing requires that they acquaint themselves with what takes place in this Legislature. I draw to their attention pages 127 to 131 of the *Hansard* of February 1 in which the leader of the New Democratic Party, as part of his Throne Speech, devoted a substantial amount of time to the very problem that was editorialized in the columns of the *Globe and Mail*.

I may say that I am speaking only for our group. I am quite certain that the Liberal Party could put forward the same consideration in that particular circumstance.

Now, Mr. Speaker, on February 3, the *Globe and Mail* published an editorial which dealt with what they referred to as a restrained opposition. Mr. Speaker, in that editorial, and in no editorial was there any mention whatsoever of the contribution of the leader of the New Democratic Party when he spoke on behalf of this group in the opening days of that debate on January 31 and February 1.

I say again, Mr. Speaker, to the editorial board of that newspaper that they have an obligation in the discharge of their responsibility in this particular society to acquaint themselves with what takes place. If they want to say that the leader of the New Democratic Party, having studied what he says, made no contribution, or that his contribution was a poor one, or a very good one, or any other description that they want to apply to it, that is their privilege, but to totally ignore the effective, intelligent, well prepared contribution of the leader of this party, is an indication of a lack of integrity on the part of that editorial board.

I say to the members of the editorial board of that newspaper, “Take the *Hansards* of January 31 and February 1 and read them and comment on them editorially.” As I say, we will withstand whatever comments they wish to make, whether it be in approbation or in disapprobation. But we ask them at least to assert the integrity of that newspaper, because Mr. Speaker, if you will cast your

mind back to a year ago, the day that the then leader of the Opposition spoke, shortly afterwards there appeared an editorial, in the context of which was the statement that the leader of the New Democratic Party had indicated that perhaps he had nothing further to say, because the then leader of the Opposition, had as you know, covered a wide variety of topics. The next day the leader of this party spoke in the Legislature and the following day the editorial in the *Globe and Mail* said that they realized now what a whimsical statement it was on behalf of the leader of this party, and they devoted an editorial to the contribution which he made a year ago. This year, of course, in that particular editorial to which I referred, they implied only—and they left the emphasis and the implication very clearly on the record that the leader of the New Democratic Party had not made any contribution.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the third editorial, and indeed the fourth editorial, relate to the question of the debate which took place in this Legislature last Thursday. Before I go on with that, I would simply say—and I do not think there is a member of this Legislature that would disagree with me—that an editorial board of a newspaper in the province of Ontario at this time has a responsibility in scholarship, in research, in comment, to be fair, clear and concise about the basis on which they make their editorial comment. It is no answer in our society—and everyone in this Legislature knows it—that if you do not like what a newspaper says, don't buy one. That is not the answer in our society. The answer is perfectly clear, that an editorial board can editorialize and comment on whatever it chooses to comment on, but it has an obligation to do its research and to do its study effectively and intelligently and in a fair and honest way. Because, Mr. Speaker, it is not their freedom alone which is in question, it is the freedom of each individual in the province of Ontario. The freedom of speech so far as it relates to a newspaper, is the freedom of each individual in this society to be adequately informed, subject to whatever opinions the editorial columns may wish to express.

Now, in the third editorial, which was on February 11, dealing with the deposit insurance legislation, the editorial was headed, How to Start a Bank Run, and I am not going to deal at the moment with that particular ridiculous part of the editorial. But we find in the body of that editorial—and I think this will prove to every member of the Legislature

who was in this assembly when that debate was taking place, how far removed the editorial board of the *Globe and Mail* is from an accurate basis on which they formulated their editorial. The editorial stated:

As a matter of fact most of the participants in Thursday's debate seemed to miss the basic point of the legislation which was to insure near-bank deposits. They—

meaning the members of this Legislature

—seemed to believe that its chief purpose was to provide refunds of up to \$20,000 on depositors' losses. The intent rather is to provide through the machinery of the insurance programme the kind of inspection service that will prevent the collapse of near-banks and any losses.

Now Mr. Speaker, that is not what the purpose of the bill was. The purpose of the bill is the one which they dismissed. The purpose of the bill was to provide refunds of up to \$20,000 on depositors' losses and the intent was not to provide the machinery through which a programme could be undertaken to prevent the collapse of near-banks and any losses.

The reason is perfectly clear, Mr. Speaker, that the editorial writers of the *Globe and Mail* did not choose to read The Loan and Trust Corporations Act which has been on the statute books of this province for many, many years. They will recognize that in that statute for many years, there was every conceivable right to examine, request information, get returns, to do everything which was necessary to provide, regulate, and in the words of the editorial, "inspect the operation of those companies."

Mr. Speaker, when you have that kind of lack of basic scholarship behind the editorial of a newspaper such as the *Globe and Mail*, I think it is time that that editorial board should seriously consider the methods or the procedures, of which I am totally unaware, as to how they arrive at that kind of statement. The editorial goes on to say:

But surely the purpose was to provide the atmosphere so that a phoney no-money-in-the-bank panic would not develop while the real and still unresolved problems of the York Trust and its fellow companies were being worked out by the federal committee and in the boardrooms of the companies concerned.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am not commenting about the the so-called "phoney no-money-in-the-bank panic", but I would suggest that the real purpose of that legislation was not for

us to deal with the problems so that only the federal committee sitting in Ottawa and the boardrooms of the companies could resolve their problems. We were not the ones who were holding the door so that the problems could be settled somewhere else. We were settling a specifically Ontario problem in this Legislature and we do not need to be told that what we were doing here was of no significance and that it should be dealt with at the federal level, or in that committee, and then in the boardrooms of the companies.

Of course, the *Globe and Mail* was well aware as to what was happening in Ottawa at that time. They were perfectly well aware that the committee was not inquiring into the financial stability of the Bank of Western Canada, about which we cannot comment, and we take the assurances that the affairs of that bank are in order. But why we had that legislation before this assembly that day was because of British International Finance Company and its group of companies. And I am saying today in this Legislature that the affairs of that company are such that no one knows whether it is in financial difficulty. No one knows. I am not saying whether it is in financial difficulty, or whether it is not. I am simply saying that nothing which has occurred, either in the committee at Ottawa—which seemed to be very happy to get this sort of unseemly dispute back into the boardrooms—nobody inquired into the financial affairs of British International Finance Company. If that company is in danger—and I do not know, I only know what I read in the newspapers about it—if it is, we do not know here and this province is the place where the suffering is going to be done, if that group of companies is in serious financial difficulties.

That is why I say we have got to have adequate legislation to deal with that problem, because I simply say to you that British International Finance Company in the words of its own president, or chairman, Mr. Stevens, had lines of credit with banks in Canada of up to \$5 million and going, on occasion, up as high as \$13 million. He stated before that committee that the lines of credit had shrunk to about \$150,000 and it is now well-known that he was moving into the United States and dealing with the Meadowbrook National Bank with a view to obtaining resources for his group of companies.

I simply say that we are not prepared to accept the kind of editorializing in a newspaper that goes on to say, after having told us what the real purpose of our legislation was, that there was another purpose, namely,

"to provide the atmosphere so that a phoney, no-money-in-the-bank panic would not develop, while the real and still-unresolved problems of the York Trust and its fellow companies were being worked out by the federal committee in the boardrooms of the companies themselves."

Well, Mr. Speaker, the real and still unresolved problems of that group of companies were not worked out by the federal committee; they have gone back into the boardrooms, and I would suggest that that was, in fact, the thrust of that editorial, that we mere legislators, or we people in the province of Ontario, should not really be concerning ourselves about what takes place in the boardrooms of the companies that operate in this province, that it is really no concern of ours.

Mr. Speaker, this is a convenient place to refer to the remarks in that debate of the hon. member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), because if you will recall, shortly before the dinner recess that evening, he indicated specifically that I was irresponsible in the questions that I had asked about the York Trust Company, and shortly after dinner, he then indicated that, of course, it was in line with what he assumed to be the wish of this party—that is, that we were contributing to a total breakdown of the system.

Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member for St. George will recall, he too—even though he was one of those who was chastised in the editorial columns of the *Globe and Mail*, and made his objection to the interpretation which was put—the member for St. George, if he will look at *Hansard* for Monday afternoon, February 6, he will recall that the leader of this party had asked the Prime Minister of this province for assurance so far as it was within his power to give it, that the dissension in the boardrooms of the Bank of Western Canada and in the related companies was not evidence of serious financial distress within that group of companies and the Prime Minister gave his answer.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): That was part of the attempt to start a run on York Trust.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if the member for London South will just listen, I think he will understand that what he is in fact just saying by that interjection, is that we have no right to ask such a question. Well, Mr. Speaker, it is about time that some of the members on the opposite side of the House

sat on this side of the House because there are so few, if any, of them that have any conception of what the responsibility of an Opposition in a democratic society is.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Renwick: The member for St. George indicated that that was an irresponsible question. I say to him that that was not an irresponsible question and I do not think he would have the agreement of any members of this House other than the member for London South.

The question which I then asked on Wednesday, and again on Thursday, was a question with respect to the statutory requirement of a public statute of the province of Ontario as to whether a company had filed a significant return under The Loan and Trust Corporations Act. It had not filed that return and the member for St. George indicated that I should not have asked that question. Well, I simply draw to the attention of this Legislature even the technical point that last year we amended that bill so that instead of filing those returns on January 15, they would have until January 31 to file them. The purpose of it was, in the judgment of this Legislature, "Well, all right; if the time is too short to file this return let us meet them." And the return was not filed on January 31.

I am not arguing the technicality of it, but if it is the government's view that statutory requirements for the filing of returns should be worded that they should be filed on January 31, for the period ending December 31 in the preceding year, or on whatever few days thereafter that the board of directors of the company may choose to file them, that is fine. Let us debate that legislation in this House, but the suggestion from the member for St. George that a member of the Opposition cannot ask whether that return is filed, and then brand that question as an irresponsible question is, again, a fundamental lack of understanding of the obligations of the Opposition in this Legislature.

Mr. S. Lewis: And he knows it! He knows it!

Mr. Renwick: And the third question was the question which I asked the following day—

Mr. White: The member asks a question every day, trying to start a run on York Trust for the hon. member's own political purposes.

Mr. Renwick: —when I asked—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, when I asked the question on the third day, which was on Thursday afternoon a week ago, as to what the ratio was, I was told that it was within the statutory requirement—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I said it was in excess of the requirements—

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I meant that—it was within the requirements.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I just wanted you to be strictly and scrupulously accurate.

Mr. Renwick: That is right—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. White: And was the member disappointed!

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I was not disappointed. We were interested in the stability of the financial community; we were not interested in not complying—

Mr. Bryden: And under this government there was considerable doubt about it!

Mr. Renwick: What we were asking, Mr. Speaker, is whether this government was fulfilling its statutory obligation to get the information to make certain that what they could do would be to provide for financial stability.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Was the question not answered?

Mr. Renwick: Yes. Mr. Speaker, anyone knows that in a statute such as The Loan and Trust Corporations Act the statutory minimum of the 20 per cent and the types of investments is but a bare minimum. Everyone knows that that is simply to provide the ultimate floor beyond which any given company should not fall.

I would suggest that the public record in the report of the registrar of loan and trust corporations about the oscillation of that ratio for York Trust Company was such as to make the question which we asked not only pertinent, but required to be asked, because in June of 1965—if my memory serves me correctly—the last report which was available, shows that the York Trust Company was slightly below the 20 per cent. Six months later, after the debacle of the British Mort-

gage and Trust Company, namely, at December 31, 1965, the York Trust Company had pulled itself up to what anyone would believe to be a sound, prudent accounting base, and that was about 31 per cent, and in the next report which was available, down it had come again to about 23 per cent and we, of course, did not have the information for the final period. But it was a perfectly responsible question and the member for St. George knows that the three questions were important and were required to be asked.

The member for St. George shakes his head; then he joins, despite his so-called appearance of independence—because after all, Mr. Speaker, every party requires its jester, and the point of the member for St. George is that he, in the guise of being independent is, in fact, living in the same world in which that government lives. That is, that the affairs of these companies are best managed behind the closed doors of the board room but nobody should enquire and the only point at which the enquiry is made, as the Attorney General has so clearly demonstrated in his 15-page memorandum, is when the company has collapsed.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Including page 3.

Mr. Renwick: To the extent that the loan and trust corporations have been subject to statutory regulation and supervision in the province of Ontario, then I say that there has been a public interest in the affairs of those companies and that public interest will continue.

I would like to spend a few minutes on the principal comment of the member for St. George and that is that the New Democratic Party is engaged in wishing for the collapse of the system. Well, Mr. Speaker, this is the kind of comment which we are so used to hearing from members of the Tory party that it clearly shows where they stand in the political spectrum. The collapse of the economic system, Mr. Speaker, that took place in the 30's was not due to the democratic socialist movement. The democratic socialist movement was not interested in the collapse of the system. The system itself collapsed because it could not function properly.

The democratic socialist system from the political philosophy of the democratic socialist movement—and the member for St. George knows it, he is an intelligent man—from the time that it first came to birth in Europe in the last century until today, has not been interested in the collapse of any system. What

the democratic socialist movement has been interested in, and continues to be interested in, is basic social reform through the democratic process.

That is what we are involved in. The suggestion that, for some reason or other, the members of the Conservative Party belong to some sort of elite who have no responsibility whatsoever to deal with the democratic wishes of people is a total misconception of their function and of the functions of this party, because what the member for St. George is saying is what runs through the government of the province of Ontario: "You the people of the province of Ontario just leave it with us because we know what is good for you, and in the fullness of time we will see that it works out for your benefit. But do not bother to ask any questions and do not bother to intrude the public interest into the affairs of the province because we know how it should be done".

As I say, the hon. member for St. George knows much better than that, just as the Provincial Treasurer knows much better than the remarks which he made and to which my colleague, the hon. member for Scarborough West, referred a few days ago.

Mr. Speaker, I had occasion a while back to debate at York University a topic which was phrased, "Will the Liberal Party be able to become the party of reform", and the protagonist for that was the candidate for the present riding of Scarborough East for the Liberal Party. And we had no difficulty, of course, with the debate because he was able to prove conclusively with his arguments that it was impossible for the Liberal Party to become the party of reform.

Mr. Bryden: I was in a debate with him on the same subject and he did the same thing.

Mr. Renwick: But that, Mr. Speaker, is not the principal matter to which I wanted to refer. It was in the course of that debate that he made a comment which is quite usual among the members of the Liberal Party, and indeed, among the Tory Party, and it was, "well, the difficulty with the New Democratic Party, as much as we really like a lot of the things that you are talking about, is that the New Democratic Party has this relationship with the trade union movement, and that the trade union movement dominates it, and therefore that frightens us a little bit".

Now they are never concerned about the dominance of the funds of their parties and the policies of their parties by the corpora-

tions in the country. What they are really afraid of is collective groups of people who are interested in improving social conditions, including their own working conditions, and they are very afraid of that.

But just for the purpose, Mr. Speaker, of setting the record straight, I would like to place on the record of the Legislature the resolution passed by the Canadian labour congress at its annual convention in 1958, because it was as a result of that creative political act on the part of the Canadian labour congress that the New Democratic Party presently exists. And in order to restore the perspective both of the prospective candidate for Scarborough East and other members of the Liberal and Conservative Parties, as to why this New Democratic Party exists and what its purposes are, I am going to read that particular resolution. The resolution states:

This convention believes that the imperative need of the Canadian political scene today is the creation of an effective, alternative, political force based on the needs of workers, farmers, and similar groups, financed and controlled by the people and their organizations. There is a need for a broadly based people's political movement which embraces the CCF, the labour movement, farm organizations, professional people, and other liberally minded persons interested in basic social reform and reconstruction through our parliamentary system of government.

Such a broadly based political instrument should provide that labour and other people's organizations may, together with the CCF, participate directly in the establishment of such a movement, its organizational structure and basic philosophy and programme, as well as in its financing and choice of candidates for public office. In participating in and initiating the creation of a new political movement, labour emphasizes that not only is there no wish to dominate such a development but there is the fullest desire for the broadest possible participation of all individuals and groups genuinely interested in basic democratic social reform and the democratic planning necessary to such reform.

This convention, therefore, instructs the executive council to give urgent and immediate attention to this matter by initiating discussions with the CCF, interested farm organizations, and other like minded individuals and groups to formulate a constitution and a programme for such a pol-

itical instrument of the Canadian people and to report on such a plan, draft, constitution and programme to the next convention of this congress for action.

Well, Mr. Speaker, this is so that no one will misunderstand that it is that party, based on that resolution, which exists in the province of Ontario and throughout Canada and which every day is drawing an increasing and substantial support from the citizens of the province of Ontario and of Canada. It is that party which is ultimately going to achieve political power both here and elsewhere through Canada.

And I simply say this so that there will be no misunderstanding, Mr. Speaker, that we who are not members of the trade union movement—we who come to it from other branches of the areas of this broadly based political party, simply say for everyone that we welcome an increasing and continuing contribution by the labour movement to the work of this party. We need that assistance and we are going to get it in increasing fold. And I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that this broadly based political party will in fact replace the party opposite and the party on my right as the principal political party in the province of Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a few remarks following on my comments about the labour movement and its part in the founding of this political party. I would like to refer to some of the basic problems which are at the root of an intelligent discussion of labour relations in the province of Ontario.

I appreciate that this matter is, in many of its aspects, before a commission headed by Mr. Justice Rand, for whom I have the highest regard. I think it is time now that we moved on from the specific context of the so-called "Tilco Plastics dispute" which, by the way, was an aberration on the Canadian political scene and the Canadian labour scene. And I am sure that even the Attorney General will agree with that description of what took place so far as management was concerned in that particular dispute.

But I want to speak for a few minutes about the position in this province at the time when The Labour Relations Act came into force in the early 1940's in this province and at the time when The Rights of Labour Act came into force. Because I get the impression—I may be totally incorrect—that

there is a complete misconception of what the law of the province of Ontario was at the time that The Labour Relations Act came into force and at the time The Rights of Labour Act was enacted. And that misconception, I believe, colours the attitude of many people, either consciously or unconsciously, to the whole question of collective bargaining today which is of such fundamental importance to the operation and functioning of the economy.

Nobody has any complete answer to all the problems or how it should be worked out, but certainly it is incumbent on this Legislature and people throughout the country to understand what the historical background in law and in the field of labour relations was at the time that the present structure was framed and put into effect in the province of Ontario in the early 1940's. I want to make three propositions and illustrate them briefly and comment about them.

The three propositions are that there was always in the province of Ontario and in the law of England—the common law of England and in the province of Ontario—right up until the introduction of The Labour Relations Act, the right to associate together in collective groups known as trade unions for lawful purposes; there was the right to strike at common law and there was the right to picket at common law.

Mr. Speaker, the first matter I would like to refer to is a brief statement made by one of the judges who dealt with the case of *Polakoff vs. The Winters Garment Company* in 1928 in the Supreme Court of Ontario. In that case, the question came before the court that the international labour union was an illegal society incapable, because of its illegality, of maintaining this action or any civil action in an Ontario court. And the argument that was put forward at that time was that the purposes of the association were in unreasonable restraint of trade. Mr. Speaker, the judge in that case had this to say about that proposition:

The so-called common law doctrine—

I emphasize the word "so-called"—

as applied to trade unions that combinations and contracts in unreasonable restraint of trade are unlawful as being against public policy, is not based upon the well-recognized principles of the common law. It is based upon principles of political economy which were at the time when the doctrine was first promulgated as they are still in keen contraversion.

I suggest today, Mr. Speaker, that the same proposition holds true, as subjects of keen controversy they fall in the area of political economy and that as such they are not matters which are dealt with under the common law of the province of Ontario.

The second proposition which I put forward was related to the proposition that in some way or other, strikes were not allowed under the common law of England or in the common law of the province of Ontario. I believe this to be, Mr. Speaker, an accurate statement of what the position in the province Ontario was at the time of the inception of The Labour Relations Act.

There was an argument placed before the court in England in 1909, in the case of *Gozney vs. The Bristol trade and provident society*, that strikes were illegal or unlawful by the law of England. And Mr. Justice Fletcher Moulton in that case stated:

The fallacy of the defendant's argument is the proposition that strikes are, per se, illegal or unlawful by the law of England. There is no trace of any such doctrine during the centuries when the common law of England was being formed, nor in fact until the end of the 18th century. This was not due to any friendliness toward freedom of action on the part of workmen. On the contrary during the 17th and 18th centuries, a long succession of statutes were passed restricting, with a severity which shocks our modern ideas, all attempts on the part of workmen to better their conditions of labour.

Yet during the whole of this period no court treated combinations to better the conditions of labour as being contrary to the common law, until after the Legislature swept away all those statutes by the Act of 1825. This innovation is suspicious and ever since then the weight of authority is against this. Strikes per se, are combinations neither for accomplishing an unlawful end nor for accomplishing a lawful end by unlawful means.

Mr. Speaker, in the area of picketing, there is no restriction in the common law of England or in the common law of the province of Ontario which limits the number of pickets. There has been a doctrine which has grown up which says that picketing is only for the purpose of conveying information and sometimes for the purpose which, I believe has always been part of the law, for the purpose of persuasion. It is out of those two propositions that the courts, for some reason or other, have come to this decision that picketing

should be restricted to six people at a particular gate, or four people at a particular gate, or two people at a particular gate.

Before I revert to that particular area of the topic, I would simply say that this question of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of a trade union was then stated in the statute law of Ontario. We find it in The Rights of Labour Act which states that, "a trade union in the Acts thereof shall not be deemed to be unlawful by reason only that one or more of its objects are in restraint of trade."

The sole point I want to make, Mr. Speaker, is that it is not a new enactment of this Legislature. When that Act was passed, that statement was simply to place in the statute law of the province of Ontario what in fact was the common law. There was no gain whatsoever made by the trade union movement, or by trade unions, by the simple statement in the statute law of that particular proposition.

Mr. Speaker, let us get down to the crux of what is involved in these injunction proceedings within the broader perspective of labour-management relations. You will notice that the only time that an employer—and I recognize that a trade union can also go to the court for an injunction—the only time an employer goes to the court for an injunction is so that he will get the unstated claim which is never before the court, the unstated claim that he can operate his plant, that he can continue to operate his plant.

Mr. Speaker, when there is—and let us be perfectly clear—when there is a proper strike, the proper withdrawal collectively of the labour of a particular group of workers from a plant, it is a situation in which they, too, have a property interest in the jobs which they have vacated. It is a situation in which the management of the plant, the employer, has a property interest certainly in the preservation of his property. But, Mr. Speaker, the rub comes in the fact that what really the employer is after by the limitation of the number of pickets in his injunction proceeding, is simply the right to continue to operate his plant. He claims that he is entitled to that right. And he knows that he can only operate his plant in two ways, one is by employing people other than the people who belong to the bargaining unit which is recognized by the law of the province of Ontario, or by introducing new technological process. And this is the only thing which he is really after in the court.

It may be a matter of irritation to him that a few people are walking up and down in

front of his plant with signs, but that is not the kind of irritation that he is really concerned about. What he is really concerned about is that he will have a licence, in the face of a legal trade union dispute, and a strike—and a legal strike—that he will have the right to displace the working force which is out on strike, either by other people or by the introduction of new technological processes.

Mr. Speaker, without getting into the question of whether or not he should or should not have that right, let us say what he has to do. He has to sue for an injunction. The merits of the question as to whether or not he is entitled to assert that right to operate his plant, is the substance of the matter which he is claiming. That is the matter, if you followed the logic of the writ for the injunction, which requires adjudication by a court. But what, in fact, happens is—and this is what is at the root of the trouble with injunctions as temporary instruments in labour disputes—that the employer, either on an application for an ex parte injunction or for an interim injunction, can get that question decided in advance on a summary proceeding without an adjudication of the issue.

He can go to the court—we all know the extreme cases, but I am talking about the whole drift of the proposition of the procedure which is presently followed—he can go to the courts and he can get an ex parte injunction for four days, either without notice to the one party, or an interim injunction with notice.

He can get that injunction then continued under the provisions of The Judicature Act up to the trial of the case. But the fact that he gets the injunction is his licence to operate the plant. That question is never before the court, because the question before the court is this other relatively superficial question, that is, whether or not the picketing at the plant is to be limited to a specific number of people, whether people should parade up and down with signs or not.

No question about protection of his property. Everybody is agreed that he is entitled to have his tangible property protected, but what is lost sight of, is that the interest of the employee in his job is destroyed by the grant of the interim injunction, because it not only affects the public relations of the trade unions severely, but in fact it means that the company, regardless of any adjudication of the issue, can go ahead and displace those men and women from their jobs by

hiring other people or introducing technological processes.

Mr. Speaker, this is the substance of what the employer is after when he uses the injunction. Not for the purposes which the court appears to think is before the court. That is the purpose. Let me illustrate it another way.

It is very significant that in those companies where they know—that is the employer knows—clearly that he cannot replace the working force, there is seldom, if ever, an application to the courts for such an injunction. We usually credit that to the proposition either that it is a sophisticated management and they do not want to use an injunction, or it is because it is a powerful trade union in that particular local in the plant. The substance, Mr. Speaker, of why those companies do not go to the courts for an injunction is because they know as practical businessmen, that it will not achieve what they want, namely, they cannot replace the working force because there are not enough people in the community to take the jobs to keep the plant running, and that they have not got in those particular industries the technological processes which can be readily introduced that will make it unnecessary.

Therefore you find that companies such as the Steel Company of Canada and companies such as Canada Packers and other large companies, such as that, do not use that instrument of the temporary or interim injunction. They do not use this procedure, because they know it will not achieve the basic object, namely, that they should continue to operate their plants. They cannot use it as an instrument for achieving that end, simply as I have said because they cannot replace the labour force which has withdrawn its labour either by other people in the community, or by the introduction of new technological processes.

I think it is essential, Mr. Speaker, that in dealing with this problem—a vital problem to the question of collective bargaining—that we understand exactly what the employer wishes to do. And I say, Mr. Speaker, that in the consideration we give to this question when that time comes, that we have got to answer the question of political economy. You cannot leave it up to the courts to decide that kind of question: whether on the one hand the employer has the right to operate his plant in the face of a lawful strike until there is an adjudication of his rights; on the other hand, the right of the employee to say, “Well, I have done everything that the law requires; I have an interest in that job, I have

a property interest, what protection have I got, or is the court, on this superficial question of the interim injunction, going to let the employer operate his plant and thereby destroy my interest in my job?"

That is the question of politics, of political economy or however you want to phrase it, but it is not a question which can be settled or should be settled in a court of law.

Now, just to finish the question about the injunction, so far as I can see it. If just as a procedural matter, the court, on an interim basis, were not prepared to grant such an injunction—were not prepared to grant the injunction on an interim basis—and they simply said to the employer, "Now listen, what we are going to do is to preserve the status quo until the trial of this matter and that means that the rights of the members of the trade union who have withdrawn their labour, their rights to their jobs require protection, just as much as your property requires protection. We are sorry, we will provide the processes of the court as speedily as possible to decide that question, but certainly in the interval we are not going to prejudge the question by letting you operate your plant."

If the court would say, "All right, you can have the protection of the law for your property and the employee can have the protection of his interest, his property interest in his job, until such time as this injunction comes before the courts for final adjudication"—I need only state that, I think for the lawyers in the Legislature to realize that, in fact, the weapon of the injunction in labour disputes, the interim injunction in labour disputes, would rapidly fall into disuse, because the proposition is incontrovertible that that is the sole purpose why employers apply to the court for such injunctions.

I want to deal with two or three other aspects of this labour-management relationship, because to revert to the propositions which I originally put forward, what happened in the early years of the 1940's was that, by and large, a procedure was accepted throughout the community by labour and by management and by the community generally. It is framed within the framework of The Labour Relations Act and it elaborated very intricate procedures by which a trade union could go through various steps to get a collective bargain. It deferred its right to take a strike until those procedures had been accomplished. But it is important to recognize that The Labour Relations Act's contribution to the rights of labour was to substitute relatively intricate procedures leading to the hope of a collective bargaining agreement in

return for the obligation of employers to bargain collectively in good faith.

I am not going to go into that question. It is a difficult question as to whether a person is or is not bargaining in good faith. I leave that part of it on the proposition that The Labour Relations Act did not give anything to the labour movement. In fact, it was a procedural restriction on what were their common law rights prior to the time that that statute was enacted. Any intelligent consideration today of the problem must revert to the situation which existed at the time that The Labour Relations Act came into force. Just the same as this statement in The Rights of Labour Act, which was part of that settlement within the community of how things would be dealt with for the next few years, was framed in The Rights of Labour Act in the clause which I referred to, codifying and stating for all time the position of the trade union as being a lawful association.

Another aspect of this problem, Mr. Speaker, is this question which is coming up again and again now, that in some way or other the trade union should be an incorporated body. Mr. Speaker, I again point to the substance of what that argument is. The substance of that argument is that if you say that long enough, you create the impression that in some way the trade unions are outside the ambit of the law, they are somewhere out there, and that the only way you can really get them before the law and accountable to the law is by having them incorporated. This argument is continuously put forward and it is just a latter-day manifestation of the original proposition that in some way or other trade unions are unlawful associations.

It is not because anybody really wants to get the trade union before the court in the way in which you get a company before the court. Everyone knows that there are ample ways of making certain that members of trade unions are responsible in our society. They are responsible and I simply say that as we hear the reiteration of this argument that in some way or other trade unions should be incorporated bodies and should be subject to suit in the courts, it is simply, as I stated, a latter-day manifestation of the sort of general impression somewhere that is wished to be created that these trade unions are sort of illegal in their concept; they are sort of outside the ambit of the operation of the law.

Well, Mr. Speaker, there are many other areas of collective bargaining arrangements, but those particular propositions are ones

which I think deserve the consideration of the members because the constant thrust of the arguments in most of the media tends to be in a re-assertion of the propositions that in some way The Labour Relations Act, The Rights of Labour Act, conferred rights on labour which they did not have before.

I want to affirm the propositions by which I originally started, that subject always to the rights of public order, subject always to the right and interest of everyone in the general security, the right to strike, the right to picket, the right to belong to a trade union is part of the common law of the province of Ontario and is subject only to such modifications as are inherent in the procedural solutions which were set out in The Labour Relations Act. If we are embarking on a reassessment of those relationships, then I think it is important that we be perfectly clear as to the original basis of the law at the time that statute was enacted.

Now, Mr. Speaker, part and parcel again of this area of labour-management relations is the difficulty we have of getting into consideration in debate in this Legislature the recommendations which were made by Mr. Justice Freedman in the case of the run-through commission of the federal government which looked into that question of the CNR run-throughs at Nakina and elsewhere in Ontario. Mr. Justice Freedman did not limit his remarks to the railway at that time, he made a significant contribution to one area of labour-management relations and I am sure that during the estimates of The Department of Labour, we can come back to that part of the proposition. But the significant sentence which appears in the Freedman report is this: "The present situation which permits management to make unilateral changes in working conditions during the contract period is a manifest inequity which clamours for attention and correction."

Now, Mr. Speaker, we are going to have to devote our attention to that problem, because that eloquent language of the Freedman report is simply an assertion of a very simple proposition that many of us use in day-to-day language. You do not change the rules of the game while the game is being played. It says nothing more than that. It says simply that the right of management to make unilateral changes in working conditions during the contract period is a manifest inequity which clamours for attention and correction.

Mr. Speaker, in one of the rubber company plants in the Metropolitan Toronto area, it

was unbelievable to me that it could occur, but a collective bargaining agreement was entered into after long negotiations and was settled, governing the working conditions in that plant. Within a month after that collective agreement was signed, that company introduced the European work week as distinct from the traditional five-day consecutive day work week. They were able to do it within the framework of the language of the collective bargaining agreement, about the number of hours that any individual would work. It was not a matter which was negotiated during the course of collective bargaining.

Unilaterally during the existence of a brand new collective bargaining agreement, that company was able to disrupt the family life of all its employees without any prior negotiation or discussion whatsoever. You know and everyone in this Legislature knows that by and large, the community operates on the Monday to Friday work week or the Monday to Saturday-noon work week, and it is traditional that you have part of Saturday or all of Saturday and with a few exigencies the whole of Sunday off. I am simply saying, Mr. Speaker, that the recommendation of the Freedman report is not something that need be dealt with as if it is an unusual statement of a difficult problem; it is a simple statement of fundamental fact of a democratic society. And I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), and those who are giving consideration to this kind of problem, bring it into debate in this Legislature. Not that it can be solved immediately, or necessarily solved completely. But let them bring into debate at this session of the Legislature the fundamental recommendations of the Freedman report so that we can discuss some of them and get some idea of what the government intends.

Mr. Speaker, there has been a great deal of notoriety given to another type of solution to the problem which Mr. Justice Freedman raised, and that was the settlement which under the chairmanship of Professor John Crispo, was reached between the various unions in the Dominion Tar and Chemical complex of companies. There were many unions involved and many companies. That agreement, to the extent that I could understand it, was an assertion of the other proposition that provided management makes adequate—and I put in quotation marks "adequate"—arrangements for retirement and dismissal of employees, employees will not have, through the trade unions, any right to

bargain about working conditions; that is, to bargain about the kind of changes which the Freedman report is talking about—where there is an impingement by a change in the procedures of a company through the improvement of technological processes or for the purposes of economy or there are changes in the way in which that company is run. That the trade unions will be excluded from consideration of that kind of question as to when it will be introduced, how it will be introduced and its impact in return for an agreement which spells out certain monetary compensations in advance that people will receive if they are hurt by the changes in the company's management.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is the other side of this question, and it does not appeal to me. I like Mr. Justice Freedman's approach to this problem rather than the Domtar approach to this problem. But there are two sides to it that can be discussed and I think, Mr. Speaker, that it should seriously be discussed in this Legislature at this session.

Mr. Speaker, I refer to the first time I spoke in this House with some trepidation about two years ago and again last year when I took part in this debate. I spoke at that time mainly about the area of poverty in the province of Ontario—poverty in our society. I was speaking at that time and still speak from no specific knowledge of all the ins and outs of sociological and personal problems which involve people who are caught up in an impoverished environment.

But in my first remarks I attempted using the figures which have been developed by the Ontario federation of labour in a pamphlet which I believe first drew forcibly and statistically, the attention of people to the extent of poverty in Ontario. I attempted to put on the record the figures which it would appear to indicate were impoverished people in the province of Ontario, and I used the figures two million somewhat below the poverty line, about a million somewhere in the area just above it. One can argue about those figures and one can argue about the concept of who is an impoverished person as distinct from a person who is not impoverished. I think there are many booklets and articles written on that topic and I will not dwell on that part of it today.

The other aspect of poverty, however, which concerns me is mirrored in the statement which was contained in the statement of the Provincial Treasurer in his Budget, which he introduced a few days ago, and in which he stated:

We have a new philosophy and a new approach to welfare in Ontario as is evident by the proposed name for the department, The Department of Social and Family Services. Our approach recognizes the importance of the family as the key institution in the operation of welfare services. The programme also emphasizes the positive role of assessment, counselling and rehabilitation. A needs criterion will replace the various means tests for determining levels of assistance and benefits will be substantially increased.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I think the significant thing is that the government has discovered the family as a unit of some importance in our society. I had thought that that was part and parcel of any welfare approach that should have existed in the province of Ontario up to the present time. But I do not quarrel particularly with the language. I would like to move on to the basic attitude which I believe is reflected in that kind of approach to welfare.

The basic argument at the present time runs something like this, and those who have been in any discussion about this question of poverty and who is impoverished and so on, and who are the poor and what can be done about them, usually run up against this question, and that is—why is it that such and such a person, or why is it that the poor—if you use the generic term—have an apparent apathy in their approach to society?

The answer generally given, and I suggest it is the fundamental philosophy motivating The Department of Public Welfare in the province of Ontario, is: well, when you really look at the poor people they are different from anyone else. They are sort of different, they have got different characters. They are not motivated the way we are and they therefore require some kind of programme to motivate them somewhere along the line. And you usually find what people want to motivate them to is the middle class value. You usually find, if you analyze the problem, this is really what the people are saying.

But the fundamental fallacy that I leave with the Legislature today is that the poor people, and they are not a monolithic group at all, they are individual human beings, the poor people as they are referred to are in fact no different from anyone else. They have relatively the same motivations that anybody else has.

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): When did you find that out?

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Speaker, not so very long ago. When did the Minister find it out?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I was one of those families and most of on this side were and I doubt if there was one on that side ever came from an impoverished family. You talk a lot about it. The hon. member himself admitted he did not know anything about it personally. We know about it, most of us here. We have lived through it. You have decided to find that out now. We did not say they were any different than anyone else. Those are your words. Let us make that clear.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I am just suggesting that the government of this province should start to do something about the problem in the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. member, Mr. Speaker, was suggesting that we had—

Mr. Bryden: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Riverdale has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He yielded the floor to me.

Mr. Bryden: I would suggest that the Minister sit down. He is making no contribution to the debate.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make that clear. I stood up—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: On a point of order. The Minister does not have the floor.

Mr. Speaker: Allow the member to continue.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. member. The hon. member sat down in his seat—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, point of order. Point of order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: May I state my—

Mr. Bryden: Point of order. The Minister should sit down at this moment. He has no right to the floor.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: May I, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order?

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member for Riverdale had yielded the floor to the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Of course he had. You are not paying any attention. The hon. member himself is not paying any attention. The hon. member was kind enough to yield the floor to me.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I would point out to you that that courtesy should not be abused as the Minister is now doing. He is trying to make his own speech in this debate. He had all the opportunity in the world to participate—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, does the hon. member object to my taking up—

Mr. Bryden: The member may yield the floor for a short comment but not a long speech. I submit to you sir, that the rules are clear.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Would the Minister please yield the floor now?

Mr. Renwick: Well Mr. Speaker, I will continue. I am not surprised that the Minister of Reform Institutions is sensitive on the failure of the government of Ontario to have dealt with this problem.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Renwick: We are not entering into a debate about the personal background of any member of this Legislature, as distinct from the personal backgrounds of some other members. What we are talking about is the present problem in the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Keep it that way.

Mr. Renwick: All right. That is what we are discussing. And what I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Reform Institutions and to his colleagues is that there is a fundamental fallacy in the approach which is taken to the question of the poor in this society. The fallacy prevents any intelligent criticism of the professional agencies which are operating in the field, or of the programmes which those agencies are instituting, because it is based on the proposition that the programmes are very adequate and that if a person does not happen to respond to them, that is the fault of person in the game.

Now what I am suggesting to the government, Mr. Speaker, is the simple proposition that we put the whole matter back in perspective, that we put it into the perspective of providing people with the material needs

which will raise the level of the material welfare of the people who are poor in our society so that we can then deal with individual problems if there are individual problems amongst them.

But there is a very general background of impression in the province of Ontario that for some reason or other we cannot deal with the poor people in the province to improve their condition as a separate programme of this government.

There is no programme of this government to deal with poor people in this society. I would direct the attention of members, certainly of those who live in Kingston and east of Kingston, to the series of articles which appeared in the Kingston *Whig-Standard* of February 6 to 11, about this problem, the problem which the members of this Legislature sitting on the government side, representing some of those ridings, said did not exist when the leader of this party first raised the question. But it has now led to this first class series, and I would suggest about one of the first series, in a newspaper on the rural living conditions in eastern Ontario.

This is because of this fundamental inability to deal with the fact that people are living at a materially reduced standard and their ability to respond to the system is severely affected by the simple fact that they do not have enough money. A very substantial part of our people in the society who are categorized as poor have very little if anything to do with the particular pathologies of the people concerned, even though that is the part of the topic which seems to get the most attention.

The poor people, as my colleague from Scarborough West said yesterday, are invisible. But the only time they are visible, and therefore this attitude is emphasized and borne in upon people's perception, is when they are publicly available to show that they have, for example, a drinking problem. Some people do have, but it does not matter whether you are poor or whether you are in the middle class, or the so-called upper class, if you use an income sorting basis.

Everyone knows that alcoholism is a problem throughout this society. There is no special place in the area of poor people. And it is the same with any number of the so-called pathologies of our society which irritate people and upset people; they are not peculiar to the poor—they are peculiar throughout our whole society. The suggestion that if in some way or other we can motivate people into middle class values all these

problems will disappear is, in my view, an incorrect assessment of the basic facts.

I am not suggesting for one moment that simply by providing people with the funds by which their material needs can be raised to an adequate level in our society, that you are going to solve everybody's problems, any more than that those members of the Legislature who have had that material level have solved all their personal and social problems.

They are common throughout the whole of the society in which we are operating and I am suggesting that the focus of the attention of this government is not simply to change the name of The Department of Public Welfare. The focus of the attention of the department should be to promulgate a specific programme to eliminate this material poverty in the society. It is not a question of sub-cultures and different attitudes and all the rest of it scattered throughout people who are disconnected from the economy and from the world in which they live.

The basic requirements as I see it are two-fold. One of them is to provide a material standard of living which is acceptable to everyone, and the second part of the same problem is to have people feel that they are participating in the decision-making processes that go on in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I have spent some time, as some members are aware, in the two urban renewal districts in the heart of Toronto which fall somewhere near my riding—one in my riding and one in the riding of the hon. member for St. David (Mr. Price). What has become perfectly clear to me—as an unprofessional advisor—is that the people in that area are very much a community.

There is something wrong in the urban renewal processes which are going on. I know there are three levels of government and that there are all sorts of problems—and everybody tries to analyze what the function of each level of government is—but apart from those problems, the important thing about an area such as Trefann Court, and the important thing about Napier Place, or Donmount Village, as it is now called, is that those were communities of people. There was a community the people lived in and moved in; they had their own attachments in that community; they provided in a large measure their own protective devices; and they provided in a large measure a sensation that they belonged in the society.

And what happened in Donmount? I say this categorically, Mr. Speaker, I will never

allow it, if I can prevent it, to happen again. My interest in Trefann Court is because what happened in Donmount, under the guise of an urban renewal scheme to improve the housing conditions of people, was a block-busting operation which would not have been permitted if it had been done by private developers. It was permitted because in some way or other, government bureaucracy intruded on that community and destroyed it—quite literally it was destroyed.

In the course of what took place in the Donmount area in an attempt to isolate the problems, and I think we have successfully isolated one problem, is the question of the compensation which is to be paid to homeowners who are being relocated, and we await with interest the legislation which the government has announced it will bring in to deal with this particular problem. It is not an attack on the municipal authorities or an attack on the specific context within which the present Expropriation Act works. It is simply to point out that in urban renewal schemes that Act is totally inadequate. There has to be a re-assessment of what the objectives are and what the purposes of the programmes are and how you treat people who own property in that area. But let us not think for a moment that that was the single focus of the problem, although before I leave it, I want to speak to those who are so-called small businessmen in this House. Whether we like it or not, I state as a fact here, that there is a small grocery store keeper who had a store in Donmount Village which in November of 1965, was an operating, flourishing business. He had built the business up over a period of time.

The gross figures of that small community grocery store were somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$100,000. Now, he was a normal man who operated it—he did not bother about the technicalities of having a long-term lease on his store. He did not own the property. I do not know what his net was but those of the hon. members who are familiar will indicate that he was not making any killing at the expense of a poor neighbourhood. He was part and parcel of that community.

Right now, that man's business was totally destroyed because of the urban renewal scheme. He had to sell out his stock at half price. No settlement whatsoever has been made with him. I am not going to enter into arguments as to whether everybody on both sides had had the most professional competent help and whether if everybody had

driven as hard a bargain as they could, the thing might not have been resolved and at least settled, so far as law now requires.

The fact of the matter is that it is not settled and that a small businessman who has totally lost his business, is completely out of business—and was completely out of business late last year—and no settlement has been made. Mr. Speaker, under the laws of this province as they presently stand there can be no compensation to that man for the loss of his prospective profits in that business. That is one gap and I suggest that small businessmen who are anxious to protect other small businessmen in this Legislature should study that particular incident in relation to the expropriation procedures.

But as I say, in trying to isolate the problems in this question of urban renewal we found that the focus tended to be—this was the immediate problem—on the compensation to the actual homeowner who was being dispossessed.

Nothing for practical purposes has been done in the Donmount area for people who did not own their homes—that is, the large number of people who were tenants, without leases. Leases are not general in my area of the city as I suppose they are not general in other areas of the city. Nothing has been done either for people who were roomers, or boarders, or old age people, in that area.

There was no proper assessment of that community before the land in it was expropriated all of a sudden. The procedure was to be step-by-step. First of all, an expropriation procedure carried out under inadequate laws; the removal of the people from the area; the demolition of the houses; and the servicing of the land.

Then this government steps in, and the land is conveyed to the Ontario housing corporation which is designing the structures that are to go up on that property. This government has to have a different interest. They are not only just bankers, they have a responsibility to make certain that the fundamental approach to urban renewal is changed. It has to be started from the point of view of the people, of the community in which the people are living—and the government must involve the people in the preparation of the plans. True it may be, that the initiative for the particular plan at the present time is a municipal initiative, but The Department of Municipal Affairs, through the community planning branch can exercise a very real influence on municipalities so far as their philosophies and attitudes are concerned.

There are many questions about urban renewal but I am simply leaving it, Mr. Speaker, at this hour, on the proposition that there has got to be a fundamental reassessment of the approach to urban renewal if we are going to achieve what we are going to achieve.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Would the hon. member permit a question? I am very interested in the remarks which the hon. member is making on this subject. Particularly, I appreciate the responsibility of government in expropriation procedures and laws, but I wonder as I listened to him, and I would like him to make some comment on this area.

A responsible government, a municipal government—pretty capable governments of our municipalities as the hon. member has just said—designs the plan of urban renewal, in dealing with its own people in an area of its own municipality.

Where, and to what extent, does the responsibility of that municipality extend? One would think that there would be a very great regard, and a closer approach, to the situation and the conditions of those people. What about that?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General has raised a very fundamental part of it and this is the position at this time, as I understand it, of this government. The initiative on an urban renewal scheme comes from the municipality, and the participation of the government of Ontario has a certain supervisory part to play in it through the community planning branch of The Department of Municipal Affairs, in conjunction with the federal government, because of the defraying of the cost. The position of the provincial government is not just the position of a provincial banker in it; it is an important part of it. Certainly in the evolution of this problem, it appears that the fundamental position of the federal government is that it is banker.

I am suggesting that the provincial government's obligation is something more than just banker. That when schemes are put forward by municipalities for the urban renewal of an area—whether it is rehabilitation or whatever it is—that when those schemes are put forward as the scheme in the Trefann Court association was put forward—fundamentally, the government of the province of Ontario should ask such questions as this, no matter what the scheme is:

Have the people in the area been consulted? Is there a sociological assessment of the needs of the people in the area? What are the forecasts as to where those people will be going, if their properties are expropriated or even if they do not own properties, but are roomers or boarders in these properties? What is the likelihood and what is the additional increment to the housing accommodation which is going to take place, and say to your colleagues in the Ontario housing corporation, "What are your plans for this area? What are the arrangements by which people who are displaced from this particular community can be given assurance that they can return to this community if they wish to do so? What are you doing about—the example which I gave—the small shop owner in this area; what is his position going to be? Is this urban renewal scheme an adequate one in this area, having regard to the need for additional housing?"

There are many, many areas that—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If the hon. member will yield the floor—Yes, I agree that these questions should be asked, but I have the feeling that if I were sitting on the municipal council, or if I were the mayor or the reeve, I would consider setting forth some conditions when taking the initiative for the scheme. I would ask these questions there, at least to some extent and say, "What are we going to do with these people if we displace them from this part of our municipality? Have we not some responsibility to see where they are going to go? Can we locate them elsewhere within, or without, our municipality? And is this wise?"

What I try to get an answer to, is this: Is there not some responsibility before a municipality comes forward with a proposal of this kind to have thought out some of the consequences?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I am not suggesting for a moment that, of course, there is a responsibility, but what we have to recognize is that, to accomplish urban renewal and to accomplish the social purposes which are behind it, requires a great deal of experiment, a great deal of thought and attention to be given to the kind of problems which I have indicated. It is a new conception in Canada. It has come over to us from the United States, where I think in many ways their problems are quite different, but our problem here is that there are urban renewal schemes in which this government is participating to a substantial extent in the original

acquisition costs, and where the ultimate result is going to be the design and the layout and the structures which are erected by the Ontario housing corporation. This is the scheme within which it operates.

I think that the members of the government who have been aware of this problem in Donmount Village and in Trefann Court—and there are three or four Ministers who are, I think, specifically aware of certain of the facets of this problem—have to recognize that the urban renewal schemes as planned by the city of Toronto and put forward, are not working. The fact of the matter is that the Trefann Court scheme—and I say this because I am simply pleased that it did happen—is now not being implemented on the basis on which it was originally put forward, because it would have been a duplicate of the Donmount Village scheme.

The reason that it is not being implemented, Mr. Speaker, is that the Trefann Court residents' association—the people in that community—not the traditional ratepayers' association, but a residents' association of the people in the area, businessmen, tenants, home owners, businessmen—in the sense of manufacturing plants—roomers and boarders, belong to this association. They were able to act in such a cohesive and effective way that in fact they were able to enforce a reconsideration of that scheme and I know that the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) is aware of this. I believe that the Attorney General is aware of some parts of this.

I do not want to suggest for a moment that we are home free in Trefann Court; we are not. All that has happened so far is that there was a stop, but the plans and the questions which have to be raised, have been raised by the Trefann Court residents' association. This is where the initiative has come from to place before the city council the kind of questions which I would have assumed the government, at various levels would themselves have thought about. What has happened, of course, is that the traditional attitude about which I spoke and which I believe impregnates the general social attitude toward poor people, and is reflected both in this government and in the municipal governments in the province of Ontario, was "Well, these are poor people. Anything we do will help them and we do not have to consult with them because anything we are doing is going to help them and therefore they are very ungrateful if they do not let us just go along and carry out our scheme just the way we want to."

And what is finally being recognized—and I think the election process, the democratic process in the municipal elections in the city of Toronto last year—influenced the decision which took place. It has finally come to the attention of the city council and to the board of control that they do have to, grudgingly or otherwise, re-think these problems, answer many of the rhetorical questions which I put to the Attorney General and that the whole concept of the operation of our society must be focussed now on the communities within our society.

It is not just sufficient to say, "We are now going to look at the family; we are going to assess its needs and we are going to do what we can to help that particular family to find its niche in the game; we are going to ease our problem so that it will not be a self-perpetuating one, if we translate our problem to a community one and if we make certain that society is prepared to provide the material needs by which people can live properly. Then you can deal with these other questions of whether an individual person in an individual case, has the kind of problem that will respond to some other kind of individual treatment." And this deals with housing; it deals with any of the areas where, if one stops to think about it, people are concerned and this is the area, Mr. Speaker, where I feel that this government has a very real responsibility to play.

I am not suggesting—and I am not one who believes—that this whole area should be transferred to the provincial government. The municipal governments have a very real responsibility to rehabilitate the areas of their cities, but they are to rehabilitate them for the people who live in them; they are to rehabilitate them in such a way that the dislocation which takes place is minimized to redevelop the areas in a way which will allow people to participate in the decisions which are made in the communities in which they live. In this small 24-acre tract of land, known as the Trefann Court urban renewal scheme, you will find every kind of person, every kind of problem, every kind of success, every kind of failure. In other words, what you will find is a cross-section of the people of the province of Ontario; people who have lived there for one week in a room; people who have lived there for 50 years; people who are engaged in the traditional ways of earning their living; other people who do not quite have the predatory, aggressive instincts to get along too well in the economic system; people who, by and large, have been defeated in some ways by the system. But other people

have made a very real success of it and the fact of the matter is that in those areas—and it is the same everywhere in Ontario, there are communities of people which should not be destroyed in the name of urban renewal. The communities have got to be given the important place, the fundamental place, in the way in which urban renewal takes place.

Now, if in the working out of the Trefann Court scheme in its renegotiations and in its redevelopment, areas of problems or areas of concern which I have expressed, are part and parcel of that reworking of the scheme—redevelopment of the scheme, the working out of the scheme, as to what people are going to be able to remain in the area, what people can return if they want, what price will be paid for those who want to leave, where they will go—the whole fabric of that community can be maintained, strengthened and developed and achieve what we want to achieve in a way which will not perpetuate the problem. I simply leave with the Minister of Public Welfare the thought that we are engaged in a self-liquidating programme, that we must have a ten-year programme—or whatever number of years is needed—which is designed to eliminate the material wants in our society. If we can do that in a ten-year period, then we will be capable of directing attention to the other social pathologies of our society, which as everyone knows, are spread throughout the society. But let us not kid ourselves that in some way or other the programmes and the professional agencies are doing anything other than today continuing to perpetuate the existing scheme.

We can, if this government is prepared to devote the resources to it, with the cooperation of the federal government, produce the kind of money which will make certain that no one in this society is without the funds to enable that person to meet his material needs. There is not going to be a great deal of wastage and you do not have to have an insistence that somebody must in this particular case work in return for it. The sufficient number of dollars spread throughout this society, that is required to accomplish the ends that appear to me to be so vitally important to this community, are available. They will improve the quality of the life of the community, they will stimulate, in a vast measure, the economic life of the community.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that as we think about these problems and as we try to debate them, that we recognize that there are fundamental attitudes which have to be changed in an appreciation of these problems

and I conclude on behalf of our party in this debate, by simply saying: let us get on with the business of the province of Ontario. Let us get the work before this Legislature and let us get on with it, and if and when the election comes, of course, the result is well known.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South) moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The third order.

THE LAND TITLES ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves second reading of Bill 1, An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE MILK ACT, 1965

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves second reading of Bill 2, An Act to amend The Milk Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves second reading of Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, in moving second reading of Bill 4, I want to say just a word about the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

The proposal is to establish a museum that will be owned entirely by the province of Ontario and operated by the province of Ontario, with the assistance as is provided in the bill by an advisory committee to be appointed.

There is provision in the bill to take care of those who want to donate, or to display farm equipment that has been used in the agricultural industry of Ontario and at the same time make agreements with various groups to hold exhibitions on the land of the equipment, to demonstrate the operation of the equipment that would be on display.

I believe that this bill goes far in indicating the preservation of the agricultural

equipment that has done much to develop the agriculture industry of the province to date.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Brant): I was hoping that we might have a bit more information associated with the establishment of this museum. It has been indicated in the press, as I understand it, that it will be built at Milton in association with the land purchased by the conservation authority there.

I believe it is true, sir, that a good many organizations, both public and private, have established agricultural museums on a relatively smaller scale, compared with what we hope this will eventually be and I know many of these groups have been looking for some type of assistance from some arm of government down through the last few years.

The Minister is aware of some near his own area, particularly the one that has been established by the Upper Thames conservation authority. There is one in the constituency of the hon. Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell), called Westfield Village, which has developed into an extremely valuable and interesting collection of farming materials and exhibitions showing the type of farming at the time of Confederation.

I was hoping, that associated with this bill, there might be some further information that would allow the government, through its advisory committee, not only to establish the central museum, but to provide some additional assistance for these groups that have been set up in the past few years.

I am interested further, sir, in the possibility of federal assistance. I have been told, in some years gone by, that there is a federal programme that will contribute certain sums for a museum that is designated in each of the provinces as the agricultural museum. I wonder if the Minister some time might give some further information about this?

There is no doubt about it, with the move of more and more people to the urban areas, there is a tremendous interest in this type of a museum. It is interesting, educational and we certainly support the concept of this bill.

Mr. Speaker: I think it would be in order if the Minister wishes to speak again.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The hon. member for Halton wants to speak.

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): I just wanted to say a few words, Mr. Speaker. As the hon.

Minister has said, this provincial museum will be in Halton county near Milton and I would like to express my appreciation to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food for his efforts in the establishment of this museum. It did take some weeks and some months to decide on a site and the appropriation and everything involved with a development of this size.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett), who through the conservation authority was also involved in the establishment of this museum in Halton.

It is not so important—I am sure, Mr. Speaker, you will agree—that this museum has been established in Halton. The whole idea of the exhibition of farm antiquity in Ontario is important. I think the hon. Minister will agree that it is long overdue and in our Centennial year, this will be a very worthy addition to the agricultural community and our general Centennial celebrations for Ontario and therefore I appreciate the chance to make these few remarks.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments made by the hon. members.

In reply to the questions posed by the leader of the Opposition I would say first of all that I do appreciate very much the contribution that has been made in all of the counties and districts, generally speaking, throughout the province where there are such museums of a county, or local, or conservation area nature. All of them contribute greatly to the interest of the community and to the preservation of those things that have been associated throughout the years with the traditions and the heritage that we know so well in this country.

However this museum is designated by the province of Ontario as the central museum for agriculture for the province and will be operating with the assistance of a grant that is provided by the government of Canada to each province that establishes an agricultural museum.

A grant is receivable from the government of Canada for the operation, not the capital but the operation, of the museum, up to 50 per cent of an annual expenditure of \$12,000 a year. This will materially assist in operating the museum which we feel will be not only an agricultural museum but an educational museum. We think it is important that we should preserve not only those artifacts which have been referred to by the hon.

member for Halton and by the hon. leader of the Opposition, but more particularly the era of the steam engine and what it meant in the development of this country—and the early tractors and the early trucks—those things that contributed toward our agricultural industry.

I pay tribute to the steam and antique preservers' association of Ontario who annually hold an exhibition at the Milton fairgrounds on Labour Day weekend. This exhibition of this association has attracted such interest that people come literally by the thousands to see this show. It has outgrown the limitations of the area. The association will have, we hope, a part in this new agricultural museum complex and the area of land—some 80 acres—will provide a place for them to carry out their demonstrations and their activities there.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE COUNTY JUDGES ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 5, An Act to amend The County Judges Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE COUNTY COURTS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 6, An Act to amend The County Courts Act.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I just wish to say that these bills being very clear and simple and affecting—simply the addition of Bill 4 of some judges from county and district courts and a change in the date of the courts. There should be no necessity for them to go to legal bills committee.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves reading of Bill 7, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, on Bill 7; is the intention of this bill a remedial purpose, or is it a purpose of making the procedures more difficult?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat surprised that the hon. member

should ask that question. The bill is short and, I think, simple. The intention of the bill is to enable a court in reciprocal jurisdictions—and I will deal with our own jurisdiction first—to enable a court, let us say in our jurisdiction, where there has been an order made for maintenance, which is perhaps associated with a background of divorce or separation or some other area of that nature; where there has been a maintenance provision in the judgment.

The bill provides that that maintenance order may be enforced without any reference to the other areas which were involved and any of the background on which that order was attained and likewise, the other jurisdiction would have the same right. This only applies to areas which have reciprocal legislation.

My explanatory note which is very brief but which I think is comprehensive says that the amendment permits a foreign maintenance order to be enforced on its merits and not as part of a larger question such as divorce or custody. I think the one simple clause really, which is the effective clause in the bill, is quite clear. It is supposed to be remedial.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if I may just speak again from a moment on that question—

Mr. Speaker: The member has spoken once. However, it is alright if he just has a short comment to make.

Mr. Renwick: Yes. With the explanation which the Attorney General has given, I understand then that the purpose of the bill is to permit the actual question of maintenance to be isolated from other more difficult questions so that it can be decided either in favour of the foreign plaintiff or against the foreign plaintiff, but can be decided in a more speedy fashion than if it were encumbered with other considerations such as custody and divorce, and so on.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, and I think if I might just add, Mr. Speaker, I think we are particularly concerned with enforcing the maintenance without someone raising all the background questions. Because maintenance of the parties in such a situation may be urgent and imperative and it enables the court, say in this jurisdiction or the other reciprocal jurisdiction to enforce the maintenance and if they want to appeal the whole matter in the jurisdiction where the order was obtained, it would be dealt with in due course there. In the meantime, maintenance

may be enforced as separate and segregated from the rest of the Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question. I am curious now. Am I to understand from the—

Mr. Speaker: I did allow a couple of questions during second reading, but in view of the hour I wonder if the member could allow his question to wait until the bill reaches the committee stage? We are debating the principle here and although I did allow a couple of questions, perhaps I should not have done so during second reading.

Mr. Ben: This would apply to the principle of the bill.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the bill is going to the legal bills committee and I think these questions could be ironed out there, or in the committee stage.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will continue with the Throne Debate and I think it would be desirable following the conclusion of that debate if we proceeded to hear from the leaders of the Opposition parties on the Budget debate before touching any estimates.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, before that motion is dealt with, I do not know what disposition we made of Bill 7. I do not think that anybody said that second reading was carried; it was just left dangling. In addition to that there

was your remark, contrary to the Attorney General's remark that it was going to go to the legal bills committee and I did not understand that that was the Attorney General's intention either.

Mr. Speaker: I understood that the Attorney General said that all these bills would go to the legal bills committee.

Mr. Singer: No, he said that none of them would.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I did not refer to Bill 7 actually; I did not say that it would not go but I did say that the other two, Bills 5 and 6, would not go and I had to have consent that that would be the case.

I would think, apart from the remarks of the hon. member, who was about to raise a question, that it should not be necessary for this bill to go to the legal bills committee. I would hope that should be so.

Mr. Speaker: I had ruled that the bill was carried. If there are any further questions—

Mr. Singer: I did not hear that ruling.

Mr. Speaker: I carried the bill, and I suggested also that the member then could ask his questions when the bill reached the committee stage.

Mr. Singer: The committee of the whole House?

Mr. Speaker: The committee of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.05 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, February 20, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Frenchman's Bay public school, Pickering, and in the Speaker's gallery, Glen Rush public school, Toronto, and in both galleries, St. Thomas Aquinas separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE PARKS ASSISTANCE ACT

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Parks Assistance Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I have an item which I am sure will be of interest to the hon. members of the House.

On Thursday last, a group of young people, some 44 in number, came down to Toronto by bus, travelling 500 miles, to be here to take part in the Kiwanis music festival, competing against all the choirs from greater Toronto and other parts of the province. They topped the field and took first honours.

A further item of interest is that the choir is led and conducted by Mr. James Whicher, brother of the hon. member for Bruce.

This is the first time that a choir from Saulte Ste. Marie has competed in this very large festival contest. It is a great tribute to the conductor that he brought these young people, 16- and 17-year-old, this distance and succeeded on the first attempt in leading all the choirs who took part in that very widely contested festival.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, I

have two or three brief statements, one relating to The Department of University Affairs, and I wish to inform the House of the appointment of Dr. Douglas T. Wright, who has agreed to accept the position as the first full time chairman of the committee on university affairs.

Dr. Wright, who is currently on a year's sabbatical at Sherbrooke, as a visiting professor, was the first dean of engineering at the University of Waterloo, a post he held from 1958 to 1966, when he left to devote more time to teaching, research and writing. He has been a member of the committee on university affairs since 1964.

Dr. Wright is a graduate of the University of Toronto, with an honours B.Sc. in civil engineering in 1949, received an M.S. at the University of Illinois in 1952 and his Ph.D. at Cambridge in 1954.

His initial experience as a university teacher was on the faculty of the University of Illinois and this was followed by appointments at Queen's University at Kingston and the University of Waterloo.

In addition to his current post at Sherbrooke, Dr. Wright has also served as a visiting professor in Mexico.

Dr. Wright is a member of an extensive number of professional bodies closely related to the engineering field in which he has earned a reputation, both as an outstanding scholar and civil engineer. He has been the author of numerous publications on structural engineering and engineering education, works which have reflected his extensive travel to literally all parts of the world.

In addition, he has held a number of important posts in major educational bodies, including current membership on the board of directors of the association of universities and colleges of Canada.

It is my opinion, Mr. Speaker, that Ontario is most fortunate in securing a person with such extensive background, both in university teaching and research and in educational administration to occupy this important post. I am confident that with Dr. Wright, his talents and energies on a full time basis, the committee on university affairs will be able

to render even greater service to higher education in this province.

In announcing Dr. Wright's appointment I must also take the opportunity to pay tribute to the Hon. Dana Porter, who served as chairman of the committee since its formation in 1961. He has carried the role despite very heavy responsibilities as chief justice of the province and the added duties which were assigned him as chairman of the Royal commission on banking and finance during 1963-64. During the period of his chairmanship, Mr. Porter continued to display his keen interest in educational matters which had been so clearly established during his tenure as Minister of Education. The universities of this province should be forever grateful for the service he has rendered in this most important area.

It is also my pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to announce that Mr. Edward E. Stewart will be named the new Deputy Minister of University Affairs. Mr. Stewart, who has served as assistant Deputy Minister in the department since its formation in 1964, brings to his position some 18 years' experience in both education and government covering a variety of important posts. He succeeds Dr. J. R. McCarthy, who was recently appointed Deputy Minister of Education.

A native of Windsor, Ontario, Mr. Stewart received his elementary and secondary education in that city prior to attending London teachers' college in 1948-1949. Returning to his home community he joined the Windsor public schools where he served on the teaching staff for a seven-year period. During this time he earned his B.A. degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1953 and his M.A. from the University of Michigan in 1956. He has also taken graduate studies in education at the University of Toronto.

From 1956-1960 Mr. Stewart was an instructor at the Toronto and Lakeshore teachers' colleges, and was later appointed to the professional development branch of The Department of Education as an assistant superintendent.

Following a ten-month period in 1962 during which he acted as a consultant to the civil service commission in the development of training techniques for personnel engaged in the position evaluation programme, he became an assistant superintendent in the curriculum branch of The Department of Education. At that time he was assigned duties related to the work of the committee on university affairs, and with the founding of the new department was named assistant Deputy Minister in September of 1964. The

new Deputy Minister is a member of a number of professional organizations on education, both in Canada and the United States.

It is reassuring to me, Mr. Speaker, as I am sure it will be to members of the House, that these two highly important positions are to be undertaken by young men who combine great energy and enthusiasm with experience in education that is both varied and extensive.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to read a brief statement with respect to a new capital grant programme for the schools of this province.

A new method of calculating approval of capital projects for grant purposes is to be effective in connection with all projects receiving final departmental approval on or after January 1, 1967.

The new, flexible plan establishes for each facility a wider range of acceptable sizes to meet the particular needs of individual school boards; this compares with the previous method whereby classrooms and certain other areas were allotted grants at the rate of \$20,000 per unit in elementary schools and \$25,000 per unit in secondary schools.

The new plan provides for the calculation of an accommodation unit factor for each of various types of classrooms, laboratories, commercial rooms and shops. Included are such essential areas as gymnasiums and changing rooms, library resource centres, general purpose rooms, group instruction and seminar rooms, lunch rooms and cafeterias, guidance centres and health units.

The amount of grant approval will be calculated by multiplying the total of all accommodation unit factors by a figure to be taken from the table of values which accompanies the new grant plan. Grant approval will vary with the size and estimated construction cost of each approved facility and will also reflect geographic cost differentials.

The aim of this new plan, Mr. Speaker, is to provide an approved cost for grant purposes, which will approach, in each project, the total cost of approved facilities. I think it indicates, Mr. Speaker, after the question from the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) of a day or so ago, that the province is indeed keeping up to date with alterations to the regulations and financial assistance to the school boards of this province.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to bring to the attention of the House a news item that appeared in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* this morning.

It seems that over the week-end the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) was up in Ottawa meeting with his warriors or war lords, and in the course of his discussion he seems to have made some statement on policy or platform of the Liberal Party. In it he mentioned, "stepped-up programmes to develop power resources, especially in eastern Ontario, along the Madawaska system."

Now Mr. Speaker, lest this House and the people of this province be misled—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Does the member wish to refer to something that has been mentioned in his particular riding?

Mr. Yakabuski: Mr. Speaker, I feel it is an erroneous statement and I would like to correct it here in the House.

Mr. Speaker: No, I am afraid the member is out of order. I understood the member was rising on a point of privilege on something that had been stated in the press regarding himself or his riding.

Mr. Yakabuski: I want to correct it.

Mr. Speaker: Well there will be a time for that.

Mr. Yakabuski: It refers to my riding, sir.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. I would think there would be other more suitable times. We could not allow every member to rise in the House on something that has been said about things in his riding unless one's own rights were brought into the picture. I do not think the member's personal privilege has been affected in this case.

Mr. Yakabuski: It is a very misleading statement the hon. leader of the Opposition made.

Mr. Speaker: I have to declare the member out of order. He will have to deal with it at some other time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Would the Minister inform the House:

1. Did in fact R. G. MacCormac, registrar of used car dealers, issue regulations in respect to the resale of rental vehicles and the turning back of speedometers as reported

in the Toronto *Daily Star* of February 4, 1967?

2. Were these regulations changed by someone else in the department on February 16, 1967?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Yorkview and the leader of the Opposition each have another question on this same subject.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if the Minister would like all the questions put at one time.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if all the members with questions on this particular subject would care to read their questions, and the Minister will deal with them all together.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister tell the House whether the government has altered or intends to alter regulations covering the sale of used cars under The Used Car Dealers Act? If so, what is the nature of the changes and why are they being made?

Mr. Young: I have a further question, Mr. Speaker.

Are used car salesmen now allowed to operate during the period between the time they apply for a licence and the actual issuing of a licence? If so, is the Minister concerned that this might again open the door to fly-by-night operations in the used car field?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the three questions deal with what appears to be a difference of views, as reported in the press today. I am arranging a meeting with the principals involved in my department to look into the matter.

I would note, however, that some emphasis has been placed, both in the questions asked and in the press, on the word "regulation". The situation does not involve a government regulation in the sense that regulations are passed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. I am informed that a more apt term to apply would be directive, or even guide line, since the information involved came through a regular bulletin put out in the normal course of business by the registration and examination branch.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to take this opportunity to make a statement with respect to consumer protection in Ontario. It has been reported in the press in recent weeks

that the proclamation of the necessary legislation and the actual setting up of a consumer protection bureau might be held up for six months or more. Such a delay does not fit anywhere in my plans or the plans of this government. I hope to be able to announce the proclamation date within 10 days for both Bill 100, The Consumer Protection Bureau Act, 1966, and Bill 101, The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Now Mr. Speaker, the member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt), asked a question with respect to trading stamps the other day. I would like to say this in reply; that the answer to his question is yes, meaning that consideration has been given to the subject matter of trading stamps.

This is a policy matter. It is a matter on which the government will announce its determination in due course.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), who is not here, but I would like to put it on the record so he can answer it on his return.

Is The Department of Highways not bound by the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada which states that no person whose land has been expropriated is entitled to an additional ten per cent allowance for forcible taking?

Second, on what basis is The Department of Highways offering, to those persons whose land is being taken for the widening of Highway 27, a fair market value plus ten per cent for inconvenience money?

Third, is the ten per cent inconvenience money a new government policy? If so, who inaugurated it and on what authority? And if so, do any other expropriating authorities in Ontario have the power to offer ten per cent inconvenience money?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

Referring to the article on the Ontario women's bureau in the current issue of the *Labour Gazette*:

(a) which five departments were involved in the interdepartmental committee to assess day care facilities for children of working mothers?

(b) would the Minister give the House the set of agreed-upon recommendations to which the article refers as being sufficient to meet the problem of facilities?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the five departments involved in the interdepartmental committee were, Economics and Development, Education, Health, Labour, and Public Welfare.

The committee was simply an interdepartmental group at staff level, consisting of officials whose responsibilities touch on the matter of day care. Their suggestions were formulated for and directed to the superiors in their department and were intended as an assistance in the development of policy.

The suggestions as such are not final and are still under consideration in the various departments.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko)?

Is it the Minister's intention this session to amend The Children's Institutions Act to provide for 100 per cent subsidy for private placement of children in conformity with the white paper tabled by the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond)?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, government announcements in implementation of policies are announced from time to time and this will occur in reference to the white paper.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is, what does that mean?

An hon. member: It means be patient.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Economics and Development, and I hope he will answer it and several others that we have exchanged in the past week or two.

Is the Minister aware that the Metro Toronto properties department has ten large two- and three-bedroom homes in the Forest Hill-Cedarvale area which are presently unoccupied, having been expropriated in anticipation of the Spadina expressway? If so, has the department attempted to negotiate use of the houses to alleviate emergency housing needs? If not, will the department undertake to negotiate such use?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, I read about this in the press a few weeks ago. I think the hon. member is a little late in picking up this story.

We had a chance to look into it and I am advised that the houses referred to were offered to the central housing registry of

Metropolitan Toronto as temporary accommodation by the Metro property department.

I am further advised that these dwellings are scheduled for demolition commencing July 1, 1967.

In accordance with the policy of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, the units were offered at market rentals, ranging up to \$250 per month. Such properties are also offered by the property department on the open market for rental on a private basis. The housing registry automatically offers such properties to the Ontario housing corporation and the city of Toronto housing authority, upon receipt of advice from the Metro property department.

Insofar as Ontario housing corporation is concerned, it has been advised by central mortgage and housing corporation that residential properties not owned by the Ontario housing corporation do not qualify for subsidy purposes. Therefore, while Ontario housing corporation is willing to administer these properties for the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, it does not include them in its portfolio of rent-to-income housing.

Now if you would like, I will answer the other questions the hon. member has put in.

The hon. member for Scarborough West posed some other questions last week, Mr. Speaker, and the answer to the first question is as follows:

1. Discussions have been held with central mortgage and housing corporation at the head office level. This included meetings with the Hon. John R. Nicholson and Mr. H. W. Hignett, president of central mortgage and housing corporation, during the week commencing January 30. Further meetings are to be held in Ottawa this week but I can assure you there is complete agreement between the two levels of government on the scheme. It is possible that officials of the Ontario regional office of central mortgage and housing corporation have not yet been advised of the details discussed with their head office, but this is an administrative matter involving central mortgage and housing corporation only.

The answer to the second question:

2. No additional details of the HOME plan have been made available to the city of Toronto to date. Ontario housing corporation will be following the same practice as in the housing programme of dealing in the first instance with the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto which represents not only the city of Toronto but each of the constituent

boroughs of Metro. I am prepared to meet or have my officials meet at any time with municipal councils.

Representatives of Ontario municipalities were invited to the conference which was held on Friday, February 10, but a substantial number were unable to attend. I am therefore sending a copy of my address to the conference to each municipality. I am also advising the municipalities that we are prepared at any time to meet with them for the purpose of discussing the new programme and the steps to be taken in order to implement the programme in their community. And I might say I have done this with two or three municipalities last week.

The answer to the third question:

3. The financial statements of Ontario housing corporation will be presented to the Legislature when the necessary financial returns of the 41 Ontario housing authorities which come under the jurisdiction of the corporation have been received and when the consolidated accounts of Ontario housing corporation have been audited and certified by the provincial auditor.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, the Minister indicated last week that he would at some point inform the House of the contents of the various submissions made to the Scarborough officials about the Malvern housing project on the occasion of the three meetings to which he referred some time ago. Has the Minister those contents as yet?

Hon. Mr. Randall: No, that information is being gathered by the housing corporation. I will get the minutes and have them tabled for you.

Mr. S. Lewis: Fine.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, notice of which has been given.

Has further consideration been given to the banning of trading stamps or promotional gimmicks by food retailers?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It was my understanding that question was made last week and I answered it earlier today.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, just before we start the business of the afternoon, the Prime Minister's illness has kept him from the House now a full week. I wonder if the House leader would be prepared to give us some specific information as

to the state of his health? We have all expressed our sympathies with respect to his illness, but I would appreciate it if we could have some information from the government leader in this connection.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) and I visited the Prime Minister and spent a while with him. He looked in good spirits, as he was. We are still awaiting word from his doctor, Dr. Hugh McAlpine, and as soon as that word is communicated to us I will then be in a position to give a definitive statement.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I wonder if I might ask the House leader when it is the government's intention to answer questions on the order paper?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: They will be proceeded with as speedily as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order. Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Speaker, in assisting the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) to wind up this Speech from the Throne debate, I would first of all extend my congratulations to you in the same spirit that I extended them last year. The only difficulty is I have forgotten for the moment what my message contained last year, so perhaps I had better say that we have enjoyed your chairmanship of the House and we believe that your opinions and your decisions have been just as sound as you have seen them, and we are glad to be back here again under your leadership.

I wanted to say a word, too, in respect of the health of the Prime Minister of the province (Mr. Robarts). We are, as my leader has just said, extremely anxious about the health of the Prime Minister. We hope he will be back amongst us quite shortly. I have a great personal respect, as I am sure many of us have, for the Prime Minister, not only as a politician but as a human being, and sometimes it is pretty hard to correlate those two occupations, as we see them in this House.

And I wanted to say a word too, before I get into the body of my remarks, about the

leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon). We have a new one since the last session of the House. I want to speak first of all about the member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson); I was very sorry, as I am sure the House was, to learn that the hon. member's illness would not allow him to continue his leadership of the party and that he is not at all well at the present time. Those of us who served with the member recognized in him a genuine individual who had a true love of people and a genuine concern for their welfare. To be stricken with sickness as he was leaves us in a void, so to speak.

Then at the convention which followed the hon. member's resignation, my colleague and my friend from the riding of Brant was chosen as leader of the Liberal Party. Even in the short space of time that he has occupied that position I suggest that he has made inroads insofar as capitalizing on his party's resources.

Of course, mind you, much of the progress that he has made has been of his own doing. Some of it, of course, the government has ably contributed to by their weak efforts, by their sins of omission and commission; but I want to say to this House now, and to the province, that in the leader of the Opposition as we know him, we have a man who will be the Prime Minister of this province when the opportunity presents itself.

I want to say a further word respecting the debate that has been carried on up until now. I have either listened to or read very carefully each of the speeches that have been made since this Legislature opened. I think it is fair to say that the calibre of debating during this session of the Legislature has been on a par, if not above, that which prevailed in past sessions of the Legislature.

The only thing that stands out to mar this situation is the fact that on a number of occasions the government were not able to supply speakers to follow in routine with the speakers of the Opposition. Now this is rather a strange predicament for a government to find itself in. Some of the speeches of the Liberal Opposition and of the NDP carried within them strong indictments against government policy, and the failure on the part of government members to openly and thoroughly participate by way of defence or reply suggests, to me at least, that the defence was weak and therefore the reply was not in evidence.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Silence is no admission, the hon. member knows that.

Mr. Oliver: When is the government going to reply? The opportunity for replying in the Speech from the Throne debate is rapidly coming to a close.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Well, then—

Mr. Oliver: So far as I know, the Provincial Treasurer is not the one to wind up the debate. The Budget Debate is another debate in itself, as my hon. friend knows, and as he will find out as the days go on.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Not every speech merits a reply.

Mr. Oliver: Oh, is that right? Well now that is a clever and worthwhile observation, if ever I heard one! I would think my hon. friend was thinking personally when he said that. Surely he is not talking for other members of his own party or of the Opposition.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The hon. member may wish he had not pushed it.

Mr. Oliver: Is that right? I have taken those chances before and I have never had much trouble.

I wanted to say about the election, that is the common talk—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What election?

Mr. Oliver: The one the government has been planning to have the last of May or the first of June; and the one that I hope they will still be able to have.

Now one would wonder, as one observes—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The hon. member is not running.

Mr. Oliver: I will just be the same, so far as my party is concerned, as if I were running.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Oliver: Oh, yes! Now look, praise from the Minister will not make any difference.

As soon as I can get these fellows quietened down, Mr. Speaker, I am going to make some rather solemn observations having to do with the pending election.

When I heard that the election was to be held early in the summer, I could scarcely believe what I heard, because this government has 18 months more to run if they run their normal legislative course. They have enough members on the other side, I would say, to see that whatever they want translated into legislation is so translated.

Then on top of that, the leader of the Opposition has just been appointed—and I am not using this as an excuse, I will explain later—has just been appointed, came right from the convention into this House, and if they carry out their intention of having it in May, we will go right from this House into an election.

Now that is just hardly political cricket, but I do not want that to stand in their way.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I heard we had been asked not to do that.

Mr. Oliver: Not to do what?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Hold an election, having in mind his recent appointment!

An hon. member: Well who asked him?

Mr. Oliver: I hope he did not, and I do not think anybody else did.

I wanted to make a further observation in that regard. I was simply pointing that out as another reason why it seemed improbable or unlikely that this government would go to the country in late May or early June. I do not want them to take that as an excuse, as I will explain as I go on in my remarks. I want them to pass over it, as they apparently have decided already to pass over it.

And so we look for other reasons. Anyone likes to be a political analyst at times. One likes to try to find out what reason can be ascribed to a certain course, that seems to be off the normal course so to speak. When one starts looking for reasons one can find them aplenty.

I imagine, and I feel that this is a consensus of the best opinion, that whoever counsels the hon. Prime Minister as to the timing of an election came to him and said: "The earlier you have it the better; the longer you stay in office the worse it is going to get, and the only chance you have of salvaging a sizeable segment of your once great, powerful party is to have a snap election, and have it early".

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Whoever would advise that?

Mr. Oliver: They got that advice; sure they did!

And in company with that, we have the Speech from the Throne. I imagine these same counsellors suggested that they had better change their image if they can at all. The old image is faded and worn and of no use any more. So into the Speech from the Throne was injected this "go-go" business,

and the PR men were enticed to write the most outstanding, most enlightening phrases that could be applied to the segments of the Speech from the Throne in an effort to transfer this party from that image of an old, tired out administration to one that had taken on new life, new vim and new vigour.

Well now, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, and through you to the smiling hon. Provincial Treasurer, that "ain't going to work."

I mean the change was too sudden; and in the midst of that change they look too ridiculous. They simply cannot measure up to the requirements of that sort of an image. They have not been in it for so long and they just cannot suddenly be themselves in this new image that they think will catch the fancy of the electorate.

So now we are going to have it, I hope; and I honestly and sincerely hope that the Prime Minister will be back in the House and that he will be able to have this election, as he had planned to have it.

An hon. member: And then be back in the House again?

Mr. Oliver: That is what the member thinks. I think likely he will make it—it is the member we are worried about.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Do not worry about us.

Mr. Oliver: I wanted to go on now and set out in chronological order the reasons why this government is seeking an early mandate from the people.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Who said that?

Mr. Oliver: Who said that? I said that, and the Minister cannot have a better authority.

I wanted to come first to my friend the Provincial Treasurer in his new role of guarding the nickels and spending the dimes. There is some suggestion, I take it, that the one thing that may work in their favour in an election is his flamboyant statement—of course if others knew him as we know him, they would know that that was not unusual—his flamboyant statement that taxes were not going to be increased. Now I want to analyze that statement for a few moments—that taxes were not going to be increased this year.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is right.

Mr. Oliver: Well, heaven forbid!

Last year they really gave us the works. They put two years in one, so it is logical that taxes would not need to be increased this year.

I want to touch on another point in this regard. Somewhere in the pages of my hon. friend's presentation to the House is the statement that we are to have a deficit of \$162 million. Now when my hon. friend says that he is not increasing taxes he is doing the self same thing. If he had balanced his budget this year he would have had to increase the sales tax by two per cent, and so it is basically and essentially a tax, nothing else.

My hon. friend has found a convenient way, in election year, to say that we are not taxing you this year over and above what we did before, but instead we have found a column in which we are going to put \$162 million and call that column "deficit", for somebody else to pay some day in the future.

I do not know whether my hon. friend believes in deficit financing or not. Personally, I cannot follow my friends of the CCF in this to the full end that they go sometimes. I believe that deficit financing should only be used in times that are difficult economically, when it is necessary to finance in a deficit position in order to carry the services provided by the government over that difficult period. But in times like these, in which we say we are in a prosperous position, I do not think deficit financing has any place except when my hon. friend wants to find a way of saying we are not taxing you this year.

But they really are, and I do not know that that is going to go down the people's throats too well in election time.

Then there is the certainty, as sure as the Lord made little apples, that if they do not tax this year, they will tax next year. The only reason they are saying they are not going to tax this year is to carry them over an election period. Once they get over that, if they happen to come back to power, and I doubt that very much, they will then have to impose additional taxation on the people of this province.

So if that is the main thing on which they are going to the people of Ontario in a snap election, I do not think it will hold water. I do not think they will persuade the people any more that this government, that has taxed more than any other, is going to suddenly give them a bonanza and have that continue more than the one year. I think they will just have to take that for what it is worth, for I am sure the people of Ontario will assess it in that way.

Now in this Budget, which amounted to over \$2 billion, the poor taxpayer on the back

concessions and in the towns and villages and in the cities of this province—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): This is the Throne Debate.

Mr. Oliver: Yes I know, but this is the only mention I am going to make of the Budget. I thought of putting in enough to make my point. Is that all right? I have the member for York South persuaded now.

As I told him, and I can tell the House, I have a number of other things that have nothing to do with the Budget.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: If he is satisfied with the way the member is doing it, so are we.

Mr. MacDonald: He has not found very much to criticize other than the political advantage of an election.

Mr. Oliver: I wanted to talk about what the government does for municipalities. Whether this is in the Budget or whether it is in the Speech from the Throne or wherever it is, it is going to be a dominant, prominent issue in the next election campaign.

They are going to the people of Ontario without having really done anything for the municipalities in a Budget of over \$2 billion. They have given them crumbs that fall from the table, and the members of this government are neat eaters and there are very few, not many crumbs.

I knew I had coined a phrase there. They are neat eaters, and so there are not many crumbs left for the municipalities.

The municipalities of Ontario have a right to expect better treatment than they have received from this government. I remember the Provincial Treasurer on the night he presented his Budget. Somebody asked him how this would affect the tax rates for the municipalities, will they go down?

Now my friend, even in politics, is an honest man. He said they would not go down; no, would not go down! He did not say how much it would go up, but he said it would not go down. The truth of the matter is that all that has been done under the new Budget for the municipalities will scarcely be a drop in the bucket insofar as its influence on the tax rate is concerned. And members will find this fall that we will have the highest municipal tax rate that we ever had in the history of this province.

Now you would think, Mr. Speaker, that the municipalities, perhaps, should be part-

ners with the government, but they are not, they are hardly kissing cousins. The municipalities are as far removed from the government as the north is from the south. They are creatures of the government and as such are dependent upon the government for their solvency, their ability to attract new industry and to look after their own people.

Now they have reached the end of the rope so far as paying taxes is concerned. And the day has come when excuses will no longer be taken from the government as to why they do not increase the relief of taxes to the municipalities. The school taxes, for instance, are a tremendous burden on the municipal taxpayer and the increased grants announced by the Minister of Education will scarcely more than take care of the increased enrollment and the costs involved. What he has done is just a drop in the bucket and it will not stop in any way, shape or form, the spiralling costs of education to be borne by the municipal taxpayer.

I would say to this House, that when the election comes, there is going to be a lot of talk about how this government misused the municipal taxpayers in this province, how they expected them to carry a load too heavy for them to carry and, while they have a Budget of over \$2 billion, the relief for the municipal taxpayers has been just about nothing. Now that you have to answer for—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We are prepared.

Mr. Oliver: Yes, I know the government is prepared, it has gotten away with it a time or two in the past, but I do not think it will this time. I think the government has to come face to face with an appreciation of the fact that the rural people and the urban people in this province who pay municipal taxes, have looked for a long time to this government for substantial relief, and none has been forthcoming. They are going to hold the government responsible for that difficulty—the difficulty they are in at the present time. And I would suggest that the government is going to have some difficulty in adequately answering that problem to the satisfaction of the people of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The hon. member would prefer to raise the provincial taxes—

Mr. Oliver: Well, do you know what is happening?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The hon. member would prefer to raise the provincial sales tax—

Mr. Oliver: Do you know what is happening? I do not think the municipal taxpayer would be so opposed to paying a little more tax if he could see something for what he is paying. But what is happening right now is that taxes are going up day by day and year by year for the same old thing—nothing substantial beyond what he was getting before. That is where the difficulty comes in so far as the municipal taxpayer is concerned.

And then we have the farm policy—I want to talk to my friend, the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) for a moment. We have our farm policy, or our lack of a policy, and I hope that the government is not expecting the farmers to support this administration even to the extent that they did in 1963, because if you do you are in for a rude awakening. We have had in this province what borders on open rebellion on the part of farmers. There is smouldering discontent on the farms of Ontario today in regard to the actions, and the lack of action, on the part of this administration. The government will have to answer for that act before the rural people of this province. I suggest that the government is not going to get nearly the number of seats of rural Ontario that it got in 1963 and it does not deserve to get them because of its lack of policy.

I come for a moment to another subject and that is housing. The Minister has gone out for a moment, he will, perhaps, be back. One of the big gimmicks—no, I should not say “gimmick”—one of the big promises in this Speech from the Throne was that Ontario has a brand new adequate housing policy that would meet the crisis that exists in housing and make everybody who wants a house, happy.

I do not know how gullible the people of Ontario are or how gullible the government expects them to be. This is not the first time that it has made this self-same promise. It is at least the third time that it has come before the people and said, “Get us a mandate to lead and we will give you a housing policy that will meet your needs and meet them adequately.” Twice before it did not do a thing about housing, and now it expects the people, on the eve of an election, to say, “those who have turned us down twice before are our friends still.” This just cannot be put over for the third time.

Down at the housing conference they had in the Royal York hotel, or wherever it was, a little while ago, I thought the federal Minister in charge of housing, Mr. Nicholson, as reported in the paper, very aptly said, “He

lifted his head from his prepared manuscript and said of the new housing programme, they could have done that long ago had they a wish to”. So the opportunity was there, in 1963, 1964, 1965 and 1966, just as it is today, and this government has demonstrated its inability or its unwillingness to meet head-on, the housing crisis in this province.

It is not a new thing for it to dodge its responsibility in that connection. And while we will support whatever it brings in, in the hope that maybe something will come out of it, in view of past performances our faith is very weak indeed as to what it will do in regard thereto.

Then we have the financial failures. I do not think that is going to do the government much good when it goes before the province. We have never had such a group of failures in our financial institutions in the history of this province as we have had this last couple of years. The people who lost money, of course, are worried and upset; those who thought they were going to lose money are worried and upset; and all of them, I suggest, have a right to have blamed this administration for the laxities they exhibited in the enforcement of the laws on the statute books of this province.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, to you that this government sat with folded hands and with magnificent indifference when these calamities were falling on the people of this province. And, close at hand, within easy reach as they sat in magnificent posture, was a weapon fashioned by this Legislature and placed on the statute books for the protection of investors in this province and for the use of whoever was charged with the responsibility of seeing to it that their rights were protected. I suggest that that sort of situation is not going to go down the throats of the people of this province.

We have, Mr. Speaker, witnessed in Ontario a number of these financial collapses. They should never have been allowed to collapse. There was no need for it if the government had used the machinery at their command. The only thing that was lacking—the machinery was there, the weapons were there, the legislation was there—all that was lacking, was a willingness and a determination on the part of the government to do the job with the tools that the Legislature fashioned for them. They did not do it and I suggest to you that the people of Ontario will hold this government responsible for its negligence in regard to that matter.

I come to another point, having to do with regional development or economic regional

development, whatever you like to call it. I would say this to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the House, that I have never known a government that could talk out of both sides of its mouth at once with the remarkable dexterity possessed by this administration.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The one in Ottawa does pretty well.

Mr. Oliver: Oh, now my hon. friend is getting a little irked with us. He has had this coming to him for a number of years, you know. He has got away with murder in this province and he is not going to get away with it very much longer—I mean political murder, of course.

I wanted to talk about regional development just for a moment.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —and not political suicide unless you want to commit it.

Mr. Oliver: Well now, you are getting ready for hari-kari whether you know it or not.

I want to say this about regional development, that I believe that those men, and I guess women, who are interested in regional and economic development in this province are sincere, dedicated people. But I suggest to this House that they are running around like a chicken with its head cut off because of lack of direction, support and lack of a master plan for economic development in this province. They do not know what they are doing and it is impossible for them to render a good account of themselves. Now that, I think, is a statement of fact.

The regional areas of this province, and the men and women who work in them, are frantically trying to do something, but what are they going to do? This government does not know which way it is going in economic planning. They do not know from day to day, and when we come to the question of decentralization they are in exactly the same position.

We are building this province in a lopsided manner, economically. We are not taking sufficient cognizance of those areas that lie outside the great industrial centres of this province. We are allowing a condition to develop that is going to see a large part of the province wealthy and with centralized industry in it and the other part underdeveloped because of the lack of industry. And there is a decision on the part of the government, I would say, to allow this to continue and not to do anything that will regulate and formalize and bring an even

development to the province of Ontario, in an economic sense. That is what we need and what we have not got.

Then I want to talk just for a moment about committees, the special committees that have been set up in this Legislature. I have always been one who felt the need of committees to study particular questions that would be placed before them by the Legislature. We have had a number during this and past sessions of the Legislature. We had one, consumer credit. It was suggested today that some action was going to be taken on that at long last.

We had this year the aging and the youth and the conservation committees. Now those committees have all sat for two years and, I think, some of them for three. They will be bringing in their reports presumably at this session of the Legislature. But I make this suggestion to the House leader and to the government as a whole: That the government, I say to you, Mr. Speaker, has a devious plan in mind in connection with these committees. I happen to know something about the value of the reports of these committees and the recommendations contained therein. They are far reaching, all embracing, and if put into law would, I suggest, do a good service for the people of the province.

But what is going to happen is this—these committees will report late in this session, and legislation will be passed based on their reports. The election will come along and the government will be able to say, now this is what we have recommended without the sanction of the Legislature at all, so far as legislation is concerned.

All these recommendations will be out before the people on the election platforms, and the people will be appeased and comforted and soothed by them. But the recommendations will not have been translated into law. I do not think that is good enough. Even at this late date the government should, I suggest, take at least these three committees and the reports they bring into the House and they should act on them in a legislative way and let us see where they stand in respect to the recommendations of the committees.

Then there is the other committee that I want to talk a moment or two about: the election law committee.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is a very good committee.

Mr. Oliver: This was a committee that was brought about, I think, because the Prime Minister recognized there was a great public

interest in reform of our election laws. But not wanting to institute those reforms, certainly not in this Legislature, he appointed a committee and made its chairman the man who is now the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales). And that committee, to say the least, has been dragging its feet.

It will not be a committee that will report substantially during this session of the Legislature. I want to say to the government they have rendered a disservice to the people of this province by not having this committee report in full and by not acting in a legislative way upon the recommendations contained therein. Because there is a feeling, I think, amongst all of us that we have got to do something about changing our election laws.

We are rapidly getting to the place in this province where you will either have to be a wealthy man to be elected to the Legislature, or you will have to be completely subservient to some political party. And neither one of those conditions I want to see prevail, and I doubt if the government does when they are seriously talking about it.

But we are going into that position unless we control the expenditures in elections in this province, unless we make it possible for the ordinary man to run in an election and pay for it. We are getting a long ways away from our conception of democratic traditions.

Also, I think it might be said that it places the government, whatever government might be in power, in a tremendously fortunate position. When we have a Budget in this province of over \$2 billion, no man can tell me that out of that \$2 billion are not campaign funds by the bushel. And those are available to a government and unavailable to Opposition members. There should be a law in this province that a government member or a government party cannot spend more on elections than any other party, to bring this thing down to where we get an even start.

This committee, of course, will not report. The government are determined that it will not report, because they want to get through this election before they have to do anything on it. Public opinion is mounting and I suggest that they will not like it if something is not done in regard to this even before the present election.

There are many more things, of course, that one could say about this government. I would just say this to them in conclusion, that I would like you across the way—every one of you, as a matter of fact—to vote for the amendment proposed by the Opposition parties and defeat the government in a want

of confidence vote. And let us get on with this election, because I am sure in my own mind that the people want an election; we want one and you apparently do, so while there is unanimity let us get at it.

I am sure that the sooner it comes, the better, because the sooner it comes it will present an opportunity for the people of Ontario to say what they think of this administration and their mismanagement over the last four years. And when they have that opportunity clear cut before them, their answer I think will be to put into power a new government under a new leader, who will have an opportunity and an obligation to clean up the mess that has been left by the old administration.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to participate in this debate, particularly at this point as we draw to a close, and also to have the honour, may I put it that way, of associating in this debate with the hon. member for Grey South (Mr. Oliver), who has the affection of all members of this House, notwithstanding his recent oration. Certainly it is a privilege to be associated, as I have already mentioned, with the dean of the Legislature in these, the closing moments of this debate.

It is appropriate as well, Mr. Speaker, that on the opening on this fifth session of Ontario's 27th Parliament, at this point of time, that there should be many historical references, that we should pause to reflect upon the contributions which have been made by those who have gone on before us.

In this connection, it was fitting that the Speech from the Throne itself was published in the form which we have it, with references on the cover to Ontario's first post-Confederation Prime Minister John Sandfield Macdonald.

Many other men of various political stripes have led the government of this province since 1871 when he laid down the mantle of leadership and history records the events of their period of leadership.

I for one, and I know I am joined by my colleagues on this side of the House, feel privileged to serve as a member of the government led by a distinguished and remarkable successor to them all, John Robarts.

Our hon. Prime Minister has completed just a little more than five years in the service of the people of Ontario in this high office; and in the 2,000 days or more since he took his oath of office, we in this province have been fortunate to have a leader of such warmth and human understanding.

It has been obvious that those who seek to take up a position on this side of you, Mr. Speaker, and who will stop at nothing to accomplish this end, have tried desperately to attach labels and interests to our Prime Minister in an effort to discredit him. We have confidence of course in the fact that you cannot fool the people of Ontario.

I am satisfied that the people of our province know that Ontario will continue to prosper and provide ample opportunity for all her people as long as John Robarts is at the helm of the government of this province.

I would say to those who are busy today running around the province trying to create images, attempting to find the recipe for "instant leadership", that they might some day learn that there just is not any alternative for sound, dedicated, steady and principled devotion to duty.

There is no substitute for sincerity, and our people know that they have such a person in our present Prime Minister of Ontario.

He is a great Canadian, one of the most responsible Canadians in public life today. He places the unity and development of our nation at the top of his list of priorities. There is ample evidence during the life of this Parliament to illustrate how he has placed the interest of the nation ahead of any mere parochial or political consideration.

John Robarts loves Parliament and has a tremendous respect for the role of the Opposition and the place it has and the functions it must perform in this great institution of Parliament.

It is interesting to note that, and one has to go back a year or two to find this record, but under the last Liberal administration the Legislature voted the mere sum of \$4,000 for the combined Opposition offices, and the Opposition was a pretty numerous group at that particular time.

Under John Robarts, and there surely is not anyone who would deny this, and his desire to make sure that all points of view are expressed in this House, the combined Opposition parties have progressively been provided with more public money to do their job. It is interesting to note that now the sum of \$77,000 has been provided.

These funds are provided by the taxpayers of Ontario to enable the Liberal and socialist parties to "oppose" the government. This is the spirit of our present leader.

This is a very important matter, an essential part, I would suggest, of democracy. So we proudly salute our hon. Prime Minister

and wish for him many more years of good health and strength to lead this great province into the second century of our Canadian Confederation.

Reference has been made, Mr. Speaker, to our parliamentary system of government. I would at this time like to mention an anniversary which occurs this year, and which may have escaped the notice of some people in the province, since our attention recently has been focused so strongly on our 100th birthday celebrations.

The occasion to which I am referring is the 175th anniversary of the opening of this province's first Parliament. I am sure members will agree that this is an event well worthy of public notice in the province.

As many of my colleagues are aware, settlement on a large scale did not really take place in our province until the heavy influx of the Loyalists, most of whom by their support of the Crown during the American revolution had lost their homes and possessions and suffered persecution for their loyalty. The British government attempted to provide for these unfortunate people by opening up for settlement sections of what is now Ontario and making free grants of land and supplies.

At that time, as you know Mr. Speaker, during the 1780's, this was still a part of the old province of Quebec and was subject to French civil law and tenure. The Loyalists, reared in an atmosphere basically influenced by British institutions and traditions, found this system strange.

A strong movement, led by prominent Loyalists such as Sir John Johnson, was formed for the purpose of setting aside a part of the old province of Quebec where British laws and institutions would prevail. It was proposed that such an area would embrace the principal Loyalist settlements.

After considerable agitation, The Constitutional Act was presented to the British House of Commons and passed in 1791. Its terms provided for the establishment of bicameral Legislatures in Upper and Lower Canada, composed of legislative councils and legislative assembly, and as far as the newly-created province of Upper Canada was concerned, the introduction of the old English form of land tenure, free and common socage. The province of Quebec was split into two parts by an order-in-council of August 21, 1791, and a Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, John Graves Simcoe, was appointed on September 12 of that year.

Simcoe arrived in Upper Canada in the summer of 1792 and immediately divided the province into electoral "counties," designating the number of representatives each could send to the assembly. An election was called, and on September 17, he formally opened the first provincial Parliament at Niagara, the seat of government which he renamed "Newark." Thus, the system of parliamentary government which had been evolved in England for many hundreds of years, was transferred in a modified form to our province, which prospered under its influence and became the great province we live in today.

This is of particular significance to me, Mr. Speaker, in that I am very proud to represent this area of Lincoln in which the whole Niagara region is involved.

It was highly appropriate that Niagara should be the scene of this historic and significant occasion. This region had been one of the principal Loyalist centres during the revolution and became a major area of early settlement thereafter.

In any event, in that tiny frontier community 175 years ago, there was established one of our most cherished institutions, the parliamentary system of government which lasted in that particular form for some 50 years. Those who are students of history will know that after the rebellion of 1837 and the subsequent Durham report, the principle of responsible government was accepted.

However, Mr. Speaker, as we sit here today, the modern counterparts of elected representatives who were first called together in 1792, it behooves us all to pay tribute to the significant event of 175 years ago that has played such an important role in the development of our province. This system of government, the result of many hundreds of years of evolution, compromise and even, on occasion, riot and bloodshed, is rightly regarded as one of our most cherished institutions. Its significance and value cannot be overestimated.

In recognizing the significance of this anniversary in our province, it is well that we underline the importance of our system of government and what it has meant to the development of our province. As we talk in terms of provincial development, and I am sure we are all interested in this subject, it might be wise, at this point in our debate, that we should consider the development of Ontario over the last 100 years in terms of her people. It was certainly not by mere chance that this government's comprehensive programme for people headed the list of pro-

posed plans announced by his honour in the Speech from the Throne. No one would disagree, I hope. The most important resource of any nation is its people.

The people of this province have always been our first concern—indeed I say proudly, we are the party of the people. Look at our representation in this Parliament—members from all parts of the province, all walks of life, working together in the interest of all, not playing one group against another; not the slaves of any doctrinaire, textbook approach to politics but dedicated to the concepts of freedom and progress; convinced of the need for providing good government, and accomplishing this through a consensus of opinion after full and frank discussion among the representatives from all parts of this province.

People of many national backgrounds have come to Ontario over the years to add colour to our way of life and thus contribute to its development. I think it is particularly appropriate that we give some thought during our Centennial year and, in this debate, to the rich variety and origins of our peoples.

People from many lands and cultures have come together in this country to live and work in harmony towards the development of a free and democratic society, within which, in mutual respect and understanding, all may join for the common good and the creation of a strong and vibrant nation.

Nowhere is this more currently true than in this great province of Ontario, which has been culturally and economically enriched by the arrival of more than one and a half million newcomers since 1946. In diversity, there can be unity and I point, with no little pride, to this province as dynamic and positive proof of this statement. In a survey recently conducted by my department, it was determined that 73 languages were spoken as native tongues by various members of our civil service working together in harmony and in concert in the service of the people of Ontario. We have reason to be proud of this achievement. We have learned to live together regardless of differences in our origins and cultural values.

As a result, I am sure that all members of this House welcome every opportunity to meet with their fellow citizens who have adopted Canadian citizenship. How fortunate we are in this province to have scores of national origins represented—we have the French whose contribution to the founding and culture of this country speaks for itself. We have many east Europeans including Ukrainians, Poles, Hungarians, Slavs and

Serbs, to mention a few, without whose zeal and energy the province would be much the poorer. We are proud of the fact that in Metro alone, we have the largest community of Italian-speaking people outside Italy and I would be remiss if I failed to mention the English, Irish, Welsh and Scotsmen, whose bravery and fortitude gave this country much of its start.

The list is almost endless as it contains some 65 ethnic origins with whom we are proud to work. Suffice it to say that we owe, to these many people, a debt for their trust. And we can only pay this debt by working together for a greater Ontario. This has helped to build Ontario into the tremendous province it is today—thankful for its many blessings—but, at the same time, mindful of its responsibilities beyond its own geographical boundaries.

This is one of the few countries of the world which experiences constant and repeated rejuvenation. Other countries depend largely for their growth on the natural increase of their own native people. This country is constantly deriving strength from new sources. By the gift of the free will of independent people, it is being constantly renewed from generation to generation by the same process by which it was originally created.

The strength of our nation lies in its diversity of people; in the extraordinary way that they have adjusted to one another to form a rich and colourful cultural mosaic. That mosaic is cemented by mutual respect, mutual tolerance and a desire to recognize the virtues and talents of individuals without regard to their origins.

It is not our desire to press people into a common mould. Indeed this forms an essential part of the government's political philosophy. We wish to continue to form a society based on freedom and regard for the individual. This freedom is the bond of Canadian unity—and freedom must never be diminished.

But, by the same token, our strength can be our weakness. There are those who may attempt, for personal or other advantages, to separate groups to make artificial distinctions between first and second generation Canadians, between native-born and naturalized. Those who raise such false issues are damaging the very foundations upon which our great nation and our province have been built.

It is the responsibility of all levels of government to see that all issues are dealt with

for the benefit of all Canadians; that an enlightened course of action is followed and that the harmony on which our democracy is based is preserved. Our laws are passed for all people of this province, for every major and minor group, irrespective of race, creed or colour. We wish to encourage integration, which allows every person to follow his individual inclinations within the law and meet with the success that is due to his unique capabilities. Each should have the opportunity to contribute what he can for the common good.

Since Confederation this province has grown in riches, resources and above all in people. I think it safe to say that Ontario provides the greatest opportunities for all of its people, and with every right can call itself "the province of opportunity".

However, we must not become complacent by reason of our past achievements. We must not deceive ourselves, for with increasing prosperity our responsibilities grow as well. New problems arise every day which must be dealt with intelligently. The recent Speech from the Throne is a clear indication that the present administration has a clear vision of the road ahead. We must look to the future and act in such a way that the potential of this province will be fully realized. Our satisfaction, as public servants, will come as we witness our progress in terms of provincial development and raising the condition of the people, which have always been the pressing and motivating drives of anyone who calls himself a Progressive Conservative.

This debate is now drawing to a close and I understand I am the forty-sixth speaker to participate in this debate.

In taking part in this final presentation, I would offer congratulations to the mover and seconder of the motion thanking his honour for the gracious speech which he addressed to this House.

The hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier) is a very capable addition to the membership of the Legislature and we are extremely pleased to have him in the ranks of the Conservative Party. The hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) always participates with great vigour, typical of the wonderful people he represents.

May I also echo the words of commendation which have been directed toward you, Mr. Speaker, for the firm and yet fair manner you preside in this chamber.

During the course of this debate many and kindly references have been made to the

elevation of the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Nixon) to the responsible and historic role as leader of the Opposition.

Our association, as he has mentioned, goes back many years to undergraduate days at McMaster University where a personal friendship, which I treasure very much, was born.

I congratulate him most sincerely as he assumes his responsibilities as the leader of the Liberal Party of Ontario, a role he will fill with distinction both because of his personal qualities, as well as the family background of public service from which he comes.

Having said this, I cannot ignore the event which preceded the holding of that party's leadership convention, namely the resignation of the hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson). The price which this hon. member paid as he occupied this position was great in the way of personal sacrifice; all members in this House wish him well on the road back to the recovery of his health.

Now Mr. Speaker, we have a motion and two amendments to that main motion before us.

When one examines the amendments proposed by the leader of the Opposition, and the leader of the socialist party in this House (Mr. MacDonald), one wonders if these two gentlemen and their party colleagues really know what has been going on in Ontario during the last two decades. The whole tone of the Opposition participation in this debate has ignored the tremendous development of this province under administrations provided by our party.

I should like to suggest to those opposite that matters have changed to such a degree that the face of this province is completely unrecognizable from that of 1943.

And I ask: Who in this House would want it otherwise?

The sad and contradictory approach by all groups in the Opposition is that they have been in this House, in the same physical place for over two decades, and have approved the very expenditures which have made this province move ahead. And instead of taking some credit for supporting the progressive legislation of this and preceding administrations—which I would point out in turn would involve giving some credit for initiating it to the government of the day—they have seen fit instead to take a very negative and very destructive approach completely out of touch with the facts!

The leaders of both Opposition parties sit over there exuding gloom and doom, which is not in keeping with their personalities, to the point where they both make Jeremiah look like an optimist. They take the negative approach which will ensure that they will continue to sit over there for another two decades. One can hardly believe his ears as he listens to the newly elected leader of the Opposition take the Prime Minister of Ontario to task on the question of dominion-provincial relations and in particular to the convening of the Confederation of tomorrow conference.

I ask my friend, the leader of the Opposition, to tell us what kind of dominion-provincial relations we had insofar as Ontario and Ottawa were concerned prior to the election of a Conservative government in this province in 1943. What were this province's relations with Ottawa when the Liberal Party formed the government of this province prior to 1943? That record makes some interesting reading!

I ask him again if he wants that type of dominion-provincial relationship today with a Mitchell Hepburn ranting and raving across the whole geography of Ontario accusing the Prime Minister of Canada of that day of his centralized approach to things, accusing Ottawa of milking the taxpayers of Ontario, and taking the isolationistic view which so characterized dominion-provincial relations in that period. And maybe the people of Ontario will say that their actions when in office speak louder than these new words of today!

I ask the leader of the Opposition: Is this the type of cooperation he thinks will promote good dominion-provincial relations and a strong Canada? Or would he rather see, as we on this side of the House would, the leadership given by our hon. Prime Minister John Roberts and the cooperative attitude of Canada just for all Canadians.

Let us not forget that it was John Roberts who made it clear to Prime Minister Lester Pearson, within an hour after Prime Minister Pearson assumed office in 1963 as the leader of a minority federal government, that Ontario was ready and anxious to cooperate wholeheartedly with that federal government in all efforts designed to strengthen the national economy. I suggest that the Prime Minister of Ontario's telegram was the first on Prime Minister Pearson's desk wherein he stood by his pledge and his determination that so far as he was concerned political partisanship should not be permitted to impede Canada's progress, and I hope that that lesson will be learned by us all.

This is the spirit in which the Prime Minister of Ontario participated and has continued to participate in dominion-provincial conferences, whereby with the exercise of calm balance and commonsense we were able to discuss problems frankly, iron our differences and arrive at mutually acceptable solutions for the benefit of all of the people of the nation. Surely this is the spirit in which dominion-provincial relations should be carried out; and it is in this spirit that the Prime Minister of Ontario will convene his Confederation of tomorrow conference, already so well accepted as the press reported by our sister provinces throughout this great nation.

The press of the country certainly has greeted the Robarts conference with approval and I would echo the concluding words of the editorial written on January 28, 1967, in *Le Droit* of Quebec: "Let us rejoice that there is at least one statesman in English Canada—Mr. Robarts".

I would suggest to every member in this House that our relations with Ottawa today are better than they ever have been in the last 100 years of Confederation. The position being taken by the Prime Minister of Ontario is consistent with remarks he made at a state dinner in Quebec City on June 15, 1963, during which he stated that it was one of the urgent needs of the moment to establish a much more effective basis for federal-provincial relations so that the federal government would have a better understanding of the problems of the people.

The experience of a century should convince all of us that our Confederation to be truly effective and lasting must be a partnership in fact, in spirit and in purpose; one in which all members should without prejudice to their constitutional rights be afforded the unhampered opportunity to play their full part in the national endeavour.

It was Mr. Jean Lesage, former Prime Minister of Quebec, who redefined provincial relationships with Ottawa. Whereas at one time it was a completely vertical relationship under the federal government, we are now at a point where we can enjoy a horizontal relationship with Ottawa. There are many people in Ottawa who are too quick to point out that the provinces are ganging up, and I disagree because it is merely the manifestation of a new dialogue.

To repeat—there never was a time in the last century where cooperation and collaboration between Ottawa and Ontario has been

stronger or more effective, and there never was a leader in all of Canada who fosters this any more actively than the Prime Minister of Ontario.

Now in case they feel neglected in any way as we look for further illustrations of Opposition blindness to the facts, let us turn to the socialists: Here in this House we listen day after day as the members of this group parade before us and the people of Ontario stories and reports concerning various social ills and human problems and personal situations throughout the province, as if they were the only people really interested, as if they in some mysterious, divine way had some monopoly of concern with respect to these various matters.

And in their self-righteous tone we find a very careful attempt to gain much needed publicity insofar as their party is concerned. And one seriously wonders and I have chosen my words carefully, whether they are really interested in the solution of the problems which they parade before the government of Ontario, or whether they simply see them as an opportunity to gain some momentary and cheap publicity through the catchy headlines which these situations create—cheap and irresponsible because it attempts to gain some political advantage out of these personal matters. Surely they do not believe and I give them full marks for this, any more that the people of Ontario believe that they are the only members of this House who are interested in the solution of these particular matters.

Because, as the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman) pointed out quite effectively on Friday, "there are many members of the government team who know all of these things by experience, and it is too bad that the members of the socialist party have not had some actual experience of these problems themselves rather than reading about them in textbooks."

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): You are pretty excited about it.

Mr. Welch: I am excited about it, Mr. Speaker, because I sit here day after day and wonder whether or not the people of Ontario can really be convinced of the sincerity of this group when you consider all of the implications of these particular problems.

Surely all of us who are in public life are dedicated to the eradication of social ills, indeed the elimination of anything and everything which would stand in the way of any citizen of this province enjoying freedom of

opportunity and social justice. And I would sincerely hope that the members of the socialist party—as dedicated and hard working as they are in the service of their political doctrine—are interested in the elimination of the problems and that they are not merely attempting to gain some cheap partisan advantage in underlining these and other problems which they bring before this House from time to time.

They conveniently forget—as someone calls it, selective amnesia—that every major piece of labour legislation on the statute books of this province has been placed there by a Tory administration.

They would like to suggest that they are the only party interested in the conditions of the working people of this province. They forget that within the membership of this party over the years there has been a representation of people from all walks of life, the little people have been in this party all the time, sir, who know well the problems and expectations and the dreams of those who toil day by day and who have produced the sons and daughters who have gone on to make their mark in all aspects of Ontario's and Canada's life.

They should know by now that there is no future for any party that would attempt to play one group against another in this province, that there is no room for a political party which is based upon certain groups only. They talk about 67 seats in '67. This side of the House is dedicated to eliminate eight before '68. The people will help us. The present administration in Ontario is, as I have already mentioned, a representative party of all of the people from all sections of the province interested in the welfare of everyone.

Our socialist friends will have to learn that man was created by God and not by government. Man was born to be free—to be given the opportunity to initiate things himself. This government is pledged to guarantee freedom and progress.

And I say to the combined Opposition—the time has come to stop sucking the sour grapes of sectarianism—to give credit where credit is due and to help to fulfil the role of an Opposition to make sure that criticism is constructive and positive.

Perhaps it would be fair to say that the tone for the accomplishments of the last two decades was, in fact, set in the first Budget introduced by the former Prime Minister of this province, hon. Leslie Frost, when he occupied the role of Provincial Treasurer,

delivered as it was in the spring of 1944. These words are worthy of some repetition today and I quote:

For the fine old province of Ontario there will be a great future, we are building not only for these times, we are planning for a greater population, for industrial expansion, for prosperous farms, and for a happy, healthy people. We are laying the sure foundations for a greater and stronger Ontario.

When those words were spoken in the spring of 1944, strangely enough they were greeted with scorn and derision by the men of little faith who sat on the Opposition benches in those days. I am sure that there are those in this House who have not forgotten that they moved a motion censuring the government for bringing skilled men and women from Britain and other lands to help get our postwar reconstruction and industrial expansion underway.

Let me just take a moment or two to contrast the Ontario that this party inherited in 1943 with the Ontario under John Robarts today:

Population: 1943, just under 4 million. Today, 7 million.

Labour force: 1943, 1.5 million. Today, 2.7 million.

Gross production: 1943, \$9.3 billion. Today, \$22.8 billion.

Municipal taxable assessment: 1943, \$3 billion. Today, \$40,132 billion.

School enrolment: 1943, 645,000. Today, almost 2,000,000.

School grants: 1943, \$8 million. Today, almost \$330 million.

Number of universities: 1943, 3 receiving grants of \$3 million. Today, 14 receiving grants of \$81 million. 2 independent, total—16.

Parks: in 1943—4; in 1966—92; plus 4 in 1967 for a total of 96, plus conservation parks, picnic parks and roadside picnic areas.

That is only part of the story. Our expenditures for education, for health, for social welfare, for schools, hospitals, highways, parks, community centres, aid to municipalities and other projects during the past 20 years exceeded those for the same purposes during the previous 76 years.

These are only a few of the highlights of accomplishments during these two eventful and exciting decades. We have done all of these things and still kept the credit of this

fine old province bright and clean. The people of Ontario have already rendered their assessment of these forward-looking policies and have given no less than six successive clear and decisive mandates to Progressive Conservative administrations. Indeed, it is interesting to look at the results over those six particular contests. In 1943 there were 38 members of the Progressive Conservative Party in this House. Today, after all of this time, after this old tired-out administration which my friend for Grey North talks about, we happen to have grown from 38 to 78 members. There are 78; in 1943 there were 15 Liberals in this House; today there are 22, and in 1943 there were 34 socialists in this House, and today there are only eight. This is the judgment of the jury of the people. These results after six elections speak loud and clear. Good government has received the support of the people of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, in 1943 the hon. member for Brant's party just did not believe that these great achievements were possible and so it is really not surprising that in 1967, they even endeavour to deny that they have taken place—they remain “unrevised and unrepented”, visionless, bewildered, befuddled and confused. They are simply out of touch with life, out of tune with reality and out of step with progress. And in the immortal words of that great bard of *Globe and Mail* fame, I must say to you, Mr. Speaker, and through you to the hon. leader, “get with it, Nixie, and tune in to the happening.”

But, sir, we look forward not backward.

As my friend from Brant knows—yesterday's achievements like last year's harvest—no matter how impressive—if left to themselves tend to become wasting assets.

A truly progressive and forward looking government and people will not be content to exult over past successes, but will concern themselves with setting new and even more challenging goals for the future. For, despite the great progress we have made, we have certainly not yet reached the stage where we have solved all our problems and can now afford to bask in the sun of an effortless prosperity.

On the contrary, we must continue to live by the same dynamic creed which has been, and remains, the heart and centre of the policy of the government party—more people, more capital, more industry, more jobs, more opportunity, and from these more productivity and revenue with which to satisfy the needs and enrich the lives of our people materially, culturally and spiritually.

While we can be very proud of what we have achieved up to now—we continue to strive for higher goals.

This was indeed the spirit of the Speech from the Throne read by his honour on January 25 last. The objectives were clear.

This is the government which will provide adequate housing for all our people at prices they can afford to pay.

This is the government soon to officially launch the GO transit rail commuter system.

This is the government which will make sure that the savings of our people are protected.

This is the government which will continue to ensure that the working man of this province is not exploited.

Our administration is well aware of the leisure-time needs of our people.

Our administration has pledged itself to provide capital grants to help our rural brethren to adjust to major technological, technical and social changes.

Our administration will help to preserve our historical treasures through a heritage foundation.

And so the list could be spelled out.

There are new hospitals, schools, highways and country roads to be built, new economic development to be undertaken, new industries to be established, new employment opportunities to be created and still higher standards of education, social security and cultural growth to be attained.

These are the challenges which face us in Ontario and this government, regardless of the labels you may like to attach to it, is prepared to meet them and continue to work for all the people of Ontario under the Prime Minister.

Naturally, by the terms of our constitution our first responsibility has to be to the people of Ontario. This is our obligation. But this certainly does not mean a narrow “go it alone” policy, which ignores the fact that we are part of a great interdependent nation. Far from it!

Let it not be forgotten, and I am sure no one here will, that Ontario is today the source of 50 per cent of the tax collected by the national treasury and that our farms, mills, mines and factories account for over 42 per cent of the national production.

I know that all members of this House will agree with me when I say it is only by ceaselessly striving to keep our economy strong and vibrant, by keeping Ontario on the move

and by keeping her prosperous, that we shall be able to contribute most to moving Canada forward to a higher destiny.

There is no contradiction between speaking up for Ontario and taking a stand for Canada.

This government has pledged itself to continue its efforts to keep Ontario strong, to invest heavily in the welfare of her people, to play our full part in the strengthening of Confederation, to work in concert with our sister provinces and the federal government to get our country back on to the path of national development, to reaffirm our national aims and to strengthen national purpose.

In a word, the programme outlined in the Speech from the Throne contains dynamic and forward looking policies which have as their central aim a great new era of progress—not only for ourselves but for all Canadians from sea to sea.

And it is also to be hoped that in all of this we will be able to grasp the significance of the moment—the true meaning of the Centennial of our Confederation.

What a wonderful opportunity we have during this particular year to re-dedicate ourselves to the high ideals and goals held up so hopefully 100 years ago.

To slightly paraphrase some words spoken almost a century ago: If we do not take advantage of the time available to us, if we show ourselves unequal to the occasion, it may never return, and we shall hereafter bitterly and unavailingly regret having failed to embrace the opportunity now offered to complete the task of building a greater Confederation.

I think that the words of Thomas D'Arcy McGee of 1862, even before Confederation became a fact, are very much applicable to this Centennial year as well as to a bright future: And with these words, Mr. Speaker, I am paraphrasing a bit:

All we have to do is, each for himself, to keep down dissensions, which can only weaken, impoverish and keep back the country, each for himself do all he can to increase its wealth, its strength and its reputation: each for himself—you, and you, gentlemen, all of us—to welcome every talent, to hail every invention, to cherish every gem of art, to foster every gleam of authorship, to honour every acquirement and every gift, to lift ourselves to the level of our destinies, to rise above all low limitations and narrow circumscriptions, to cultivate that true catholicity of spirit which embraces all

creeds, all classes and all races, in order to make of our boundless province, so rich in known and unknown resources, a great new northern nation.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I invite all members of this House to make history today—to join together and unanimously support the main motion thanking his honour for the gracious speech which he addressed to this House on January 25 last.

Please be assured that the desire of this present government and by voting in support of this motion you have this assurance, that this is the government determined and dedicated to keep Ontario progressive and to keep Canada united.

Mr. Speaker: The Throne Debate now being concluded, I shall call for the vote as follows:

I am going to ask the members to desist from any talking while I am reading the various amendments and I also am going to ask you to desist from talking whenever the vote is being carried out. Now, I do not like to admonish the members in this manner but our votes have been far too noisy to date and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk have asked me to speak to you on this matter, so I expect your cooperation.

Mr. L. Bernier (Kenora) moves, seconded by Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South), that an humble address be presented to the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor as follows:

To the Honourable W. Earl Rowe, PC(C), LL.D., D.Sc.Soc., Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has addressed to us.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition) moves, seconded by Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview), that the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor now before the House be amended by adding thereto the following words:

But that this House regrets that the government has failed to state a positive policy to relieve the tax load on the home-owners of Ontario, particularly with regard to the cost of education.

Deplores the fact that the government, through its carelessness and inattention to its responsibilities, permitted situations to

develop within the financial community whereby many of our people suffered grave harm to their economic security. It is further to be noted that the government has failed to take the necessary steps to restore confidence in financial institutions under its jurisdiction.

Regrets that a coordinated plan has not been presented by the government to ensure the proper, efficient development of our post-secondary system of education, above all ensuring academic freedom and autonomy.

Regrets that the government's lack of sound policy and positive leadership has failed to prepare Ontario for her second century, particularly in the areas of continuing farm income problems, northern development, land, air and water pollution, municipal reorganization, law reform and economy in government.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South) moves, seconded by Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine), that the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor, now before the House, be further amended by adding thereto the following:

And, above all, this House regrets the government has failed to state a firm commitment to make genuine equality of opportunity, a reality for all the people of Ontario, and to that end has not:

- (1) Developed a public housing programme which alone can effectively meet the housing needs of most of the people of Ontario;
- (2) Implemented a comprehensive programme of regional economic development, with funds and technical assistance sufficient to render such programmes truly effective;
- (3) Taken measures to ensure that the province's economy is developed to the fullest extent possible under Canadian ownership and control;
- (4) Shown any understanding that, essential to the elimination of poverty, is a guaranteed annual income which will replace categorical welfare programmes and ensure that all citizens of this province enjoy the basic amenities of life.

We will first vote on the amendment to the amendment, moved by Mr. MacDonald.

The House divided on the amendment to the amendment moved by Mr. MacDonald, which was negatived on the following division:

AYES

Ben
Braithwaite
Bryden
Bukator
Davison
Freeman
Gaunt
Gisborn
Gordon
Lewis
(Scarborough West)
MacDonald
Newman
Nixon
Oliver
Reaume
Renwick
Sargent
Singer
Smith
Spence
Trotter
Whicher
Worton
Young—24.

NAYS

Allan
Apps
Bales
Beckett
Brown
Brunelle
Butler
Carruthers
Carton
Cass
Connell
Davis
Dunlop
Dymond
Eagleson
Edwards
Evans
Ewen
Gomme
Grossman
Guindon
Hamilton
Harris
Haskett
Henderson
Hodgson
(Scarborough East)
Hodgson (Victoria)
Johnston (Parry Sound)
Johnston (Carleton)
Kerr
Knox
Lawrence (Russell)
Lawrence (St. George)
Lewis (Humber)
Mackenzie
MacNaughton
Morningstar
McKeough
Noden
Olde
Peck
Pittock
Price
Pritchard (Mrs.)
Randall
Reuter
Roberts
Rollins
Root
Rowe
Rowntree
Sandercock
Simonett
Spooner
Stewart
Villeneuve
Walker
Wardrope

AYES

NAYS

Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Wishart
Yakabuski
Yaremko—65.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 24; the "nays" 65.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost. The House will now vote on the amendment moved by Mr. Nixon.

The House divided on the amendment moved by Mr. Nixon, which was negatived by the same vote.

Mr. Speaker: Now we will vote on the main motion moved by Mr. Bernier.

By the same vote in reverse, I declare the motion carried.

Resolved, that an humble address be presented to the Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor as follows:

To the Honourable W. Earl Rowe, PC(C), LL.D., D.Sc.Soc., Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Ontario:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has addressed to us.

Clerk of the House: The second order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee of ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am correct, I believe, in my memory that this is private members' day and that you will be asking us to adjourn this debate in just a few moments. So with the time at my disposal today, I would like first to express some feelings of congratulations to the hon. Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) who so adequately presented an almost indefensible position in support of the government this afternoon. As nearly as I can make out, he is going to criticize the Liberals for once having a leader and the support of a Prime Minister named Hepburn; he is criticizing the NDP for being insincere;

and of course putting all his eggs in the Robarts' basket for the election that is coming around this year.

It seems to me his position has been made abundantly clear but since I do just have a few moments at my disposal, it might be interesting for those of us who do not recall in detail those great years of the Hepburn regime, to recall that it was with the cooperation of Mr. Drew and Mr. McCullough, then publisher of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, that a certain amount of disquietude was expressed with regard to the conduct of federal affairs.

And I would also like to draw to his attention, Mr. Speaker, that in his comments about his own leader being so much in support of the activities of the federal government at the present time and the fact that under the Prime Minister's (Mr. Robarts') leadership there was nothing but sweetness and light associated with our relationships with the federal government and this province, I believe it was the Prime Minister of Ontario who came away from the last federal-provincial conference in high dudgeon. Indeed, I believe that he and his Provincial Treasurer had said that this province had been sold short and that the federal views in this connection were shortsighted and inadequate as far as his own requirements were concerned.

Yet I believe in this connection it is necessary, Mr. Speaker, for us to realize that it was the federal government that found it necessary to raise taxes a few weeks ago and is predicting a fairly large budget in the year that lies ahead. It is this province which is telling us in this election year that an increase in taxes is not necessary to meet its requirements. And yet the provincial government has the irresponsibility, I would say, and the temerity to criticize the federal jurisdiction for taking the hard decisions needed in these days.

Now if you would permit me, your honour, I would at this time move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 1, by Mr. R. A. Eagleson.

RESOLUTION: That legislation should be enacted to provide compensation for persons suffering injury or loss while assisting the police in the performance of their duties or as a direct result of a criminal offence other than impaired or drunken driving.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. G. H. Peck, (Scarborough Centre) the resolution standing in my name, which has just been read.

During the past few years, there have been increasing instances where persons have suffered injury or loss while assisting in the enforcement of the law. At the present time, there is no legislation covering this matter in Ontario with the exception of The Workmen's Compensation Act. In the province of Manitoba, however, a white paper was presented to the Legislature in December, 1966 which will cover this area. Under their system, a criminal injuries compensation board will be set up and it will adjudicate and handle all claims in this area.

At the present time, under our system in this province, if a person is aggrieved financially or suffers physical harm as a result of aiding a police officer or attempting to prevent a crime, nothing is done for him except by way of donations and funds held for his benefit. In addition, he has the opportunity to sue the offending person but as one can quickly appreciate, most of the offenders are in jail or incapacitated to the extent financially, that they are unwilling or unable to provide funds for this purpose.

Other jurisdictions have similar legislation in force as I would propose should be enacted in our province. New Zealand, California, England and the state of New York—the first three have such legislation on their books and the state of New York is giving serious consideration to it at the present time.

Persons who are injured while assisting a police officer in the performance of his duties certainly have a valid claim for compensation. Their interference and assistance in the officer's behalf are certainly of direct assistance to the public and are in the major part of the public interest.

The government, I suggest, should acknowledge this liability to persons hurt and offended, financially and physically, in such situations. I am satisfied that if we protected by legislation the individual in this area, there would be less cases of persons standing idly by while a police officer finds himself at the whim of certain of the people and the criminal elements in our society.

There have been some obvious examples in the past year which reflect the great need for such legislation. In one instance, a police officer, last summer, was operating on his

beat in Yorkville near the Bloor and Bay area. While attempting to arrest a young man, he was set upon by several other young men. Members of the public stood idly by while this officer and his fellow officers were pushed around, and finally the officers had to seek some degree of refuge on the top of their police car and attempted from that position to fend off these young people. One gentleman who did go to the assistance of the officer found that he had nothing for his troubles, other than, as I recall, three or four teeth knocked out and a badly cut lip. When he presented his evidence in court, he was commended by the magistrate, subsequently received a police citation, but I am certain that he received nothing else in the way of financial reward for the loss he obviously suffered.

Another case that was heard before the courts just last week involved a young woman, Carol Tomlinson, who shot a gentleman in a downtown bar, rushed outside and commandeered a taxicab. The police took chase and while this young lady held the gun at the taxi driver's head, the car sped away and the police cruiser gradually caught up to it. When the young lady indicated she was not satisfied with the speed of the taxi, she shot in the direction of the gas pedal and struck the cab driver in the leg.

Subsequently, when the police cruiser pulled alongside, the young lady aimed from point blank range at the head of the police officer in the cruiser. Mr. John Kwan, the taxi driver, saw fit to shove his hand in the way of the pistol, and obviously saved the life of the police officer, but in doing so, was struck in the neck with a bullet and suffered great physical injury and obvious financial loss.

The Metropolitan Toronto licensing commission saw fit, because of his attitude in this regard, to push his name up the list a little more quickly and he was granted a taxicab licence more expeditiously than he would have normally obtained one. But again, there was nothing in our legislation that would allow this same gentleman to have requested compensation for the damages he suffered.

The other obvious example involves the gentleman, Mr. John Blank, who was killed while attempting to arrest a man who had just robbed a bank up in the township of North York. His widow, I am sure, received some benefit from funds that were set up in honour and memory of her husband, but not to the extent required. This is not the type of thing, I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that should be

shoved into that realm of looking for hand-outs. I think it is an obligation we owe, as legislators, to the people in our province, that we are encouraging them to assist in such areas as this.

These are only some of what, obviously, are many and several cases. They indicate why police officers find themselves beaten by members of the public while other members of the public stand idly by and do nothing. They hesitate to go to the assistance of the officers, because they are doing so when such help is not solicited and at their own risk.

There are some cases in which a person is required by the criminal code to assist in the enforcement of law. I would suggest that there should be a corresponding right of compensation to such persons if they are injured in carrying out that duty. At present, a limited right to compensation under The Workmen's Compensation Act is allowed in such circumstances, but the right to compensation is insufficient, is improper and inadequate in the present day and age. Under the Act, compensation is allowed only for physical injury and nothing is permitted for property loss or damage.

Presumably then, a person who drives his motor vehicle into the path of another motor vehicle—that of an escaping bank robber for instance—must go to his own insurance company under his collision loss and has no recourse through a public board for compensation for the damages he suffers.

The other failing in the present legislation is that the payments have a minimum and maximum amount. The maximum is \$6,000 a year and these payments are only made if the person was required by law to assist the officer and was physically injured while so assisting him.

The unknowing do-gooder citizen must be asked or required to aid the officer in the execution of his duty. As a result, if a person comes to an officer's aid unsolicited, he would not be entitled to compensation, even though his conduct might be more outstanding than action taken by other persons in the same situations who were requested or obliged to act, under The Criminal Code of Canada.

As such then at the present time, a person must first determine whether he must act, then he must consider whether the officer is acting within his rights and in the proper execution of his duties. If the assistance given is not for the purpose of effecting an arrest or preserving the peace, then no compensation is payable.

So we see that there is no provision now for compensation to persons assisting, or acting in, the enforcement of the law and specifically, no compensation is available in the cases in which citizens volunteer their services or act alone to preserve the law. Surely there should be no distinction between citizens who come to the aid of police, whether voluntarily or otherwise, and a citizen who acts alone or attempts to make a citizen's arrest because he is acting in the interests of the public and public safety. Both should have the right by legislation to compensation.

New Zealand, Great Britain and California are jurisdictions which have already taken this matter under control and have set up legislation covering such areas. Their position is simply—

Mr. A. K. Roberts (St. Patrick): I wonder if the hon. member would accept a question at this point?

Has the member any idea of what the cost actually is in those jurisdictions where they have experience? What they are paying out?

Mr. Eagleson: Yes, I can refer to the matter of New Zealand. I do not have the figures with respect to the others, but in New Zealand in the first eight months of operation—in 1965—they paid out \$100,000 in compensation to 122 cases. I do not have the figures with respect to the other jurisdictions.

Mr. Roberts: Not very different.

Mr. Eagleson: No, it is not the overwhelming financial burden that may have been indicated, as I recall during our debate on this topic last year, by the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), who felt that the financial involvement would be such as to be prohibitive. I suggest, with respect, that such is not the case. And in any event, it is the type of attitude that we as legislators should encourage.

California provides for compensation of property, as well as personal injury, to the full extent of such loss. If a person incurs loss in preventing a crime against another's person or property, or if he assists a peace officer during a crime, or in catching a criminal, he files a claim with the state board of control. The New York legislation is patterned after that same object. New Zealand, on the other hand, brought in legislation in 1963 and its Criminal Injuries Compensation Act became effective in 1964. As I said, the cost of operation was insignificant by comparison with the useful purpose it provides.

In his first report, the chairman of the board is quoted as saying as follows, and I quote:

No one who is called to deal with those cases in which a blameless person has been seriously disabled, sometimes for life, or with those cases in which the elderly and infirm have suffered injury and shock, can fail to feel deeply, what a worthwhile part is played in the full administration of justice by the power to award compensation.

In Britain, the matter is covered by the Home Office programme for compensation for victims of crimes of violence. This is administered by the criminal injuries compensation board, which allows payment in cases where:

—the person has suffered personal injury directly attributable to an arrest, or attempted arrest, of an offender or suspected offender, or to the prevention, or attempted prevention, of an offence, or to the giving of help to any constable who is engaged in arresting, or attempting to arrest, an offender or suspected offender, or preventing, or attempting to prevent, an offence.

The British scheme, however is unlike the California scheme in that it is restricted to personal injury. Losses incurred financially with respect to property loss are not included. It covers the complete range of citizens' activity in the enforcement of law and the prevention of crime and although it falls short of the California system, it is certainly a great deal better than section 122 of The Workmen's Compensation Act, which is confined to the place where the person is compelled by law to assist the police officer.

The British scheme covers the case of injury where the person is a suspected violator of the law as well. As such, the third party may be a completely innocent person. Under the scheme then in England, if a person were being chased by a police officer and the person who suffers the physical loss is latterly, goes to what he thinks is the aid of this officer, he, as a reasonable man, can assume that this officer is attempting to arrest an offender, or a suspected offender. If, in fact, the officer turns out to be involved in nothing but a humorous chase of a friend, the person, if he does become aggrieved, or suffers financial loss and requires compensation, is allowed compensation in these circumstances.

There are two objections to the British scheme, even though it is far superior to the Ontario system. Firstly, it is confined to personal injury and secondly, there are minimal limits. The injury must be serious enough

to give rise to at least three weeks loss of earnings, or alternatively, it must be an injury for which compensation of not less than £50 would be awarded.

The California system is one which our government should consider. Under it, all injuries incurred while engaged in the enforcement of the law should be compensated for, and not merely those injuries inflicted by, or attributed to, the criminal. Such injuries as result from slipping or falling while attempting to apprehend an offender, should be included, provided such injuries were not occasioned by the citizen's own fault or negligence.

It is, of course, imperative that a person must be acting or assisting in the enforcement of the law. If he involves himself injudiciously or acts in accordance with his own incorrect views of the law, he must not receive and does not receive compensation. If he is hurt while attempting an arrest, such arrest must be a legal one.

The present compensation in Ontario is restricted to section 122 of the Act. It is woefully inadequate and causes hardship in many cases and is scarcely an encouragement to members of the public to go to the assistance of police officers in the preservation of law and order.

Surely we must all, by now, acknowledge and realize that legislation in this area is not only desirable, but absolutely necessary. We must acknowledge that persons have a special right to compensation. Let us approach the problem properly and substitute a good law for a bad one. The California scheme is a good one to follow. The Manitoba government has taken the position that it will bring such legislation forth and I would suggest and hopefully look forward to the day when such legislation is presented in this House.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to take part in this debate. I refer also, because it is a resolution similar in import to that of the member for Lakeshore, to resolution No. 10 which stands in my name on the order paper, that this government consider establishing a fund, out of which payments may be made to compensate victims of crimes of violence, or their dependants, to be administered by a board constituted to hear applications and make awards for compensation.

The import of the two resolutions are similar in intent, and I believe my remarks will follow very closely on those of the member for Lakeshore.

The member for St. Patrick asked whether the member for Lakeshore had any information as to the cost of the scheme in England during the time in which it was in operation. The figures—and I quote from an article which appeared in the *Federal Probation* magazine, published in Washington, in June of 1966, by Professor Edwards, the director of the centre of criminology at the University of Toronto, are stated by him to be: for the first eight months of the operation of the scheme in England, that is from September, 1964 to April, 1965, a total of just over \$100,000 was paid out in compensation. He goes on to point out that for the next eight months of the operation of the scheme, the figure of \$100,000 had risen to \$913,000, and states that it is an informed guess that the British board estimates that its payments of compensation during the 1965-1966 year may be in the range of \$1,500,000 or £500,000.

Mr. Speaker, I would submit, so far as it is possible to guess what the cost would be on the very limited information and statistical study which has been done in Ontario, that we are probably talking about claims which would total about \$100,000 a year, or in that neighbourhood. The significance however, is not so much the limited area of the application of this principle. What we are concerned about in this legislation—and I think we are in favour of it—is the importance of the members being perfectly clear as to what we are saying.

What we are saying, is that for the first time in the province of Ontario, there would be legislation under which a person would be entitled to receive, either as of right, or on application to a board by way of *ex gratia* payments, a payment to him as a result of an event or an incident which disabled him. This immediately faces us with the proposition that if this is so, it is the first occasion where, out of the funds of the province of Ontario, such disability payments would be made. I think it is important to be absolutely certain as to the basis on which such claims could be made, whether they would be made as a matter of right, whether they should be decided by a board—and what the extent of the compensation should be—and what the loss or the losses will be that could be covered by such coverage.

The House, Mr. Speaker, will be quite aware that there are obvious analogies to disability insurance, or as it is sometimes called, loss of income insurance, or accident and sickness insurance, which is available in the private market.

Very few people carry loss of income insurance to insure themselves against the total loss which they may suffer, on an estimated basis, for a disability which they may suffer in the course of their lifetime—while it is true, that most people carry some form of life insurance.

Now if we are going to extend this principle of compensating people for a disability, then it would appear to me that the risks for which they are entitled to receive disability payments, would need to be clearly spelled out in the statute.

The clear cases, Mr. Speaker, are the ones which the member for Lakeshore has spelled out. There is a broad range of cases where a statute, to make such provision, would either have to grant discretionary authority, which is the principle followed in the British scheme of compensation, where you leave it up entirely to a board to determine whether the personal injury and the disability resulting from that injury and the loss which the person has suffered, should be compensated; or whether, as appears to be the case in New Zealand you go somewhat further to establishing a right by listing in the schedule to the statute a category of offences which, if you are injured during the course of the commission of those offences, come somewhat closer to establishing your right to compensation but at the same time leaves it up to another body to determine the extent of the compensation which you would receive.

By analogy, in automobile accident cases, of course, there are many people in the province of Ontario, as the Osgoode Hall study report will show, who are injured in automobile accidents and who, even though they carry the total insurance coverage which they can obtain by automobile insurance, in fact only receive a small part or a small proportion or a reduced proportion of the actual overall loss which is suffered by those persons as a result of automobile accidents.

Now the reason, Mr. Speaker, why a compensation scheme for victims who suffer from crimes or in the course of the commission of crimes or as a result of assisting the police, or if you are a police officer by carrying out your duty, the reason why the claim on the state is relatively small—as I said it would appear in the United Kingdom that in a whole year it would amount to \$1.5 million or thereabouts, and in Ontario roughly about \$100,000 a year—is that we would not be claiming, I assume we would not be claiming, to insure a person against this total loss. We would be simply insuring him against a portion of his loss.

He would be recompensed for whatever special damage he might have suffered. But insofar as his loss of income in future years is concerned, because of the disability, if he suffered that extensive disability, if we were to compensate him adequately or totally then the cost to the province of Ontario, if it is to be on a strictly unilateral payment basis, would be much higher.

We cannot here object to the principle; my colleague, the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Davison), has introduced this similar resolution on numerous other occasions in this Legislature and it has been supported. I would suggest, however, Mr. Speaker, that this type of disability coverage might well be extended if in fact there was some provision by which a person could obtain this kind of coverage by payment of a relatively nominal premium spread out throughout the population of the province of Ontario.

It is a risk against a danger which all of us are subject to. It is like an automobile accident in the sense that it is relatively fortuitous; it is not so dissimilar to doctors' or hospital expenses, that some portion of the cost of such a scheme might well be borne by every individual in the province rather than making it a specific and direct charge on the public treasury without payment by anyone.

However, Mr. Speaker, I say this only if it is coupled with the kind of protection that we in this group have felt should be provided to persons who suffer this disability. Namely, that it would be an almost total compensation for the loss which was suffered. As all of us in the House are aware, the workmen's compensation scheme is not a government scheme, it is a government-sponsored scheme, but it is not a charge on the government revenues, and the difficulty with any of the schemes, whether they be automobile insurance schemes or indeed even under the existing OMSIP scheme, is that you do not get any total recovery for the loss which you suffer.

Particularly is this true in the case of the loss of income or an estimated loss of income over future periods of time as a result of a disability which prevents you from carrying on your regular occupation, which means that you have to accept some less remunerative field of work, and in any event you receive a reduced amount of compensation.

If, Mr. Speaker, we are going to give consideration to this kind of a scheme—and it is certainly a meritorious scheme, it certainly attracts one's sympathy when we read about

the specific cases which are referred to from time to time in the newspaper. It certainly attracts our sympathy, but to the extent that we are going to broaden the range of the claims which may be made against the public treasury for this kind of coverage, I would suggest that this is one area when you relate it to priorities in other areas, where there would be something to be said for a person making some premium payment for protection against this particular kind of loss which he may suffer.

Spread out over the whole of the population of the province of Ontario, of course, such a premium would be a relatively nominal one. But at the same time even if it were a nominal one, the awards which could be made in terms of the actual continuing loss which a person might suffer if he were the victim of a crime, if he suffered a serious disability, would go a long way to compensate him for perhaps up to 100 per cent of the estimated loss.

My concern, Mr. Speaker, is simply that if we continue to approach these fortuitous events which may strike any member of the community only on a patchwork basis, and continue to satisfy ourselves that any payments which are made must be made within the scheme of the traditional concept of either workmen's compensation or other disability payments, such as the kind of categorical payments which are made by The Department of Public Welfare, without a raising of our sights as to the method by which you assess the total loss of the person who is the victim of the crime, then I think we are perpetuating a system that we find that we must go along with if that is the best we can do, but which we find to be less and less satisfactory.

It is a limited field we are speaking about. It is quite obvious that the cost to the public treasury, relatively speaking, is much less than the cost of other types of insurance schemes. But you consider the number of victims of serious or fatal accidents in automobile cases who receive only a relatively small percentage of the total loss which they suffer, if the Linden report on automobile insurance done at Osgoode Hall is an accurate reflection. And I think in dealing with this kind of compensation for a crime board or fund which it is recommended be established, we should give consideration in these relatively minor incidents, to providing that by a method of paying, as I have stated, a nominal premium, everyone could be covered against this risk and at the same time be satisfied that they

would receive up to and including all of the losses which could be suffered.

My disagreement, therefore, Mr. Speaker, with these schemes is not so much on the framework that the member for Lakeshore has laid out, or indeed on the propositions which heretofore have been put forward. But I find it difficult to think that of all the losses which people can suffer fortuitously in just the ordinary round of everyday life, we should isolate this particular one and provide for a direct payment out of the public treasury without some portion of it being defrayed through a premium payment.

This is necessarily so when we have so many other claims that are made on the public treasury and so many other claims which are on balance just as meritorious and just as necessary to be covered as this particular claim.

We of course support each of the resolutions, but we would urge the government to extend the principle as has been indicated in the Throne Speech, where the government appears to be going to limit it only to those persons who move to assist the police, we think it should be extended to cover persons who are victims of crime as the member for Lakeshore has said. But we also think that consideration in this particular instance—and perhaps as a forerunner of more adequate protection in other fields in the future—should be given to a system by which the payment of a relatively nominal premium by all the persons in the province of Ontario would provide the funds in the hands of the government of the province of Ontario. These moneys, if they were administered by a board, would provide total compensation, not only for the present loss or injury which the persons may suffer and the expense to which he may be put, but for the continuing disability and therefore loss of income, which that person would suffer, during the rest of his life.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that most of the cases that the member for Lakeshore has spoken of, fall within that latter category. We would like to see—by the addition of a premium charge to the people in the province of Ontario—we would like to see that such persons—it could be anyone in the province of Ontario—would in fact receive an almost total compensation for the losses which would be suffered. As I said, Mr. Speaker, we support the resolutions.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): It is rather refreshing to see the stand of the hon. member who presented this resolution as compared

to that of his colleague a year ago who said this was a municipal problem. I mention the fact that in the city of Niagara Falls, as has been mentioned throughout *Hansard* for many years, problems have come up where people have been badly hurt. I was interested to read a resolution of a year ago, and I think it bears repeating—Resolution No. 1 in the name of the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher):

That a fund be established by the province for the payment of compensation to the victims of crime and violence or their dependants, to be administered by the board reporting regularly to the House.

Now a similar resolution in the name of the hon. member for Hamilton East of the New Democratic Party, was brought before this House a year ago, was thoroughly debated, and as usual, died on the order paper after we got through discussing this very important matter—as we are doing here today.

Quite some time ago, and I stand to be corrected on this point, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer), I believe, brought in a private bill—it could have been a resolution, but I believe a private bill—on the very same issue some three or four years ago.

We are all in agreement on this matter but there is not much being done about compensating people who have the courage to go out and assist an officer under difficult circumstances. He is handicapped because the lads who get involved in these problems, that we have heard of in the House here in the last while, are prepared for trouble. They come looking for it, and a citizen is not prepared in any way to assist under those circumstances, and yet they have been known to step into the fray and have, as one man said the other day, three or four teeth kicked out. I read where the member for Hamilton East mentioned that a man was blinded last year by being kicked in the face.

I think this government is going to do what it ought to do by the public of the province. It is the government's problem and not a municipal problem as one of your members has said before; it should bring in legislation and I think it should be here today. It is long overdue.

No one is debating the point. We believe that the citizens ought to have protection; the government members also believe this. But the government has not got up off its haunches to do something that it ought to do for the people to whom it is responsible.

I would like to read a few items out of a New Zealand bill that apparently is working quite well. They make reference to Saskatchewan in the bill that they brought in recently and these are some of the recommendations and I think they are good:

Compensation will cover any one or more of the following: Expenses actually and reasonably incurred as a result of a victim's injury or death; monetary loss to the victim as a result of total or partial incapacity to work; monetary loss to dependents as a result of the victim's death; pain or suffering to the victim; any other monetary loss resulting from the victim's injury and any expenses that it is reasonable to incur.

They make mention that periodic payments for monetary loss for inability to work will not continue for a longer period than three years in this particular bill, but at least it is a step in the right direction. We are obligated to the people that we represent in this province and this type of legislation is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, no one in the House disagrees with that, and it is about time that the government brought in legislation. Private bills and resolutions do nothing more than bring it to the attention of the people in this House, and then as I said before, the matter dies on the order paper.

We are neglecting the citizens of the province. We owe them this respect, we owe them this protection, and it is about time that we, in this House, took it on ourselves to bring in legislation. As I have said before, if a private member does bring in a bill it is just a waste of time; it dies on the order paper and another year rolls by.

I heard a most interesting speech this afternoon by the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch)—a most capable young man. Maybe he, with all of the problems that he has brought before us and which his government apparently had solved, Mr. Speaker—from what I heard they had solved them anyhow—maybe he will introduce legislation if he is not too busy reminiscing in the past. I too remember before 1943—and I know this is not a political issue but you do not mind if I mention it—the only reason the government went to the Liberal Party is because we had a terrible depression and the Conservative government of that day did not know how to cope with it. We have come to a similar problem. We have a problem here that ought to have been taken care of years ago. The government is obligated—it is coming short of the mark—there is nothing the Opposition can do but criticize the government for lack of interest

on behalf of the citizens they ought to be protecting.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I want to say a few words in this debate. As my colleague from Niagara Falls has said, I have brought this matter before the House for several years now, and I was quite interested in listening to his honour's remarks when he said and I quote from his speech:

My government will bring forward legislation to provide compensation for those who are injured while assisting the police in maintaining law and order.

Well, sometimes we make progress slowly. I pointed out to the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) the other evening when I was speaking in the Throne Debate, that there was a section in The Workmen's Compensation Act that just about did that and he said, "Oh no, we are going to go much further this time." It is a pity, I suppose, that with all this election fever that seems to be in the air in this chamber, Mr. Speaker, that the better part of strategy seems to indicate that we are not going to see any bill coming forward from the government for some time yet.

One must pause and wonder if we are going to see any bills of any substance at all coming before this chamber before the House is dissolved for an election. I would hope that we would see some of these promises, set out in the Throne Speech, brought forth in a form of legislation so that we could at least pat the government mildly, and quietly, on the back for progressing just a little bit beyond what is in The Workmen's Compensation Act. I want to commend my friend from Lakeshore on having discovered that this is a problem. He did not listen too carefully to his colleague from Halton (Mr. Kerr) last year. His colleague from Halton told us about his mother-in-law, as I recall, and he dreamed up all sorts of reasons why this might be a danger—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): We hear of all sorts of problems around here.

Mr. Singer: Yes—all sorts of problems—and if we inaugurated such a scheme there might be all sorts of dangers about expenditures of public money, besides which, and I think this was the zenith of government argument, we have not heard so much of it this year. This is perhaps because there have not been any bills yet, but when any problem arose, gentlemen like the hon. member for Halton and the hon. member for Lakeshore, as well, used to

say, "Why worry about all these things because Mr. Justice McRuer has had a committee studying this and a myriad of other problems for several years."

I do not know how long Mr. Justice McRuer is going to go on and study but this is one of the additional things that Mr. Justice McRuer is apparently studying—expropriation and all sorts of things. In any event, Mr. Speaker, I wonder, now that the hon. member for Lakeshore has seen the light, whether his voice carries any weight in the government caucus. Hopefully he, and some of the other government members—I am sorry the Attorney General is not here, I would think this comes within his sphere of responsibility—would have been able to indicate to the House, either at this time, or some time soon, what the government really has in mind. But there is no question that in modern society, Mr. Speaker, there are a great number of our citizens who suffer grave personal injury and whose families suffer loss of income. There is no proper remedy, or remedy at all, to compensate them for suffering this injury.

I think that the theory behind government action is pretty obvious. Government collects money to enforce the law, to eliminate crime and to cut down the incidence of crime. Therefore, the government should be responsible for compensating those people who are injured as the result of crime. There are all sorts of permutations and combinations, some of which are spelled out in the New Zealand bill, some of which have been talked about in England and some of which have been discussed here at some substantial length before the Canadian bar association. I would think that a real measure, that will provide some sort of compensation, would meet with substantial public acceptance—and would meet with it immediately.

I take a little exception to the thought put forward by the hon. member for Riverdale that there should be an effort to collect money from all of the people of Ontario. The costs, according to his own figures, are minimal. Talking about something in the vicinity of \$100,000 out of the public treasury, really would not, to my mind, warrant another body to start collecting money from all of the people of Ontario, in order to work out a compensation fund.

Mr. Speaker, the need is a real one and you do not need to go any further than today's newspapers to read of the many instances where people have been injured or even suffered irreparable damage as a result

of crime. People have been physically injured. People have lost their means of income. People have incurred hospital expenses, medical expenses, family welfare has been hurt, and in some cases destroyed. And there is no remedy to this large group of people who suffer.

I would think this is not beyond the ingenuity of the people who wrote the words to put into the Lieutenant-Governor's mouth. They have gone so far as saying: My government will bring forward legislation to provide compensation for those who are injured while assisting police in maintaining law and order. They were brave enough and bold enough as the hon. Provincial Secretary told us today, about this "go-go" government who is doing something about a "happening". I did not quite follow him on that. My teenage daughter perhaps is more in league with that.

Mr. Eagleson: The hon. member has got to get with it.

Mr. Singer: But it should not go beyond the ingenuity of people such as the hon. Provincial Secretary to bring pressure to bear upon his colleagues to really get with it; to really get into the 20th century, to create a meaningful "happening" and to do something for the people of Ontario.

The Throne Speech in so many of its aspects, and in this one in particular, Mr. Speaker, was full of sound and fury and in fact signifies nothing. Those two sentences that I read you do little more than put the icing on the cake in a section that is already in The Workmen's Compensation Act.

Hopefully they will pay a little attention to the sentiments expressed by the hon. member for Lakeshore. And hopefully, the words of the hon. Minister, the Provincial Secretary, which were espoused this afternoon in an effort to rally his tired and weary colleagues, will have more meaning in them than government actions have indicated up to date.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Speaker, I want to make a few remarks in regard to this matter of providing funds for those who suffer injury as a result of crimes of violence.

This is one more instance of a need in the province of Ontario and a need that has been debated year in and year out in this House. There seems to be no obvious disagreement, as is the case today—you have heard no one really disagreeing with this resolution. It is an obvious need and yet what is even more obvious is the fact that Ministers of the

Crown refuse to speak on the subject and what is even worse, refuse to take any action. This is one more instance of an insufferable delay by this government and of ignoring a great need in the province of Ontario.

It is obvious evidence, to me at least, and I think to hundreds of thousands of people in this province, that this government just does not care. It refuses time and time again to come to grips with needs in an industrialized society.

It may well have been that back in the days of the progenitors of this government, the family compact, that they did not need such legislation as is suggested in the two resolutions before this House. But it is obvious today, in an industrialized society, and a very highly complex society, that the protection of people against crimes of violence is something that is not only social legislation, but is legislation that will bring stability to our society.

We know today that crime in many instances is highly organized. We know today that crime is far flung. It is just not among a small community, or a few people that cause crime. Today crime is extremely widespread and it is a great social problem as well as being a problem of law enforcement.

As a result of it, many, many citizens are caught up in this struggle of trying to keep law and order. So even if we do assist people who come to the assistance of the law enforcement officers, as the government says they are now at long, long last going to do by bringing in a bill, we still are ignoring the problem of those many more people who are affected because of crimes of violence.

So I fear, Mr. Speaker, even though I am speaking through you, I am speaking to deaf ears when I am talking to the Ministers of this Tory government, but again I use this occasion to show that this is just one more instance where this Tory government just does not care.

Mr. Speaker: The debate being concluded, this order is discharged from the order paper.

Clerk of the House: The 30th order; second readings.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO

Mr. J. H. White (London South) in the absence of **Mr. A. A. Mackenzie** (York North) moves second reading of Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

UNITED COOPERATIVES OF ONTARIO

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin) moves second reading of Bill Pr11, An Act respecting united cooperatives of Ontario.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

TOWNSHIP OF MURRAY

Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland) moves second reading of Bill Pr20, An Act respecting the township of Murray.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

KITCHENER AND DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. White, in the absence of **Mr. K. E. Butler** (Waterloo North) moves second reading of Bill Pr21, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF ETOBICOKE

Mr. White, in the absence of **Mr. Eagleson** (Lakeshore), moves second reading of Bill Pr23, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): **Mr. Speaker**, on this particular bill, this is one more instance where—

Hon. Mr. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): **Mr. Speaker**, if there are questions about the bill, I would ask that it be withdrawn for the time being, until the proposer of the bill is in the House.

Mr. Trotter: I do not have that much to say on it, **Mr. Speaker**, unless it—

Hon. Mr. Dymond: The mover of the bill, sir, is not here so I think it would be fair that he should hear what the hon. member has to say about it.

Mr. Speaker: We will hold the bill then until the member is present.

Clerk of the House: The 29th order; committee of the whole House; **Mr. W. E. Johnston** in the chair.

SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL AND COST ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO

House in committee on Bill Pr1, An Act respecting the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr1 reported.

SARNIA BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUBURBAN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

House in committee on Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district.

Sections 1 to 4 inclusive, agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Sections 6 and 7 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr3 reported.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOOSE

House in committee on Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2:

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): May I ask the Minister of Municipal Affairs, whose reputation for legal learning precedes him, whether if section 2 was not in the bill, would those sections of The Ontario Municipal Board Act apply?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): I asked the same question of my legal advisers and I was told that it was necessary that section 2 be inserted in the bill, otherwise it would not apply.

Mr. Sopha: I think, Mr. Chairman, some day we have to get settled in this province that the public statutes of this Legislature take precedence over private bills. Now, The Interpretation Act says clearly that all judges shall be deemed to have judicial notice of all the public statutes of this Legislature. And I would think that it is redundant to set out in a bill that the general law of the land as passed by the Legislature applies to a specific instance.

Now, I am no constitutional lawyer nor administrative lawyer and my knowledge of the interpretation of the statutes is extremely limited, but we are going to come to one in a moment where the problem poses itself in much greater relief. But I would think that if a statute was silent, if it said nothing at all, then every statute, public statute of Ontario which was relevant and appertained to the body, would be valid and subsisting legislation.

And I for one do not like to see these private amateur draftsmen—that is what they are, the people who prepare private bills for a municipality or a school board or some charitable organization or an estate—I do not like to see these; I have a built-in repugnance to these private draftsmen running around the province referring to the public law of Ontario in the way they do.

It seems to me that very gratuitously and almost in cavalier fashion they took hold of the general body of the public law which, after all, is a command of this Legislature, to everybody resident in Ontario, indeed everybody who comes within Ontario, and they very gratuitously say that part of the public law of the land applies to the body for which they act, in this case the township of Moose. I must confess I have no doubt there are very good people in the township, and I have no doubt the moose are very good too in the township.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: There are more moose than people.

Mr. Sopha: There are probably more moose than people—more meese than people—in the township, but that is the point I make and I hope I have made myself clear on it. But we are going to get into it when we come to Kitchener.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Mr. Chairman, I cannot say any more than I am very much of the same opinion as the hon. member for Sudbury. I am not a lawyer, but in this particular case I questioned this section and I was told that it was desirable in their opinion and should not be deleted from the bill. It was there in the first place by the people who drew it up.

Section 2 agreed to.

Sections 3 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr4 reported.

EMPIRE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

House in committee on Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Empire Life Insurance Company.

On section 1:

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, I for one said to the representatives of the Empire Life Insurance—I forgot to tell them when we were at the committee that I am a policy holder in Empire Life. I had better disclose that—with a policy on my son with that company, my four year old son. I bought the policy—I will also disclose this—I bought the policy from the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers). But I for one, in reference to subsection (1) am glad to see these people go from under our jurisdiction and under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada and indeed, I am one of those—a centralist to the extent that I believe all life insurance companies and indeed, all trust companies, should be under federal jurisdiction so that the government of Canada may properly control the monetary system investment policies of these very large creators of credit in the country.

I make one other comment—I asked Mr. Jackman, and his company apparently is controlled by the Jackman family, which is as we all know a leading Conservative family in this province, I asked him how much of their assets were in equity securities. And I say to my friend, the hon. Minister from Scarborough North (Mr. Wells), who attends me, asked him how much of their assets they had in the ownership of Canadian industries and he told me that they had a meagre 7.7 per cent. That testifies to the anxious nature of the problem, of course, that confronts Canadians today about the ownership of their industries.

As long as large companies like this should demonstrate such little faith in Canada we will have that problem of American domination of our industry as a perennial one with us—and that is testimony in connection with this company, testimony to the Conservative and indeed, reactionary, investment policies of the creators of credit and these holders of the savings of Canadian people. Canadians own more life insurance per capita than any other people in the world, which shows our caution and our saving nature and provision for the future, especially provision for widows. I say “hallelujah” that they are gone, and I am told there are only about five more left under provincial jurisdiction and I hope during my time in the House that I see the other five—

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Oh no, there is a total of seven; there are six left.

Mr. Sopha: There are six left. Apparently six left under provincial jurisdiction whereas not many years ago there were 20 or 30 companies, but they appear to go at the rate of one a year and I hope they will speed that up so that we will in a very few years get rid of all these companies of course preserving our right to regulate the contracts of life insurance that they sell.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Well Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make a point or two on this. There were seven such companies, if the evidence given before our select committee on company law is correct.

This company, it seems to me, is having some difficulty in the other place in getting their bill through.

Hon. Mr. Spooner:—referring to the company for which a bill was passed a year ago. That is The Excelsior Life Insurance, they are the ones that are having trouble in Ottawa right now. Ottawa does not want them apparently.

Mr. Singer: Well, all right. Perhaps the Minister is more correct in his observations than I am. But I wondered why it had not occurred—and I do not know why the Minister of Municipal Affairs should be in this particular discussion, unless he is the man in charge of all private bills. I would rather have thought it would be the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs or the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), or perhaps even the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch), because hopefully—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Empire Life has not applied to Ottawa, in my recollection.

Mr. Singer: Yes. But hopefully we would have a provincial-wide policy that would apply and I would hardly think the Minister of Municipal Affairs would stray into the preserves of the Provincial Secretary and/or the preserves of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. And I hope the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has had enough time, recognizing of course that he complains he has only been in this office since November 24—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I have never complained about the short time I have been in office.

Mr. Singer:—would have had enough time to deem it proper, deem it meet and proper that all of the companies should go along at the same time and rather—and this is a concept I put before this House many times—rather than do something by private bill, if we can get rid of the problem by general legislation, perhaps my friend the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs and the Provincial Secretary with the able assistance of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who has taken over private bills, can get something before this House soon so that we will get out of the business of supervising insurance companies; we will not have any more Ontario insurance companies.

It would make things much neater and will put it another place where, when we hear the complaints about those terrible people in another jurisdiction not doing their job, then those complaints could have a little more efficacy than they have this afternoon.

Sections 1 to 5 inclusive, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr6 reported.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of the whole rise and report certain bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole moves that the committee rise and report certain bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, we will proceed with the Budget Debate and the estimates of The Department of Agriculture and Food.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.05 o'clock p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 21, 1967
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the west gallery, St. Paschall separate school, Toronto, St. Cyril separate school, Toronto, and in both galleries Applewood Heights secondary school, Cooksville.

Presenting petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Mr. Reuter, from the standing committee on private bills, presented the committee's fifth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment: Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock; Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the city of London; Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments: Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Your committee would recommend that the fees, less the penalties and the actual cost of printing, be remitted on Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE DOWER ACT

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to repeal The Dower Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT

Mr. Sopha moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Married Women's Property Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: These two bills should be read together. The first bill repeals The Dower Act and the second bill preserves the principle in The Dower Act and extends it so that a widow may reside in the chief house of her late husband for a period of one year after his death, against the claims of all persons. That privilege does not extend to a widow who was living apart from her husband in circumstances disentitling her to alimony.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Is the hon. member going to refer these to the committee on women's rights in Ottawa?

Mr. Sopha: The Ladybird committee?

Mr. Speaker: I believe the member for Woodbine has a statement before the orders of the day.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): **Mr. Speaker,** before the orders of the day, I would like to call the attention of the members of the House to the fact that today is the silver wedding anniversary day of the Ontario leader of the New Democratic Party, the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald).

As you are aware, **Mr. Speaker,** I have been closely associated with the hon. member for a good many years, and over those years I have heard and read many assessments of him expressing everything from the highest admiration to, shall we say, something less than that. But in all that time I have never heard any references to his charming and gracious wife which expressed anything but the highest admiration. I think all hon. members will have to agree, **Mr. Speaker,** that when such a fine woman can live with a man for 25 years, there must be some good in him.

At any rate, I do not think it is necessary for me to tell the House that we in this group are all members of the high admiration school with respect to both the hon. member and his wife, and I am sure that all members of the House will join with us in wishing them much happiness in the next 25 years.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): **Mr. Speaker,** I think

the members on this side of the House would join in this congratulatory message to the leader of the New Democratic Party and his wife, and we hope they have another 25 years of real happiness. I am sure all of us in the House would be glad to attend the reception later in the day.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I certainly would not let this opportunity go by without associating myself with this general congratulation. Mrs. MacDonald is certainly held in the highest regard by all of us who have met her on several occasions, political and otherwise, and she has such good judgment that really at one time I thought she would consider a Liberal nomination. But if that is not the case, we may have to promise her for the next 25 years only that her husband will be home more often and that they can enjoy peace and tranquility for the years that lie ahead.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I thought that all of these little efforts back in the office had been contained so that they were not going to reach the floor of the House and I was genuinely surprised.

I want to express my deep appreciation for the sentiments from all sides of the House.

I would say to the House leader, I would have found his comments a little bit more convincing if he had not called the agricultural estimates so that I have to be back here tonight. I would have liked to have gone out and celebrated tonight.

But as my wife will say, and sometimes protest, I put political duties sometimes ahead of responsibilities at home and I fear on this occasion of the agricultural estimates I shall be here and celebrate at some later day.

But again my deep appreciation for the comments.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, yesterday some reference was made to the Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) and the medical statement by his doctor. After the business of the day had commenced, Dr. Hugh McAlpine of London issued the following statement and I would like to read it:

An X-ray examination of the stomach and duodenum shows no evidence of an ulcer and as bleeding has stopped it is presumed that the site of bleeding has healed or is healing. X-rays do show a hiatus hernia with inflammation of the lower end of the oesophagus which might have been the source of the bleeding. It is certainly causing no symptoms or difficulty at present. Present conditions would indicate

that Mr. Robarts will probably be discharged before the end of the week and will spend at least another ten days at home before resuming his usual activities.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Would the Minister advise the House:

1. How many deer are being killed by The Department of Lands and Forests officials for experimentation purposes at Johnston Harbour in the Bruce peninsula?

2. Why could deer killed in the normal hunting season in November last not be experimented with and examined in order that the present deer population might be saved?

3. What is being done with the meat?

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the hon. member for Bruce the deer being killed in the Johnston Harbour area are for a research programme carried out by the University of Guelph in conjunction with our own department.

Before this programme was started it was discussed with officials of the four townships concerned, as well as sportsmen's groups in the area and I understand that approval had been given.

In answer to the member's specific questions:

1. The maximum of 30 is approved, though fewer may be taken. Some 14 deer have been killed up to date. Road kill are used when available and each one so used, is one less taken deliberately. Deer can be live-trapped on the Cyanimide Tile property at Niagara Falls and will be released at Johnston Harbour to replace the deer removed for study, as far as possible.

2. Seventy-five deer reproductive tracts were obtained during the hunting season but a sample is required throughout the period of embryonic development. Those taken during the open season are at the initial phase only and do not yield the complete information on embryonic development that is required.

3. The meat that is being taken is being turned over to the Indians and if required to the hospitals and other welfare agencies.

Mr. Whicher: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I have another question for the Provincial Secretary. Would the Minister advise the House:

1. How many children were born in the province of Ontario in each of the years 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965?

2. Is the percentage of birth rate per 1,000 decreasing and if so by how much in the above mentioned years?

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to provide these figures — perhaps rather than trying to write them down they will appear in *Hansard*. The answer to the first question for the years asked: In 1961—157,663. In 1962—156,053. In 1963—155,089. In 1964—152,729. In 1965—141,610.

Now it will be obvious as far as the second question is concerned that it is a decrease but perhaps you would like the percentages to show how it has declined: In 1961—25.3 per cent. In 1962—24.6 per cent. In 1963—24.1 per cent. In 1964—23.2 per cent. In 1965—21 per cent.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

1. On what grounds has the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council granted a rehearing to Benjamin W. Ball in the rezoning of property at the corner of Blythwood and Mount Pleasant Road in Toronto?

2. How many such hearings have been granted by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council during the past ten years?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to your honour that this question is not one which can be properly asked in the House, and I would place before you for consideration Sir Erskine May's 17th Edition (1964) which on page 350 deals with matters of this kind as to questions which can be placed before Ministers in the House and it says in this particular paragraph:

Questions addressed to Ministers should relate to the public affairs with which they are officially connected to proceedings pending in Parliament, or to matters of administration for which they are responsible. Within these limits an explanation can be sought regarding the intentions of the government but not an expression of their opinion upon matters of policy.

Carrying on in which May cites examples of inadmissible questions he says:

In the light of these general rules the following types of questions have been ruled out of order: Questions seeking information about matters which are in their

nature secret, such as decisions or proceedings of the Cabinet, or Cabinet committees; advice given to the Crown by law officers, and so on.

Under these circumstances and in the light of these well respected rules of the British House of Commons I would suggest to you, sir, that this question is out of order at this time. Now I did not have the time, unfortunately, to examine our own rules but I suspect that they would be quite in line with what I have just read, sir.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, surely the second part of the question is in order even if the May authority is correct. I would think they are both in order.

Mr. Speaker: As the member perhaps knows, I expressed some doubt this morning when the question arrived at my office that they would be in order. And I also expressed the same doubt to the Minister's secretary when the question was referred to that office. Now since the Minister has refreshed my memory on the learned authority, Sir Erskine May, on this matter, I would declare them out of order.

Mr. Young: The second part as well, Mr. Speaker?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: If the hon. member would care to ask the second part of his question on another occasion I would be glad to give him the information.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): My question to the House leader is, is The Deposit Insurance Act going to conform to the federal Deposit Insurance Act in: (1) calling for chartered banks to hold no more than 10 per cent of the stock of the trust company, and (2) is Ontario going to enforce the forbidding of directors of chartered banks sitting on the board of directors of loan and trust companies?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the questions asked do not deal with the federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act and they are beyond the scope of the Ontario Act. The items mentioned are possibly being considered as an amendment to The Bank Act or new legislation strictly in the federal field.

Mr. Sargent: I have a question for the Attorney General: In view of the widespread practice of wire-tapping in the United States as reported in the *New York Times*, an agency offers its services for a fee to detect if your telephone is being bugged. Will the

Minister advise if this service is available in Ontario? To what extent is the public of Ontario protected from phone bugging and is it illegal, and how many convictions were there in 1966, and what is the position of the government on this type of action?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I note that the question is confined to telephone bugging and the first part of the question refers to some agency in the United States which apparently offers its services for a fee to detect if the telephone is being bugged. I have not read the article in the *New York Times*, I have never heard of the agency and I do not know if it exists in Canada or if this service is available.

The second part of the question—to what extent are the public of Ontario protected from phone bugging? There is The Telephone Act of Ontario which makes it illegal to tamper with or trespass upon phone services, and, therefore, this makes it illegal. There is a similar statute in the federal field, having to do with telephone company installations.

As to the third part of the question “is it illegal?”—yes, if it contravenes those two statutory Acts.

Fourth, how many convictions in 1966? To my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, there were no informations laid in this area at all and no convictions, of course, obtained either with respect to telephones in Ontario, or so far as I am aware with respect to telephones which come under federal control and jurisdiction.

The last part of the question, part 5: What is the position of the government on this type of action? I do not know whether that refers to the first part of the question, the action of the agency in protecting you, or the telephone bugging. In any event I have not discussed, with the government, its position on the matter. I have made our position known from our own department at federal-provincial conferences on crime.

In answer to a question earlier this session—the hon. member will find that at page 85 of *Hansard*—it had to do with the tapping by electronic devices of conversations, including telephone. The position which I stated in *Hansard* which the hon. member will find is that if such evidence is to be obtained in criminal prosecutions—criminal cases—it should only be done after application to a court, where the court can hear the necessity or the circumstances for which it is required. The applicant needs the approval of the court by an order.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, the reason the hon. Attorney General could not assess my last question—

Mr. Speaker: Does the member have a supplementary question?

Mr. Sargent: I have a question for the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food. But I want to say that any similarity between the questions they accept and the ones I give you, Mr. Speaker, is purely coincidental, because you change them the way you want to. That is why the Minister does not get any sense out of the question. I would suggest we get away from this nonsense, this hypocrisy of questions, and let them go through as they are given.

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the member that his question to the Attorney General is exactly as it was submitted to my office. There was no changing whatsoever of that particular question. The only question that was edited was the question to the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. Sargent: Well, I will bow to you.

My question to the Minister of Agriculture and Food: Is the Minister aware of a purported statement by A. G. E. Child, president of Burns Packers at Kitchener, Ontario, when he states that meat packing firms of Ontario should decide upon vertical integration of the beef packing industry? Would the Minister and the government consider legislation to block such a move?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I do not know what form this question was in when it was first asked, but my reply to the first part of the question is “no”. I have no knowledge of anything the president of Burns Packers said in this regard. The answer to the second question is that it is purely hypothetical, and I do not think it deserves an answer of any kind.

Mr. Sargent: There is no plan on integration at all?

Another question for the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What steps are being taken with regard to news reports that 1,000 Mennonite farmers are involved in Waterloo county in refusing to become licensed under the Ontario milk marketing board?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member apparently believes everything he reads in the papers. In answer to the question, I would say that the Ontario milk

marketing board believes that there are about 50 or 60 Mennonite farmers, which is quite a difference from 1,000, shipping fluid milk, who have refused to complete licence application forms as requested by the Ontario milk marketing board.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that these licences are required by the Ontario milk marketing board, they have nothing to do with The Department of Agriculture and Food. The milk marketing board has discussed this with the head official of that segment of the Mennonite church and with his approval is calling on each of the producers of fluid milk to secure the information required on the licence application form. This information will be verified by the personnel of the milk marketing board who will sign the form on behalf of the milk producers.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the member really has two questions and they are sort of inter-related. If he would give them both at the same time, and if the member for Nipissing (Mr. Smith) then would give his question, I think perhaps the Minister would like to answer the three because they all relate upon the same subject.

Mr. Young: Thank you very much.

The first question is: What staff is now employed by the branch charged with the responsibility of policing complaints under The Used Car Dealers Act; is the staff able to keep up with the complaints lodged with it? And the second question is: (1) What is the status of the directives issued by R. G. MacCormac, registrar of used cars dealers, on February 4, 1967 in respect to the sale of used rental cars and the turning back of speedometers? (2) Can a violator of such directives during the time they were in force be prosecuted? (3) Were the changes in the directives made on February 16, 1967 released to the press and made public as were the original directives of February 4, 1967, so that the public was aware that the protection of the original directive no longer obtained?

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister inform the House whether legislation is contemplated to make it unlawful for a vendor of a used car to change the mileage register on the speedometer?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: In answer to the first question, there are some 22 persons in the

branch dealing with used cars. As to whether the staff is able to keep up with the complaints lodged with it, the answer is "yes." There is no backlog of complaints. Then there was a three-part question, and I would point out, as explained in the House yesterday, that we are not as the hon. member's question suggests, dealing with directives. We are discussing bulletins which are produced by the registration and examination branch as part of an education programme aimed at raising standards generally in the used car business.

The bulletins referred to in today's question are being carefully examined to see whether they conform with provisions laid down in The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964. Our review of the legislation indicates that certain changes may be desirable. Draft amendments are presently being prepared. It is the government's desire that this legislation fulfill its original intended purpose, namely, to protect the public against undesirable and unacceptable business practices. This we intend to do.

Bulletins of the type referred to can serve a very useful and informative purpose, but they must conform with the legislation involved.

There was a third question with respect to legislation, and the answer is that immediate steps will be taken to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964 where necessary to ensure that the fullest measure of control may be exercised without interfering with the normal, ethical practices of dealing in used cars in Ontario.

I point out that the existence of the Act and the administration of it have been worthwhile. It has brought a great deal of stability to the used car business in this province.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would accept a supplementary question?

It is simply this: there were people who did business during this period relying upon the news reports of the directives. Are those people in error? Have they any protection, or were those directives at fault and there was no such protection? This is the information that I would like.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I will have to consider that further. That information is not available at the moment.

The bulletins are issued against the legislation itself. There is an ultimate control with respect to the renewal of licences but that is

not exactly what we are talking about and I do not think the hon. member has that in mind. I will be looking at this again, probably later today and tomorrow, because if there are amendments to that Act required to give the necessary control that I think every member of this House wants, then they will be advanced.

Mr. Young: Then we will have the status of the people who bought during this interregnum clarified?

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister explain whether the proposed amendments that he speaks of would cover all vendors or only used car dealers? The amendments he speaks of are to The Used Car Dealers Act?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That will appear when the amendments are introduced.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works.

Has the Minister given consideration to the payment for prescription drugs for persons on welfare?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): There is a slip of the tongue. The member intended his question for the Minister of Public Welfare.

The answer, Mr. Speaker, is "yes".

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: First order.

THIRD READINGS

The following bills were given third reading upon motion:

Bill Pr1, An Act respecting the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district.

Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the public school board of section 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane.

Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the Empire Life Insurance Company.

Clerk of the House: The fifth order. Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion, that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I believe that every one of us in this House is concerned with keeping taxes down and providing maximum services with the funds available to the people of the province of Ontario.

I would say that the Treasurer of Ontario (Mr. MacNaughton) has this in mind and so do we, but we, sir, have a different approach to this problem, an approach that is based on a freedom of action that a government that has been in office for close to a quarter of a century cannot possibly achieve.

We in the Liberal Party are offering new policies, new people and a new programme to the electors of the province, which when they accept it, as they will at the next election, will return this province to a position where many of the problems that have been unsolvable for so many years, will be solved under our direction.

Mr. Speaker, there are at least five specific items that have to do with the expenditure of public funds in the months gone by, and which will continue into the years that lie ahead and are covered by this Budget, that I would like to deal with specifically in the time that is available to me this afternoon.

The first one has to do with the Centennial museum that is being built by the people of this province to celebrate our 100th anniversary in Confederation. I personally regret that the responsible Minister, the Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) is not in his seat, because I feel that the information that I would bring before you, sir, and the House this afternoon is of a serious nature and one that will very definitely be of some concern—or should be of concern—to him and all members of the House.

Now I am not going to dwell upon the fact, sir, that the plans laid out by the Prime Minister of Ontario (Mr. Robarts) in 1964 for a programme to celebrate the Centennial of Confederation in this province have gone very much astray and that we have no opportunity and no chance of completing this programme in time for Centennial year. This is an argument that was put before the House last year, and I am sure we will refer to it again, but it is on really a more serious matter that I want to bring your attention this afternoon.

The second criticism associated with it, besides the unwarranted delay associated with its construction, has to do with the mounting costs of this project. We know that it began

as a \$5 million project, with the assistance of the federal government and now the recent quotes put it in excess of \$30 million. I would be unfair if I did not recall to your mind, sir, that this is associated with a general expansion of the whole plan for this museum.

Nevertheless, the expansion of time over which this building is going to be constructed is surely going to be a part of the reason for unwarranted expansion in costs. But beyond that, I want to bring to your attention further that although the Minister in charge had indicated over the past many months that he had complete confidence in those who had the responsibility for developing this museum, we have seen in the press news of the resignation of the top officials for this project, and this afternoon I want to bring some further information on this particular matter to your attention.

Now I would say, sir, that since the Prime Minister first announced plans for the construction of the centre in Toronto's Don Valley back in August of 1964, the estimated cost of the complex has risen from \$5 million to \$30 million, and there have been distressing reports of unrest among the senior members of the staff resulting in the resignation of a director, an associate director, and an assistant director.

In view of these harsh facts, and since a vital part of the centre is at stake in all this administrative confusion, I feel strongly that the matter must be brought before the House at this time. The people of Ontario deserve to know what is going on behind the scenes and who is responsible for the inadequate conduct of our affairs. I intend to air in this House, sir, charges that the government is guilty of irresponsibility and gross mismanagement of the affairs of the Centennial centre, and that a Deputy Minister, acting on the direct instruction of a Minister of the Crown, contravened an Act of the Legislature in changing the administrative makeup of the Centennial centre.

I would say, sir, that the evidence supporting this charge that has been made by others, is contained in a letter of resignation submitted to the government on August 16, 1966, by the centre's former director, Dr. George MacBeath, one of seven senior staff members who have resigned in the past six months. Now this gentleman, I would say, had not been able to obtain satisfaction in dealing with the responsible Minister and had seen fit to go over his head and present his letter of resignation, with the facts associated with it, to the Prime Minister of Ontario. I invite

the Prime Minister, when he returns to his seat, and the House leader (Mr. Rowntree) in his absence, to table the correspondence if he sees fit.

I would say in passing that the government has had very high regard for and confidence in the professional competence of the men who resigned. They have expressed the same type of confidence in the men who have been brought into this country to take their place and direct these affairs in the months that lie ahead. Only last year the Minister of Tourism and Information described the men working on the project, and I quote from *Hansard*:

—as fine a staff as any project or centre of science and technology in the world.

He further told this House that the morale of the staff is excellent and that the government owes a great debt of gratitude to them, and I quote again from *Hansard*:

—for the truly amazing work they have been doing in a relatively short time.

He also said, and I quote:

The centre has the best scientific and display advice it is possible to obtain to add to the very high qualifications of the staff we have already recruited.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the letter of resignation from Dr. MacBeath to the hon Prime Minister contains some stinging words for the government, and I would like to quote from it fairly extensively. As I have said I have invited the government to table the document *in toto* as is their right. Dr. MacBeath is formerly director of the New Brunswick provincial museum, the oldest such institution in Canada, and he writes as follows, and I quote:

The series of actions done in the name of the board of the government over the past nine months jeopardizes the future of the emerging centre of science and technology in such a manner, and to such a degree, that I feel very strongly real danger now exists of bringing discredit rather than honour to our Centennial observance.

This is the crux of my argument. This is a matter of high concern. The government undoubtedly has the right to fire its officials if they appear to be incompetent after they have undertaken their duties, but the manner in which this particular situation was handled by the government and the responsible Minister is absolutely inadmissible. It has never been made public, and I feel that since it involves \$30 million our Centennial project—which will probably be a minimum of two

years late—that it is a matter of high public concern. It is for that reason that I wish to continue my remarks along these veins.

Dr. MacBeath says he wrote to the hon. Prime Minister because the Prime Minister had, and I quote:

assumed personal charge of the investigation into the obviously tangled affairs of the centre.

I want to interject here that this is the first indication we have had that the Prime Minister himself had to take a hand in sorting out what had become an embarrassing entanglement of government red tape and overlapping of responsibility. It would appear now that the Prime Minister, through his investigation, was simply seeking out the truth so that he could bury it deeper than it was before. The letter continues, Mr. Speaker:

I received assurance transmitted from you that I would have ample opportunity to air my views and I waited for that opportunity. I was further led to believe that there would be an inquiry, an action which I would have welcomed. Instead of this I found myself faced with a proposal which, I was informed, has your approval and that of the government as well as the formal endorsement of the board of trustees. This was put to me by Mr. D. J. Collins — presumably representing you — by Mr. O. Jones and Mr. W. Twaits, presumably representing the centre's board.

I would say, in my own words, that the decision had been made to fire this man. To go on from the letter:

The solution arrived at without consultation with me was then explained. There was, effectively, no discussion about the centre's problems, but only about the details of this solution and finally, considering how far its approval and support had gone before I was called in, it had all the characteristics of the inevitable. The proposal itself, from the operating standpoint at best makes it next to impossible to achieve the centre that you yourself described two years ago. More than this, the proposal from the standpoint of a conscientious museum professional, is both unacceptable and insulting.

Later in the letter, Mr. MacBeath discusses the proposal in more detail and suggests that it was made following the government's discovery that it had grossly underestimated the total cost of the centre. I quote further from the letter:

This alarming difference in the cost estimate from the amount that government

had approved originally brought with it a tightening of controls and the imposition of further authorizing procedures not on capital costs but on expenditure of current funds which were not involved in the capital increases.

These restrictions imposed on a staff already familiar with requirements of public accountability for funds spent, began to make impossible adherence to very difficult schedules because delays in the approval of expenditures were being imposed by officials having no operational responsibility for the results. The pressures caused by the alarming rise in commitments also had the effect of downgrading the importance of the board of trustees, and resulted in the assumption by the Minister and The Department of Tourism and Information, as well as by the chairman of the board of trustees, a role inconsistent with the active incorporation.

That role became one of close involvement with the day to day operations of the centre to such an extent that the director's authority to spend was limited to \$4 for petty cash items and to \$150 for items purchased through requisitions approved.

This is a good illustration of the operational limitations imposed and defined on the very organization that was to outfit and be housed in the centre whose cost would be in the vicinity of \$25 million. While all concerned were alarmed over rising building costs this should not warrant the implication that the director was somehow at fault, nor should it warrant the imposition of self-defeating controls on the staff, especially with respect to current budgetary expenditures connected with programmes that had been approved by the board of trustees.

More than this, it should be realized that the director's estimate of the sum required for exhibits, collections and the fitting out of specialized space—\$3 million from government and \$2 million from other sources over a three year period—was not altered from the original proposal made late in 1964.

Dr. MacBeath explains that in view of the problems confronting the institution, he was obliged to see the Minister of Tourism and Information, to offer in his own words:

solutions I sincerely believe had to be imposed if the centre was to become the institution described in our Act of incorporation. The outcome of this was that the

chairman, whom I criticized severely, was brought into the Minister's confidence and I was presented by the Deputy Minister with a draft directive which effectively placed the chairman in the position of director and which was patently contrary to the provisions of the Act.

I would say that in quoting the former director, he draws our attention to the fact that the Minister had contravened the provisions of the Act, and I feel sure that the appropriate Minister would answer this, in this connection, when the time is given for him to do so.

The director who had been dismissed by these particular proposals and in this meeting that he describes, brought to the attention of the appropriate deputy the fact that surely this was an extremely controversial matter. The deputy agreed that some sort of arbitration might be the fairest way out for all concerned.

To quote later then, from the letter of resignation:

Two days later on May 3, 1966, despite assurance by the chairman to the secretary at noon that no agenda changes were to be made, the board was asked to consider at 2.30 p.m. at an unscheduled agenda item complete with prepared copies, a statement and the identical draft directly referred to above which the Minister wished to have examined and endorsed.

As a result of my protest at the effects of the draft directive and its method of presentation, the board appointed a committee of inquiry to investigate the relative responsibilities of chairman and director and report back with its recommendations to the board. Despite the clear direction given by the board respecting makeup and responsibility of the committee neither its actual composition nor its proceedings met with the requirement of the pertinent board motion. What was termed a meeting of the committee was chaired by the Minister on May 10 and decisions were reached. No proper inquiry has been held nor has the committee reported its recommendations to the board.

The letter to the Prime Minister continues as follows:

Since that time we have witnessed a series of actions that bypassed both board and director, contravened the Act and ignored by-laws as well as formal and informal agreements made at the time of my acceptance of the position of director and since then. The Act makes the board of

trustees responsible for the control of the affairs of the centre and makes the director responsible for the management and administration of the centre subject only to the supervision and direction of the board. Despite this a paid three-man advisory committee with sweeping powers involving exhibits, content and collection, a committee reporting and responsible only to the chairman was appointed in May by the Minister. To implement the usurped responsibility of deciding and producing the contents of both the CNE preview and the centre proper a separate staff reporting to the chairman was recruited.

Mr. Speaker, I would draw to your attention that since the time this letter was written, even though a special programme was laid on, new people brought in, former advisers and directors who had had the confidence of the government in such glowing terms just a few months before, that even this new group has had to cancel its plan for a special Centennial showing of exhibits at the Canadian national exhibition.

Every one of their plans has gone wrong. At a time when the people of Ontario, in the words of the Prime Minister of Ontario himself, are terribly enthused at taking part in the Centennial celebration that is approaching with the coming of summer, Ontario itself has been almost unbelievably unable in the formation of its own Centennial project—

It is not laughable, it is very serious, a matter of \$30 million, late construction programmes, very serious charges associated with the legislation and the conduct of the affairs of the province itself.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): What happened to Phil Givens' plan?

Mr. Nixon: Now Mr. Speaker, it is true that this letter is a lengthy one—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): He was the latest go-go candidate!

Mr. Nixon:—and I would say that in reading the excerpts from it I am not choosing those that are any more damning as far as the government is concerned than others. But I have tried to shorten the presentation, not in any way to draw away from the importance of the charges made and the general mess in the situation, but simply in the interests of saving time. But in completing this part of my remarks, I would quote further from Dr. MacBeath's letter of resignation:

Note must also be made of the fact that without the prior knowledge of either the

board or the director, the organization and methods branch of The Treasury Department was ordered to carry out a study of the centre's organization. This examination had my full cooperation despite the fact that the director and staff were expected to adhere to schedules, a no-hiring edict was imposed, official job offers were withdrawn, salary adjustments for some employees delayed pending completion of that study.

The results of the study and its implications are still unknown to me—

And I would add, Mr. Speaker, unknown to this Legislature or the people of Ontario:

—although the effect in terms of delay is drastic.

Now we come to the most tragic episode of this series of events. The decision to scrap one of the most vital functions of the Centennial centre, in order to more than double the exhibition space from 60,000 or 70,000 square feet to about 150,000 square feet.

I should say that when the government talks about changes in costs and refer to the expansion of the space available for exhibits, they do not emphasize the fact that this expansion is achieved only by doing away with some of the parts of the original plan that many people, knowledgeable in these matters consider essential. I quote from the letter:

Due to costs, thought has been given to deleting a portion of the centre. Both board and director had recommended strongly against such an action. However a report prepared by Dr. Swinton, then director of the Royal Ontario museum, who is a member of the centre's board of trustees and a member of the advisory committee to which reference has been made earlier in this letter, a report prepared without consultation with or the knowledge of the centre's director and presented in the name of the advisory committee though at least one of the two other members denied knowledge of the report or the issue involved, resulted in a Ministerial decision not to restore the deleted building portion.

Consequently, without library facilities, curatorial quarters, conservation and photographic laboratories and practically no reserve collection space which is the result of the deletion decision, it will be impossible for the centre as planned to operate.

In another part of the letter Dr. MacBeath says:

It is inevitable that the elimination of the part of the structure housing the most vital of the museum functions, the cavalier treatment of professionals and a clear indication of control by a small group of very specific interests will encourage conclusions that the centre will be just another trade fair.

Now I would like at this time to compare our own Centennial centre, and the difficulties that the government has experienced in bringing it to fruition, with what has been done in Manitoba. They have embarked on a similar project, to be called the Manitoba museum of man and nature, and it will include a complex providing a total of 47,000 square feet of exhibition space, 16,000 square feet of laboratories and offices, 10,000 square feet of workshops and 6,000 square feet for a library.

In other words, a balance museum, one that is modern in concept and scope and one that will meet the needs of that province.

I bring to your attention, sir, that ours in Ontario was going to be bigger and will be bigger. But its balance has been lost through the Ministerial directives that have been associated with the serious changes that have taken place in the original concept that was described to this House in 1964 by the Prime Minister.

Now many questions arise from the situation.

First, when are we going to get the Centennial centre? Second, what is going to be the final cost and what is the justification for the upward changes in the guesses, and this is about all they can be, as we have noted over the years?

Will there be a serious impairment of the ability of the centre to update its displays? What will be the effect on the educational or instructional value of the centre and what will the final cost be by the time it is completed?

Now these charges are important, Mr. Speaker, and we will refer to them I know in the estimates, when the Minister can answer them more specifically, but they are very serious and they are matters that I certainly am personally very concerned with.

I would like to say in summary, that over a period of approximately three years, we have seen the project degenerate from one in which all members were enthusiastically in support, to one in which there is very little support any more, because we do not know when we are going to see it. We are very concerned about the expenditures and we

are really lacking in confidence that the Minister and his advisers are capable of bringing order out of the chaos that has developed under his direction.

There is one final point associated with the museum that I have been discussing, and that is that the statute which brought it into being some years ago calls for an annual report of its progress and direction to the House. Now as far as I know, no such report has been forthcoming. The only public information made available was in a full-page ad taken in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* of February 15 this year, which contains pictures and comments from the various members of the board.

Now these members themselves are men of ability, they are men of substance in this community in Toronto and elsewhere. And I feel that we cannot reflect on their direction of the affair, but surely they have abdicated their responsibilities to the government and particularly to the Minister. We want a report to this House, we want some explanation from the Minister and we want something far more than simply an ad taken in the local *Globe and Mail* which does not have the coverage across the province which the report would have had. It appears to me that a full and public investigation is the only way that Dr. MacBeath's charges can be met, or the only alternative would be for the Minister to take the opportunity presented by the session of the Legislature to give a full and complete answer to the charges that have been made public and otherwise to his actions.

Mr. Speaker, I have some comments I would like to make on another matter of public importance and one that is going to have considerable effect on the Budget that is before us. I was very glad that a few days ago the Minister of Health (Dr. Dymond) saw fit to take part in the Throne Debate and explain the difficulties that he has had in bringing into being the Ontario medical insurance plan in this province. I know that he has had these difficulties and he carried the heavy load of responsibility, but surely the programme known as OMSIP, which was brought into being with \$750,000 worth of fanfare last year has been a very serious matter for all of us as individual members of the House, because we have had to deal with the complaints of our own constituents from time to time. It is getting to be on a daily basis, as the citizens of this province try to avail themselves of the medical insurance that we enacted a year ago in this Legislature, the administration for which has been

developed under the direct control of the Minister of Health.

I think it would be worthwhile recalling to your mind, sir, some of the developments associated with the OMSIP insurance that is in force in the province at the present time. You know that before the election of 1963, the Prime Minister introduced a bill known as 163 and this had to do with the provision of medical insurance in Ontario. This permitted him to go to the people and say that medicare was an accomplished fact, or in his own grammatical construction it was: "Done".

We all know that as soon as we returned to the Legislature following the election in which the Prime Minister and his supporters were returned with the responsibility of government, it became apparent that medical insurance was not "done" at all. Bill 163 was dismissed as simply a piece of political propaganda never heard from again, and the government set up a committee of investigation under Dr. Hagey. The Hagey committee met for some months before they saw fit to bring in their proposal.

Now I submitted at that time, and hon. members on all sides of the House were of the opinion, that the Hagey committee was redundant. The information they provided for us was available in the larger and more expensive Hall commission that had functioned under federal auspices and it was simply a holding operation to give the government time to make up its mind to take the plunge into this area of public concern, the necessity for which all of us on this side of the House had been pressing so strenuously on them in the months and years before that time.

Following the Hagey committee report, the next bill that received our consideration was Bill 136, in 1964. This was debated at length and was carried by the House, but no action whatsoever was taken until the following session when, with Bill 6 of 1965, the government of Ontario turned itself around almost 180 degrees and joined with those in the province and the country who felt that some means should be provided whereby public medical insurance would be provided for our people. This surely was the kernel and the principle of Bill 6, which has been set up in the year gone by to give us the OMSIP or the medical insurance programme that is presently in operation in this province.

There were changes, of course. I said the government did change itself around, almost an about-face. They went for public operation, and this required them to purchase a

building in Toronto in excess of \$3 million and to hire three or four acres of untrained help to try to process the applications that came in as soon as the programme came into being, for those requiring special assistance in the spring and then for the general public in July of 1966.

There were three wasted years then of indecision and poor planning, but behind the scenes, surely Mr. Speaker the government, and particularly the responsible Minister, should have known where they were going. They should have been lining up competent help, they should have been visiting the medical insurance programmes that were already in operation in this province to see how you do this, to see how you serve people in this particular way.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to show you some of the lack of planning, during the months that OMSIP was being set up the government itself turned to the London Life Insurance Company for a private programme to cover their own employees. This is still in force as far as I know. We as members of the Legislature have access to it. It showed the lack of support for the OMSIP plan, as it was introduced, by the government itself and by some of its other wings and other services.

So, in setting up this particular programme, I have said there was lack of planning, and certainly we as members dealing with the complaints of our constituents have had to deal with this on a day-to-day basis. We could, and I could as the member for Brant, recount occasions by the score on which people have phoned me. They have sent in their cheques and their applications by registered letter and by every other way they could think of—except perhaps the method the Prime Minister of Ontario uses, by hiring a Lands and Forests plane and sending his letter directly by that means—but they use every possible way to bring their applications to the attention of the directors of OMSIP without any acknowledgment whatsoever.

I still have some of these cases on my file. I can tell members of an instance where a lady did send in her application, accompanied by a cheque covering her premium. There was no acknowledgment whatsoever; and five months later, when she had reason to use OMSIP, the doctors' bills were sent in and it was denied that she was a member.

It was finally straightened out through some assistance from myself. I know that the director himself was most cooperative in all of the cases I have put before him; but you know, the odd part of it is that two months

after it was straightened out a nice little white card arrived in the mail for my constituent saying: "Thank you for your recent letter". She had not communicated with them for probably three months.

The situation is in such confusion that even the Minister of Health himself is having difficulty in justifying it.

Statistically, I would draw to your attention, sir, that when the plan began its operation 45 per cent of the claims were rejected by the computers for not having enough information; and I am told, that 25 per cent of the claims are still rejected. Now this would compare with established funds and programmes where something less than five per cent of the claims have to go back for reservicing. It just indicates how very poor the administration is as far as OMSIP is concerned.

Specifically, it is known that in the first five months of the operation of this programme OMSIP in its administration got four months behind in its paper work, in its servicing of applications and in the sending out of its payments. Now this is a record of inefficiency, even for this government. All of us hope it can be corrected, but it is directed back to the government which had three years in which to prepare for this. It gives us great pause when we see that the government should be, and must be, planning to make OMSIP universal, so that it will come under the provisions of the federal medicare Act which will come into force on July 1 of 1968. We wonder what your plans are in meshing OMSIP in the province of Ontario with this federal plan when it comes into force.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! The leader of the Opposition is making a speech.

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, and my friends in the government know, the plan has been postponed largely to accommodate the insufficiencies of this provincial government in not meeting the need. It is obvious that the government of Ontario is going to take the steps, as outlined in their Budget, to make OMSIP universal, which is what we said it should be when it came into being, so that it will mesh with the federal plan and 50 per cent of the costs can then be met from the federal treasury.

This is what we look forward to. This is the modern concept of the sharing of the responsibility for providing adequate medical services for the people of Ontario and for

Canada. We certainly hope that this government is more adequately prepared to plan for this change than they were for the introduction of the bill itself.

Now there are two or three matters, Mr. Speaker, associated with OMSIP's operation in its first few months, that I want to bring to your attention which are probably of more serious implications than the plan itself.

First there has been the effect on hospital outpatient departments. For some years medical services in outpatient departments were for the most part given free of charge. If a person had medical insurance, the hospital usually referred him to a nearby doctor. If the patient was not covered he was in many cases treated and no fee was charged. The Ontario hospital services commission recognized this and gave the hospitals a grant of \$2.25 for each person treated in an outpatient department, and this grant structure continues.

With OMSIP, all welfare cases are covered. Insofar as payment is concerned, a visit to an outpatient department is considered the same as a visit to a doctor's office. OMSIP pays 90 per cent of the fee schedule or \$3.60, so the taxpayers are footing a \$5.85 bill instead of \$2.25 for this purpose because we are still, as a government, reimbursing the hospitals for their outpatient responsibilities. We are paying, through OMSIP, the 90 per cent regular payment for those in need who are covered and who take the call as a regular doctor's call.

If this is going to continue I ask you, sir, why should it continue? Surely there should be some coordination between the hospital services commission and OMSIP so that this could be worked out to the benefit of those who are going to need the service in the future. Is there some method to this; or is it that the two government operations have never gotten together for any consultation?

Mr. Speaker, at quite a number of hospitals doctors have formed staff associations connected with the outpatient department. The doctors work in the outpatient department or in some cases get interns to do the work for them. The association's billing and book-keeping is handled by an accountant or a trust company, and I understand these gentlemen go right in, set up their desks in the outpatient department and see that everybody who gets a sliver removed, or any of the other treatments of a minor nature that take place under those circumstances, are marked down in the great book and the report is sent to OMSIP for payment in full.

An intern who under these circumstances is moonlighting, and in many cases I suppose they must do this in order to augment the money that is available to them from their general work, may see 25 people in a five-hour shift and charge them an average of \$10, for a total of \$250. I say may—I am told this is sometimes more, sometimes less.

The association pays the intern \$50 to \$75 for this five hours' work and the rest goes into the pot. Some associations turn over most of this money to the hospital because they use the outpatient department for this purpose.

This is another reason the Ontario hospital services commission grant of \$2.25 a patient is redundant or it appears to be redundant. When we talk about the rest of the money that is collected by these organizations we presume that the rest of it is payable to the doctors themselves, who in many cases do the work or certainly supervise the interns who have this responsibility.

But there are many problems in this set-up. An intern is still on the educational register and is not legally entitled to charge these fees. After all, the province is paying for most of his education and he gets a salary from the hospital, inadequate though it may be. Are these interns breaking the law? If so what is the Minister of Health prepared to do about this situation in order to make it more workable and more fair?

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the member would suggest that the executive of the college of physicians and surgeons, and perhaps the OMA, come before the health committee so that this matter can be explained. It seems to me that these are very serious charges which should be investigated.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, that is precisely what I do say, further in my remarks, and I have said it three times already in this Legislature, that the committees of this House, and in this specific case the committee on health, should have the opportunity to have the president of the medical association and his colleagues come before us to tell us what is the matter with OMSIP and why it is that these difficulties come about.

Now it is a known fact that interns do take part at the exercise of treatment at the outpatient clinic as I describe. Surely this is part of their responsibilities under the supervision of properly certified doctors, medical doctors, but it is also a fact, as it is reported to me and I believe it, that these companies

are using OMSIP to gather money that is turned over to the hospital in most cases and is used to pay the interns more than their salaries in some cases; and some of which returns to the doctors themselves in still other cases.

I have pointed out to the House, Mr. Speaker, that this is a difficult problem. I have said that these interns are still on the instructional list and therefore they cannot charge the fee. Surely the fee is being charged for the purposes of OMSIP through the sponsoring doctors. Now if the government Whip is accusing me of making charges that I cannot substantiate I will be glad to go over the argument again with him and for him; but the very thing he suggests, asking the medical association to come before the responsible arm of this Legislature, is part of the solution. We are losing contact with these people.

Mr. White: No, I am in full agreement with that; and I see no reason whatsoever why the health committee cannot look into this and other related matters.

Mr. W. B. Lewis (Humber): Mr. Speaker, along with the leader of the Opposition, I happen to be a member of the commission and if he twists it around probably his statements are correct, but to the best of my knowledge no intern charges a fee to outpatients. It is true that the intern probably assists the doctor with outpatients, which usually are emergency cases. Rather than get into a debate, I would like to get the facts and figures which I am sure will prove to be right, and present them to the hon. leader of the Opposition, because I do not think his facts are quite right.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted at the comments that have come from the government supporters, because we want the facts. We are concerned with the difficulties that OMSIP is having in its early months and early years.

There has been the feeling that, particularly in the outpatient department of hospitals, there has been something less than perfect control by the doctors themselves, by OMSIP and by those responsible for the functioning of the plan. So I would suggest that one of the committees of the House would be one place in which we could deal with this more fully.

Mr. Speaker, it must also be pointed out that some medical insurance companies will not deal with the billing agencies of these doctor associations that have been formed to

do the work in the outpatient area. Some of these other medical insurance companies feel that checks and controls in some of these associations are far too loose.

As one doctor put it, and I quote: "Some of these setups are ripe for fraud." And he went on to point out that not so long ago the business agent of the Ontario medical association's welfare plan was sent to jail for making off with something like \$140,000.

This sort of thing can happen in any organization. We are not saying that they are prone to it. As a matter of fact we would say that the doctors are highly regarded and respected throughout the whole community. But we want to be sure that where public funds are concerned we are getting value for the money that is spent. OMSIP cheerfully deals with these associations, apparently without raising any fuss and without investigating them as carefully as they might.

OMSIP has had one other unfortunate result, I believe, associated with the care of the sick in this province. The government's fumbling approach has left some doctors confused and uneasy about the billing procedures and their general attitude and responsibilities towards this new arm of government. The unfortunate situation may have serious effects in the future. Either the government will have to drown its medical care plan in money to try and pacify the doctors, or it is going to have to face them in a very uncomfortable showdown over costs.

Let us look at the record. In both Bills 163 and 136, the precursors to the present OMSIP legislation, the doctors were told that they would get 100 per cent of their schedule. But of course Bill 6, in the present plan, gives them only 90 per cent. What has been the result?

In June of 1966, one month before OMSIP opened its doors to the general public, the doctors added some new items to the fee schedule, and they worked out some increases to present items in the fee schedule which will take effect in April of this year. For example, a doctor's office call will go from \$4 to \$5; and a home call, I believe, from \$6 to \$7, and some other adjustments. This September the doctors got PSI, their own plan, to pay 95 per cent of the fee schedule, the first change in this figure since the plan started in 1947.

In Manitoba, the doctor-operated Manitoba medical services is being pushed to pay 100 per cent of the fee schedule instead of the present 85 per cent. I believe the doctors

themselves are very much concerned with the need in the future of sending a bill to patients that have OMSIP coverage. They are concerned about the payment of 100 per cent of their schedule, and this is one matter which the Ontario government, in the direction of OMSIP, is going to have to face in the near future.

OMSIP does not deal directly with the doctors with regard to fees. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the legislation that controls OMSIP requires the government of Ontario to meet whatever funds are required to pay 90 per cent of the schedule, whatever it is, which is arrived at by the Ontario medical association and the doctors without any consultation in any way.

So OMSIP then gives no guarantee against extra billing. In short, if OMSIP does not make any adjustment in, say the office visit charges, its customers are going to have to pay the extra \$1.40 to their doctors to make up the difference.

The question of doctors' fees will crop up time and time again in the future. The government has relieved doctors of the economic consequences of how they practise medicine. This was not the case with PSI which at one time, and I guess still is, the largest non-profit, prepaid medical insurance operation in Canada. Its costs of administration were always low, and more important the doctors underwrote the losses, if any, in the scheme and guaranteed the public a fixed fee.

I do not believe we can pass legislation to control doctors' fees, and the government itself cannot practise medicine. We cannot have inspectors in every operating room and every consulting room. It can only be worked out in good faith with the cooperation of the medical profession. We must find a way, in cooperation with the doctors, for them to assume more control over the expanding difficulties associated with OMSIP.

We have not had a financial report of the first few months of operation but it appears, when the hon. Minister of Health tells us of the large number of extra billings that it has received, that the government has not made the projections that are going to be needed in the months and years that lie ahead.

The problem is not easy, and it is not made any easier if the government does not trust the doctors themselves. It is not helped when the government of Ontario turns down a request from the Ontario medical association to send observers to federal-provincial meetings on medicare. It is not helped by form-

ing a mindlessly massive bureaucracy that tries to regiment the doctors.

The doctors have the prime responsibility in this field. They cannot charge as much as the traffic will bear; they must act as reasonable members of society. A priority must be set for the government to sit down with the doctors to hammer out a viable solution. If we shove aside the problem of costs it will only get worse.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if the leader of the Opposition will permit me to interrupt him once again. I agree in principle with many things he has said, but I do not think he has gone into detail.

There is a liaison committee of the OMA-OHSC, of which I happen to be a member. I do not think we would want the province of Ontario, in the initial part of this programme, to get in the same position as the province of Saskatchewan.

We have acquiesced in some instances, it is true. The doctor has the right, under the legislation, to refuse the OMSIP card and charge the customer direct for his fees. In turn then, the patient presents his bill to OMSIP. There has been an increase from 90 to 95 per cent in the allowable fee structure.

In general, I can tell the member, the plan has many bugs in it to be ironed out, I am the first to agree. It is very young yet, but in comparison to other medical plans, and I will not mention them, Ontario is working very well.

Mr. Nixon: I welcome the comments by the hon. member for Humber, but of course we are dealing here with the expenditure of public money. The hon. member who just spoke has a separate responsibility. He has been seconded by the government to take some of the responsibilities in the Ontario hospital services commission itself, so in one sense, and in the kindest way, he has a sort of conflict of interest. He speaks for the hospitalization commission and I am here speaking in my capacity as a member of the Legislature for the people of Brant, and in a sense for the people of Ontario.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nixon: We are deeply concerned that the doctors are going to be alienated, that the difficulties with funds are going to approach a point where we are going to be in trouble with our OMSIP plan rather than bringing it out into public discussion, because I can tell hon. members there are many people, including government members, as you well know,

who are deeply concerned with the increase in costs, the difficulties in servicing the plan itself and what the future holds as it becomes universal or in fact, compulsory.

We are not at all sure that these behind-the-scenes meetings are going to fill the need for advising the public, and certainly the hon. members of this House, just how OMSIP is developing. Because frankly, I must tell you we do not have confidence in the way it has gone on in the months just past and what lies in the future. We do not think it is being administered properly.

An hon. member: Hear, hear!

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I think I could tell the hon. leader—

Mr. Nixon: If I could just complete my remarks!

Mr. W. B. Lewis: All right then, I apologize. I will sit down.

Mr. Nixon: I have suggested the doctors should be invited before the standing committee on health to explain their concerns and problems and the recent changes in the fee schedule. This, I feel, would be a start toward better government relations with the medical profession.

As I see it, OMSIP will have to expand. It cannot stay for long in the pay-direct field alone. Pay-direct is the most expensive form of medical insurance coverage. OMSIP itself, I feel, will benefit from the experience of private companies in this pay-direct field, which did not incorporate groups. They will find, I am sure, that in the years that lie ahead we are going to have to give group coverage as we become more universal in our responsibilities.

It will be interesting to hear how much money the government spent to subsidize subscribers who pay the full cost of OMSIP, and I am not thinking here of persons who get direct subsidies because of low earnings.

OMSIP should, I think, somehow arrange to get in the group business. The Ontario hospital services commission already covers groups of employees of 15 or more. If OMSIP offered the same kind of coverage, the billing operations of the two plans could be combined. Combining this operation would increase efficiency and surely lead to substantial savings.

My own feeling is that the whole area of health insurance, whether it is hospital or medical, should have been combined from the outset. If the government had not pussy-

footed into this through a number of different approaches, this could have been accomplished with the resulting efficiency and a better administrative plan at the present time.

Mr. Speaker, the government of Ontario certainly had a responsibility, and it took the responsibility in part a year ago, in implementing legislation that would provide medical insurance in this province. It could have implemented it in a more efficient way. It could have done it in a manner which would have gone hand in hand with hospital insurance, and this is eventually what the government is going to have to do anyway.

So I would say, sir, that OMSIP offered the coverage of a limited nature to begin with, and it must expand in the months that lie directly ahead. How can one expect the government to really say that it has been efficient when it said in its plans a year ago that it expected to get about 60,000 claims a month and geared its operations to that figure, and ended up with 400,000 claims a month?

Now, no wonder they are in trouble there. They must have warehouses full of unanswered mail; and I do not know, really, how they have been able to keep up with even the problems that we as members have put before the OMSIP people. It has been a very difficult situation for all concerned.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): They have perfected the practice of not answering the mail.

Mr. Nixon: People have phoned me and they say they would phone the OMSIP office and let the phone ring 72 times and finally give up. They would send their letters in, some of them by registered mail, and they were not answered. Believe me, I do not want to—

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): What is the hon. leader of the Opposition's opinion as to why?

Mr. Nixon: My opinion, Mr. Speaker, is that there was inefficient planning to begin with; that this government went into this plan after having three or four other plans. Finally they turned around and went for a public plan. They went out and bought this \$3 million building and moved into it with a couple of cheap computers that evidently could not do the job and they have been in difficulty ever since.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I feel Mr. Speaker, that planning and careful planning is particularly

necessary, and if I can say this over the shouted comments of my friends over there, who have some other views on this matter, in July of 1968, Ontario must be ready to enter the national medicare scheme.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): You should say that to your friends in Ottawa for July of 1967.

Mr. Nixon: This is a stand for which my party and I have fought long and hard. I implore the government not to defraud the people of this province again—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Oh, nonsense!

Mr. Nixon: —by botching the introduction of a universal plan through their initial negligence and petulance which finally leads to panic action.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: You agree it should have gone in 1967?

Mr. Nixon: Medicare is too important to too many people, and we must not allow this programme to slip by.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Why did they delay with it at Ottawa?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: You will be glad to know, Mr. Speaker, that this concludes my remarks on this subject. Now, I would like to go on briefly to two or three other items that I consider of importance as we consider this Budget of \$2.2 billion that has been put before us by the Provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Sopha: The hon. Provincial Treasurer breathes a sigh of relief. He is embarrassed.

Mr. Nixon: We have discussed the situation leading to the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation on many occasions and you will be glad to know that I have a very brief statement on this only as it applies particularly at this time.

We know that we have a new Minister who is accepting the responsibilities for restoring confidence in the financial community of Ontario. We have an Act that is a year old, but newly proclaimed, new regulations. We now have deposit insurance that has, as you know, also been enacted federally. So between these two statutes we have the pressure taken off that was so apparent here just a few days ago in this very House.

Nevertheless, I would like to make four brief points with respect to the extent of

government responsibility in the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation.

We have suggested on many occasions in the past that the government long ago should have improved legislation and policing of securities affairs in this province. We suggested it at a time when the need was just as obvious as it has been during the past few months and as it is today. We can say further the tragic collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation might well have been averted if the government had simply acted in accordance with statutes which had been in force for many years.

Specifically, it could have acted to clear up any confusion in the minds of investors about the name Prudential and about the nature of the corporation's activities as described in unbelievably complex language in the company's prospectus. Under The Corporations Act, the government had the power, the ability—and I would say the duty—to resolve the question of names without waiting for any private lawsuit. The securities commission could have undertaken on its own initiative to clarify the language of the prospectus so that investors could understand it.

Secondly, under section 27 of The Securities Act the government, through the securities commission, could have applied to a judge of the Supreme Court for the appointment of a receiver and trustee when the company stated early in 1966 that it was in trouble. The defence by the government that there is nothing under the bankruptcy laws to permit the commission to do this is simply a delusion. The government, under section 27, had the power, the right, and again the duty, to move in and act. But nothing was done.

Thirdly, when the securities commission encountered some difficulties in getting a proper statement of the financial affairs of the company, it seems strange that the government did not act under section 36 of the same Securities Act which would permit a full government audit.

There are three courses of action that were open to the government and could well have led to the rescue of the Prudential Finance Corporation. They are all clearly stated in the statutes of this province. It proves that the government must take a good share of the blame for the collapse of the company and for the financial hardship it has brought to thousands of small investors.

No, Mr. Speaker, I was accused by some of my friends in the press of being only moderate in my criticism of the government, in my comments having to do with the Speech

from the Throne. I believe this criticism was directed at what I said about the government housing programme. As you may know, when I undertook the responsibility of leadership of this party, one of the first statements I made was to do with the urgent housing conditions in the province of Ontario. I made some concrete suggestions at that time, calling for the provision of serviced land on a leased basis to developers and builders in this province, particularly in Toronto, which would remove at least on a short term basis, the difficulties in getting these serviced lands so that building could go on.

Secondly, I suggested that it might very well be within the realm of the responsibility of the government to provide second mortgages to assist new homeowners in meeting the down payment that has kept so many away from the responsibilities of home ownership.

My comments were thoroughly worked out at that time, and so when I read the Speech from the Throne and heard it read by his honour, that some of these features were included in the programme that was put before us by the government, naturally it was my decision that we on this side of the House would do everything we could to assist the government in bringing in this proposal that they saw fit to call HOME; to assist its passage through the House; to assist in the provision of adequate funds; to do everything we could to relieve the crisis in housing in the province.

Now we have seen the Budget; we have seen what the Provincial Treasurer is prepared to do to finance this particular programme and I must say to you with regret that in my view the funds are not there which will make any sort of a dent in the present crisis conditions of housing in Toronto, and in Ontario in general. We have seen the programme and its financing severely criticized by those, not only who are looking for homes, but those who are in the development business; those who are also doing what they can to help those without houses, without homes. We need help for those other people too, as you well know—

An hon. member: That is the rural background.

Mr. Nixon: The problems of rural housing are well known to all of us.

With this in mind, I must say that the comments in the Speech from the Throne do not jibe with the speech from the Provincial Treasurer. I would say that we are not going

to have a programme that is going to meet the need that is so obviously with us; that is recognized by people on all sides of the Legislature.

I would say that the Budget says, and I quote:

We have increased The Ontario housing corporation budget by nearly 63 per cent from \$16 million to \$26 million in 1967-68. This amount includes the provision for the Ontario student housing corporation.

I would be glad to be advised otherwise by the Provincial Treasurer. He is here and prepared to do this. But my view of this amount, particularly with the inclusion of the amounting administration costs and the amounts needed to provide residences for students, indicates that the extra sums in this Budget for the provision of the HOME programme is something nearer, let us see, to \$2.7 million than the amount he is talking about.

The increase that will be effective in providing the houses that we need, is something like 17 per cent and not 63 per cent. It is little wonder that those who have been exposed to the statements of the government in this have lost faith in the great statement, I fear, that was made in the Speech from the Throne. They are simply not backing this up with sufficient funds to build the homes and to provide the services that are needed in the immediate future.

The root cause of the province's housing crisis is in the shortage of serviced land; and this was recognized by the government, at long last. While the HOME plan will in the fullness of time free many acres of land for the construction of new houses, no effort has been made whatsoever to unravel the miles of red tape that have prevented construction on thousands of acres of land already serviced in our urban centres.

The number of federal, provincial and municipal authorities involved in planning make housing development a nightmare. There is a Metropolitan Toronto planning board, municipal planning board, city of Toronto development department. Every municipality has its own building by-law. There are myriad municipal councils, committees and subcommittees drafting by-laws, some of them subject to Ontario municipal board appraisals. The Ontario water resources commission, conservation authorities, local councils, planning boards, committees and subcommittees all have a say in the construction of sewage lines, which of course are

basic to the provision of the services that are needed.

Finally, there are scores, in fact hundreds, of authorities in the province that have been assigned the powers of expropriation, starting with The Department of Highways, holding up, through red tape in the government's own department, the setting free of these serviced lands that could otherwise be used for building.

All of these groups work independently under the guidance of their own policies and plans without the coordination that is needed if any HOME programme is going to be successful. I would say, sir, at all points, that there is a necessity for a single department of government which can coordinate all of these bodies which now have their hands in urban renewal and planning. These could be coordinated through The Department of Economics and Development, which has the housing corporation. It could be coordinated through The Department of Municipal Affairs, with their special branch having to do with planning.

But it seems to me that it might be advisable, and I believe it would be, to extract all of these responsibilities having to do with the provision of housing and new communities and set up a department of urban and rural affairs which would take from the present department the organization and financing of local government, municipal law, municipal organization and financing and municipal assessment, and all of these related matters.

The community planning branch would become a key section concerned specifically with unsnarling the red tape in development, re-zoning and building by-laws. Under the department would be the Ontario housing corporation, taken from The Department of Economics and Development, and a single anti-pollution commission—air, water and soil—combining the water resources commission and taking air pollution from The Department of Health, and the ancillary responsibilities that are scattered through other departments.

The department of urban and rural affairs would have all the levers for the orderly development of present communities and new towns — local government, financing and organization, planning, housing, water supply and sewage.

Perhaps the biggest roadblock standing in the way of free serviced land for housing is the reluctance, and in fact the inability, of municipalities to provide the services that

new housing requires. Many local councils are already so overburdened with mounting education costs that there is no money or even credit to invest in new sewer and water mains, let alone new schools.

This, I submit, is where the province should step in. In fact, had this Budget given top priority to the immediate relief of the education tax burden on municipal homeowners, urban municipalities through this province would then be in financial position to provide services for undeveloped land.

Now in saying this, I want to emphasize the fact that the provision of borrowed money for education is associated with an expanding responsibility. It is associated with our belief on this side that the present government is not even aware of the tremendous pressures that have been put on the homeowners, and particularly the municipal government, in the years gone by. These have reached proportions that simply can no longer be borne and one of the main drawbacks in the Budget is of course, that nothing has been done to meet this terribly important emergency.

So far as housing is concerned, I certainly do not want to leave the subject without recalling to your mind, sir, the fact that when the government talks about housing, particularly the HOME programme, they seem to have in mind the provision of facilities for those who can buy their own homes under this programme. They seem to have forgotten 7,000 people on the rolls of the Toronto area who are waiting for housing of any type. Some of them are being put up in warehouses, things like this. Many are living in conditions of squalor that are unknowable and unknowing, even to the members of this House who have gone out of their way to try and see what the conditions are.

There is an emergency in this matter that is far removed from the fact that the average cost of a new house in Toronto approaches \$30,000. The people we are concerned with, probably more deeply than any others, are those who would consider \$30,000 an amount of money which would last them a lifetime. We are concerned with people who have inadequate housing in the extreme, those whose health is in danger; and those who are trying to raise their families under blight conditions that many of us are unfamiliar with.

So I said that the programme is inadequate as far as it is described in the Budget, but I say again that we are prepared to support the programme as it is outlined in the Speech from the Throne. We are prepared to vote for something that would take away this

emergency which is blighting so many of our cities and holding up the economic development of our communities.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): The programme in the Speech from the Throne will never do that in 100 years.

Mr. Nixon: Well, Mr. Speaker, I have only one other item of importance that I want to deal with and it has to do with the situation that was brought to our attention by two speeches made recently in the Legislature, the first by the hon. member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Peck) and the response to that speech by the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis).

Now, the member for Scarborough Centre rose in his place in the debate on the Speech from the Throne and undertook to use his time to discuss with the House the difficulties experienced by the government in solving the situation and the problems at Warrendale treatment centre for disturbed children, which culminated in the seizure of this institution in September of 1966 by a combination of forces under the direction of The Department of Health and The Department of Public Welfare.

The hon. member speaking at that time referred to his visit to Warrendale as a member of the committee on youth and in his own words he referred to the fact that—and I will quote from the member directly:

Some members of the select committee visited Warrendale, myself among them, and I think it was fair to say we were rather shocked at the filthy conditions we saw and the actions of some of the staff and the youngsters were rather unbelievable.

He went on to make some other comments about this place but the reason it came home to me was that on the evening of September 6, I believe it was, 1966, a constituent phoned me, in a very disturbed condition herself, and said that she had just been informed the government of Ontario had taken over the responsibility for the institution at Warrendale, and that it was reported to her that her son was nowhere to be found.

She was deeply concerned with this. The police had been informed, and she had appealed to the government itself, and to the authorities at Warrendale who had been displaced—that is the people who are now in charge of Brown Camps Incorporated. This, of course, drew to my attention specifically that this difficulty was of widespread impor-

ance. I believe this was the only case in my constituency that was brought to my attention, but on reading about it in the newspapers, naturally we were much amazed at the charges that were made at that time, that the treatment measures that had been sponsored by the government of Ontario under the direction of Mr. Brown were something less than adequate.

On the other side of the fence, there were those in positions with knowledge and some authority who stated publicly that the treatments there were of great value to the young people concerned. The Minister, to solve part of the difficulty, set up a commission of investigation and this committee, I suppose, has reported to him.

Now the second speech that bothered me almost as much as the first was made by the hon. member for Scarborough West who has spoken on many occasions about the emergent situation dealing with children of this type in the province of Ontario. His quotes disturbed me even more and I want to draw two of them to your attention. This is taken from *Hansard* of this year, page 552. The member said:

We know all about the material that some feel may be damaging, we know all about the contents of the inquiry report, the independent inquiry report, and why ironically enough it cannot be used because it does not serve the politically damaging purposes—

and he was there interrupted by a Minister. He went on to say:

I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that we know why it is impossible to register this kind of report, because it does not serve the designs for which it was intended.

He goes onto say:

I want to suggest a moratorium on the Warrendale affair.

Mr. S. Lewis: Put it in context.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, I will read as much as the member chooses. He said:

I want to suggest a moratorium on the Warrendale affair, not on the issue of emotionally disturbed children but on the Warrendale affair—

he repeats.

I would say his comments make it impossible for us on this side of the House to agree with a moratorium on the Warrendale affair. I ask in this House that the report that was referred to in these two speeches be made

public so that I, as the member for Brant, could relay the contents to the constituent that I have who phoned me just a few months ago in tears because in the crisis that developed—and in many ways it was a political crisis—in the seizure of Warrendale, she lost her son who is a disturbed young chap and who was nowhere to be found and was finally found by the police 14 miles away from where he was supposed to be.

Now the Minister himself has told me that this is a private report and that I cannot have its contents. And yet the member for Scarborough West in his remarks indicated—and I believe it to be true—that he has the report and I am not condemning him for this.

Mr. Bryden: He is more energetic.

Mr. Nixon: It was made available to him by someone who had it in some confidence.

Mr. S. Lewis: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, with great reluctance I interrupt the member because I know it is not normally done. May I say, sir, that I had scrupulously avoided saying that I had the report, I said that I knew the contents of the report and I would point out to the leader of the Opposition that I also asked that the report be tabled in this Legislature. I would think that desirable.

Mr. Nixon: I know he would agree with that. I just mention the fact that in his comments the member said he knew the contents of the report. It is an indication he has it when he calls for a moratorium on the discussion of this difficult situation, and is able to say in this House "It is impossible to register this kind of report because it does not serve the designs for which it was intended."

If in fact the government has not been able to come to some conclusion about the efficacy of the kind of treatment that is being presently given at Warrendale or is being presently given at Brown Camps, then surely we, as members of the Legislature, should know about this.

I had further asked the Minister if he would give the results of the audit that he had taken of the financial affairs of Warrendale at the time of the seizure. In answer to my request he said he would take it as notice and yet, sir, you must be aware of the fact that the audit must have been ordered right after the seizure and it must have been completed and the recommendations must have been put before the Minister himself.

We are here first concerned with the welfare of these young people and I know that all members would agree with me in this, that the seizure of the young people and the organization at Warrendale on that night in September raised serious doubts in the minds of us as members, but more than that, in the minds of the parents who had sent their disturbed young people for treatment under these circumstances. And yet we can get no information from the responsible Minister in this connection.

It has been suggested by those who do have the information that we not pursue it in this House, that a moratorium on the discussion of this matter be set up so that we can talk about other matters but not about this specific one. I do not want to bring political matters into this, and yet it is, of course, obvious to you, sir, that the prime person concerned with this difficulty, Mr. Brown himself, is a supporter of the NDP and is a nominated candidate on their behalf, and he has every right to be that, but surely when a member in his own party says that we cannot discuss these matters and that we in this Budget are asked to vote funds for the further support of his activities, we must surely be given the information we request before we can do this.

Mr. S. Lewis: We asked for that information—we asked that it be tabled.

Mr. Nixon: So I would say I regret that the responsible Ministers are not in their places. I know that they will accede to my request, I believe that they must accede to my request that the information be made available so that we can approach the estimates that are going to be based on this Budget in a reasonable and useful way. This is a problem that is very far reaching. It is a problem that presses in on me in my personal capacity as a member for Brant, and I do want the facts and the answers.

I believe that the blame for the matter should be assessed. It is a very rare occasion indeed when the government, with a group of police, move into an organization that they have sponsored down through some years and seize its control. It is a very rare circumstance indeed when public charges are made of the type that were made about the treatment at Warrendale.

Politics is bound to enter in as the hon. members know, because of the facts that I have brought to your attention. And yet the government steadfastly refuses to make any reasonable comment to allay our suspicions and to give us the facts that are needed.

I believe this is a matter of some importance and in fact some emergency and I put it before you at this time, Mr. Speaker.

I want to make some general remarks about the decisions made by the government in this Budget. I have already indicated that I believe the major drawback in the distribution of \$2.2 billion had to do with the decision that the government has made that they will not provide relief for the taxpayers at the local level.

They have said many times that they are going to wait for the report of the Smith committee and I am interested to read in the press that the Carter commission at Ottawa will report this week. I certainly hope that the Provincial Treasurer will make provision to get some copies of that report so that we as members of the House can see them at the earliest possible time.

We do know that when the government talks about education finance it speaks through the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), himself, and he made a statement yesterday having to do with further grants associated with the building of new educational facilities across the province. One of the headlines indicated that this would improve the subsidy by 50 per cent, and yet when you look into the detail it is associated only with some minor parts of construction and will not provide the relief that the taxpayers of this province believe is needed at this time.

The \$60 million that is pointed to with some pride by the government as being specifically applied for the relief of the local taxpayers has to be compared with the \$52.4 million that was made available for the same purpose last year. It no more than keeps in step with the expanding situation itself, and the government has made no move to provide the relief that I believe it must provide; that we as Liberals have advocated and which we believe must be done immediately and certainly at the very next session of the Legislature which we as Liberals will be controlling.

We know that some other provinces have been able to make this sort of assistance available. In four provinces of Canada, B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, there is direct assistance by cheque that is sent out to the homeowner. I am even told that in one jurisdiction the Premier signs the cheque himself and sends it out with a covering letter extolling the virtues of the system in that particular province. Be that as it may, the direct relief has been accomplished,

and although the municipalities are still left at the tender mercies of the centralized Department of Education in providing for the requirements that are laid out on a centralized basis, the government has taken the decision in those four provinces to provide direct and specific relief.

The government of Manitoba has done a little more. They have expressly accepted the responsibility for 65 per cent of the cost of education. We in this province have not been prepared, at least under the leadership of this government, to make the changes that are so desperately needed in this connection.

The federal government has been seriously damned for not providing the assistance in this connection that they might. I believe that in the provision of education at the post-secondary level, particularly for the equality of opportunity across Canada, it will be necessary for further federal participation in the years that lie directly ahead.

But we must take into consideration what the federal government is presently doing. It is making available the funds from the Canada pension plan for loans set out to the various school boards through the province of Ontario. It is vacating the vocational school programme which has been providing 75 per cent assistance since it was introduced by the government in 1962—the government of Mr. Diefenbaker, as you well know.

Now under this plan we have been able to provide in this province, vocational schools in almost every town across the province, and there are a few that are still being approved. The end of this programme is in sight in March of this very year.

There has been ample warning of the end of the programme, and I believe that it is associated with the belief that is held by many of us that the vocational programme has been expanded to an extent that is sufficient in this province. The federal government now turns its attention to the assistance of education at the post-secondary level. Now as you know, Mr. Speaker, it has agreed to provide half the cost of post-secondary education or \$15 per capita of the whole provincial population, whichever is the greater. This means that we will not get less than \$100 million in this province.

My own hope is that they will recognize as post-secondary education our community colleges, nursing schools, teachers' colleges, grade 13, and perhaps even a greater share of fees payable at the university level, as admissible costs at the post-secondary level. This means that in the future the government

of Canada will be taking more of the responsibility for meeting the cost of post-secondary education, but they are doing this in line with the constitution.

They are making the funds available in a lump sum to the province, and it is then the province's responsibility to portion them out as they see fit. This means that there is a special problem at the provincial level because some of the universities and institutions of post-secondary education in this province still have religious affiliation. Some of the colleges of the University of Toronto, some of the colleges of the University of Ottawa and Waterloo Lutheran University are the ones that come to mind particularly.

The policy of this government prohibits it from making similar grants to these organizations. There has to be a determination, and a determination in short order indeed, so that these organizations can continue the great work in education that they have been able to carry out in this province in years gone by.

When I put this matter to the Minister of Education he indicated that he thought that the federal government was not accepting its responsibilities in putting this back on the provinces.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The government of Canada is following rigidly the constitutional requirements—in the view of the Minister of Education too rigidly—because it puts on his shoulders a very serious decision indeed.

We wait for the decision of the government in this connection, because the institutions so deeply concerned must make their decisions as well as to what their future will be—their financial future particularly—as far as their expansion in the province of Ontario is concerned.

As far as the tax situation itself, we know that Ontario a year ago, through the Prime Minister himself, indicated that we in this province were prepared to take on extra income tax responsibility ourselves if the federal government was not going to provide more grants in aid.

At the following conference, the government of Canada, abiding by the constitution, said they were not going to extend their programme beyond what they described at that time, with the emphasis on post-secondary education. Yet the government did not call the bluff, if bluff it was. They did not bring in our own provincial income tax and I do not know whether they are prepared to do it in the future or not.

There is a problem here of communication. My impression is that the government of Ontario does not believe that the government of Canada means what it says. The government of Canada has stated very clearly that they are going to abide by the constitution. To service their own responsibilities they had to raise taxes just a few weeks ago. They also are predicting deficits of major proportions as we in the province of Ontario are doing as well.

It is not realistic for the government of Ontario to turn to Ottawa and say, "Open up your pockets so that we can pay for our programmes here."

Surely the government of Canada has put it very definitely that they are going to abide by the constitution, and they are going to provide what assistance they can.

It seems to me that the lack of communication in this connection is a very serious one, and I think surely that we in Ontario have got to set our sights on meeting our own responsibilities. We have the whole gamut of taxation. We have a tax base that is broad enough now in my view if it is efficiently administered to meet our expanding responsibilities.

As Ontario grows—and during this past year it has grown—our revenues have improved by \$250 million without any expansion of the tax base whatsoever. We have predicted—the government has predicted—through its Provincial Treasurer further expansions. Surely it would be possible for the government of Ontario to cut its cloth so that we could abide by this pattern; so that we could service the responsibilities in this province in education and otherwise, without turning to the government of Canada and saying they are not meeting their responsibilities. The breakdown of communications is a serious matter.

We in this province are predicting a deficit of \$162 million, the largest ever in Ontario. We can accept this rather lightly I suppose. Our credit is good, and the government has drawn this fact to our attention on numerous occasions. But if we use up this credit and tarnish it through inefficient administration, it will become more and more obvious that this is going to put added pressure on the private sector of Ontario which must go to the same sources of money for the expansion of our own economy.

This is going to have a very far reaching effect, an effect which has not been stressed by the government in its Budget that is before us today.

The Liberal Party is prepared to take the stand that is needed to bring efficiency into the government. We are prepared to abide by the constitution of Canada. We are prepared to expand the programmes on the present tax base in the province. There are so many of these matters, Mr. Speaker, that have not had the proper attention of this government.

An hon. member: Now, you are with it.

Mr. Nixon: We have seen that even when the government of Canada has made funds available for the expansion of programmes through ARDA the Ontario government has not seen fit to order their affairs so that they could take proper advantage of these funds that were made available at the federal level.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: We have discussed this before and we will again. But in the first ARDA agreement—the ARDA agreement that was to make available almost \$11 million for Ontario—we ended up by utilizing something less than five per cent of these funds. Now we are in another agreement, we have embarked on another programme, and the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) has extolled to the skies a programme whereby he is going to put small farms together and make bigger farms. A good programme, as long as it is only part of the utilization of these federal funds. There has been no imaginative expansion of ARDA in this province; there has been nothing done for those in the rural areas who are not farm based but who are living in rural poverty and in the areas that my friend the leader of the NDP calls the slums of rural Ontario.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, will the hon. member permit a question? Does he know why there are not more funds available to do the things in the industrial economy of the parts of the province that he refers to?

Mr. Nixon: I take it the hon. member wants to answer the question. Go ahead.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Indeed I do, because I know that he does not know the answers.

Mr. Bryden: The hon. Minister is on later today. He can make his speech then.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: He does not know the answer.

Mr. Nixon: Well, I would tell you, Mr. Speaker, and I really feel that the interjection

was not as valuable as some of the others we have had this afternoon. But when we look at the statistics associated with the old ARDA agreement, and I have them here, that Ontario had available to it close to \$11 million and the best they could do during that period was to commit themselves for \$2.5 million, 23 per cent—

An hon. member: Shame, shame.

Mr. Nixon: But it is much worse than that, Mr. Speaker, when we see the actual utilization of these funds. Because although they committed themselves to \$2.5 million, they spent a grand total of \$421,702, which means that they actually used 3.8 per cent of the federal funds that were available during that agreement.

Several hon. members: Shame, shame.

Mr. Nixon: Now, the hon. Minister may have learned his lesson.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Maybe. I doubt it.

Mr. Nixon: But I would say that even the utilization of the federal funds under the new programme is unimaginative and it is not serving the needs of the people of Ontario, particularly in the rural areas.

I have taken my opportunity this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, to bring to your attention at length some serious situations in this province having to do with the expenditure of \$30 million in our Centennial project; our programme for medical insurance, which has been poorly planned and poorly administered and we do not even know that planning is going to take it into a federal scheme. I have brought to your attention these matters, sir, because I believe they are important. They are well known to the people of Ontario, and they will be even better known in the months that lie ahead because the people of Ontario are sick of this sort of maladministration.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nixon: The federal government has done what it could to introduce new programmes of assistance at the provincial level, programmes designed to meet the specific needs of rural areas and other areas, and this government has not had the initiative or the imagination to move into these programmes and make use of them. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. Singer that the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself

into the committee on ways and means be amended by adding thereto the following words:

This House regrets:

1. That the government has failed in its Budget to provide relief for the municipal taxpayer in relation to the ever increasing and inequitable share of the costs of education that he must pay as a part of the taxes on his home;

2. That the government, notwithstanding the high sounding statements in the Speech from the Throne in relation to housing, has neglected to provide in this Budget any meaningful allocation of public funds to enable it to carry out any worthwhile housing programme for the benefit of the people of Ontario; and

3. That the government, while finding it necessary to budget for the largest deficit in the history of the province of Ontario, has failed to present any logical programme of planned fiscal management to deal with the ever increasing complexities of the public affairs of the people of Ontario, and has failed to outline any method of dealing with the needless waste and extravagances now existing, and has failed to indicate any desire to effectively carry out logical economies by the elimination of duplications, overlappings and inefficiencies presently existing in the management of our affairs, the affairs of the government of the province of Ontario;

Therefore this House rejects the Budget, as presented, and must advise your honour that the present government does not enjoy the confidence of the people of Ontario.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. White: There is Ottawa's man at Queen's Park.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, in presenting the opening comments of the New Democratic Party on the provincial Budget presented to us a week ago, I would like to make it clear that it is my intention to deal with the Budget as a policy statement—to present our critique of it and more particularly to call attention to what we consider to be its major shortcomings in terms of policy.

It has not been my intention in preparing myself for this debate to deal with a collection of disparate items. I am not suggesting that there are not a great many individual matters which are of importance. I merely

say that in this group we believe in approaching problems in an organized and coordinated manner. Our approach is that I, as the lead-off speaker, should deal with the Budget and then other members will follow with specific problems which they consider to be of particular importance. However, after listening to the very interesting comments of the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), there are one or two matters he raised to which I would like to refer very briefly, before I get into the main body of my remarks.

First of all with respect to his comments on the Warrendale situation, I am not quite sure what he was driving at but I would like to emphasize in case there is any doubt about it, that we in this group believe that the report the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) has in his possession should be placed on the table of this House.

According to my observation there was a strong indication up until quite recently that a real smear campaign was being prepared against a specific individual, who does not happen to be a member of this House and cannot even defend himself in this House. I was rather happy to note what seemed to me, and again I am just going on my own impressions, a disposition to move away from that position. It now appears that the leader of the Opposition would like to see that campaign revived, even though it appeared that it had been put into cold storage.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Brant): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The member on the point of order.

Mr. Nixon: I want to make it very clear that this is not my intention. My intention is to elicit from the government the facts that apparently are available to some members of this House but not to all.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

An hon. member: Right.

Another hon. member: They are available if you want to go and dig.

Mr. Bryden: I am always prepared to help any hon. members elicit facts from the government. I do not believe in secrecy in government and I do not see any reason at all why the report concerned should be kept under cover.

However, I would like merely to call the attention of the House, Mr. Speaker, to the

fact that the individual to whom I was referring a moment or two ago is quite a controversial figure. He is a man who has twisted the tail of the establishment on many occasions and will undoubtedly do so in the future. It is certainly not unexpected that the establishment should strike back, often in a manner bordering on scurrility.

I am not going to undertake any defence of him here. He is perfectly competent to defend himself, but there is one thing I would like to call to the attention of the leader of the Opposition and other members of the House. There is very little in the way of treatment facilities for emotionally disturbed children available in this province at the present time. The gentleman to whom I have referred, as I said, is a controversial figure, but he has provided one of the most important, perhaps the most significant, facilities for that purpose in the province. Frankly I would like to see his facilities and those of others expand and grow, because God knows we desperately need them.

And I would not like to see us spending a great deal of our time rehashing over and over again the Warrendale affair. I would like to see—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): You are not trying to win his campaign here?

Mr. Bryden: I would like to see us concentrate on the real problem, which is to remedy the neglect of past years in dealing with this extremely important and urgent problem of emotionally disturbed children.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): When do you want John Brown to start delivering politically?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Bryden: Well Mr. Speaker, it is quite obvious that the seriousness of the major problems of the people of Ontario never get through to some people, even unfortunately to some people who temporarily occupy seats in this House. But I think the overwhelming majority of the members do consider this to be a serious problem which requires very serious consideration by the government and all members of the House.

The other preliminary matter that I would like to refer to, since the leader of the Opposition has raised it, is the question of the OMSIP plan. The leader of the Opposition noted, I would say, a rather large degree of confusion which appears to have entered into the administration of the plan in its early

phases. We all recognize, of course, that bugs develop in the administration of anything that is new, but I would say that there has been something more than the average number of unexpected occurrences in the administration of the plan.

I would go on to say, however, that in my opinion the explanation the leader of the Opposition has given of this phenomenon is inadequate. I do not think that the problems that have developed are the result mainly of incompetence or ineptitude on the part of the government and its administrative agencies. As a matter of fact, I really have very little confidence in the competence of the government, but I have quite a lot of confidence in the competence of its public servants, and I do not think we can attribute the present situation to administrative incompetence. I think it strikes much more deeply into the basic principle of this plan.

What has happened, Mr. Speaker, as far as I can see—and admittedly I have to observe from the outside at this stage—but what has happened is that the government is faced with an adverse selection, as indeed we in this group predicted that it would be. It has put through what is called a voluntary plan where the fees are very high, except for those who are subsidized. What is happening is that people who are in ill-health are registering and coming under the protection of the plan, and those who are not in ill-health are not doing so, many of them because they cannot afford it.

Now surely even this government should have known from the experience of many countries that this is the sort of thing that is bound to happen with the half-baked type of plan they have. The only answer to this problem is a universal plan which will cover everybody, those in ill-health as well as those in good health. In that way, we can spread the cost across the whole population and charge much lower premiums than is possible under the present plan.

What is happening in this plan is a much more serious type of inefficiency than mere administrative inefficiency. It means that we are going to provide in the most costly way possible service for only a small part of the population. I say that we should move forward to a universal plan which will make it possible to provide service efficiently for all the population.

Unfortunately, the question of comprehensive medical care insurance has become a political football between the Liberal government at Ottawa and the provincial

government at Queen's Park. The Liberal government at Ottawa announced firmly and conclusively that it was going to enter the field with a very generous offer to the provinces which would become effective on July 1 of this year. That was in that brief phase when they flirted with progressive ideas.

Since then the power of the establishment in the party has moved in. The right wing as personified by Mr. Mitchell Sharp has taken over and so the thing is being stalled. Heaven knows, if Mr. Sharp has his way, it will be junked altogether.

Now this is most regrettable.

Mr. Nixon: Not fair—

Mr. Bryden: We had thought, we in this group who have fought for medical care insurance for 25 years, that at last Canada was moving in that direction. There is no question that the people of Canada are ready for it and want it. The only trouble is the politicians, or some of them. The Tory politicians in both the Liberal Party and the Conservative Party do not want it, and they are going to buck it in every way possible. I hope that once again this is not going to slip from our grasp just when we thought we had it, as we thought we had it back in 1944 when the Liberal government at Ottawa even had a bill that passed second reading. It did not go any further, that is as far as it got.

I hope it is not going to slip from our grasp, and I am only regretful that this government will not now step in and put the federal government on the spot by announcing, "We will accept your conditions, we are ready to participate the moment you put your legislation into effect." That would nail the thing down.

But no, both of these governments are playing an Alphonse-Gaston act now. Each one says, "well, we will do something, but you act first."

This, I suppose, in many ways has been the history of Canada under Liberal and Tory administration, a continual record of buck-passing. I think this problem has now reached the point, Mr. Speaker, where a decisive stand has to be taken. The federal government has backed off from its clear cut promise to the people of Canada. It now is obviously looking for a way to weasel out. The government of Ontario has to step in.

I certainly do not have any hope that the government now occupying the Treasury benches will take the decisive step that is necessary, but I do view with satisfaction

the fact that there will soon be an election and we will get another government there that will put Ottawa on the spot and will finally get this problem solved.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Bold words.

Mr. Bryden: That, Mr. Speaker, is by way of unscheduled preliminary remarks. I will now turn to the Budget, which has not so far been discussed this afternoon.

In doing that, I would like first to congratulate the Provincial Treasurer on his promotion to his new Cabinet post—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): He smiles benignly there.

Mr. Bryden: —and on his elevation to a seat in this House on the right hand of the source of all authority and preferment in the Tory party.

He follows in a long tradition of avoidance of the true challenge which a Budget presents in 20th century society. The Budget he presented last week demonstrates that he is a worthy inheritor of that tradition. Frankly, I hoped for something better. Public statements he made following his accession to his present office showed signs of an awareness and perspicacity which had been notably absent from statements on public finance emanating from this government over the past two decades. Such awareness and perspicacity, however, have carried over into his Budget statement only in a few resounding phrases, not in anything of substance.

No doubt this is inevitable. The Provincial Treasurer is intelligent and energetic, but the musty Tory framework within which he must operate is enough to overcome even the greatest of native intelligence and energy. The dead hand of tradition has proved to be too much for him, and I regret it. I hate to see a promising man ploughed under by the weight of Tory tradition.

It is possible that given time, he would break loose from the prison of obsolescent ideas in which he is now confined.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): That will take a thousand years.

Mr. Bryden: I am afraid, however, that we will never find out. I will not argue with my friend from Bruce as to whether it will be a thousand years, as he thinks, or soon, as I would think, because actually, the imminence of a provincial general election precludes the possibility of another session of this Legislature. Therefore, it is reasonably safe to

say that this is the first and last Budget the new Provincial Treasurer will ever have the opportunity to present to us.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You do not really believe that.

Mr. Whicher: He will be criticizing us next year.

Mr. Bryden: When the Budget was presented on February 14, I described it outside the House as a hearts and flowers Budget in honour of Valentine's day. The further study I have since been able to give it satisfies me as to the adequacy of this earlier assessment. In particular, analysis shows that the Budget is as insubstantial as hearts and flowers.

In the first few pages, and scattered throughout the rest of the statement, are some interesting observations by the Provincial Treasurer on public finance generally, and on the economic role of the Budget in particular. One could not say that these observations contribute anything new to the principles of public finance, but they do seem to suggest that under the new Provincial Treasurer, government thinking on the subject has at last advanced to the point reached by most thinkers in the field about a decade ago.

One could welcome this as progress, if one did not then go on to analyze the details. Unfortunately, such analysis shows that, despite the more modern looking garb, the Budget is much the same old Budget as in previous years. Since both population and prices continue to increase, it necessarily follows that the size of the Budget and of the principal items in it also increase, but the pattern remains the same. By implication, at least, the Provincial Treasurer conceded in his statement that this pattern is inadequate. He spoke loftily of the need for joint federal-provincial action, "to achieve truly effective fiscal policy"; of the need to budget by function, rather than by department, of the need "to achieve the full potential of our human and physical resources," and so on. One can agree with these sentiments, but the more one studies the Budget statement, the more one is driven to ask this question: Does the Provincial Treasurer agree with them too? Or is he merely parroting one or more of his more forward looking ghost writers in the office of the chief economist?

Take the matter of budgeting by function, as an example. For purposes of presentation, the Provincial Treasurer has classified expenditures into six main functions which he describes as—and I am now quoting his exact

titles: Human development; individual and family well being; aid to the farming community; protection of the individual and the investment climate; development and conservation programmes and aid to local authorities.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Those were six broad fronts.

Mr. Bryden: Six broad fronts, now. Well, "function" I think is a satisfactory word to describe them.

Mr. MacDonald: Semantic quibbling.

Mr. Bryden: The Provincial Treasurer has good calculating machines in the Leslie Frost building, Mr. Speaker, and these make it possible for his staff to total up under these headings the numerous disparate items scattered through the spending estimates which relate to them. This is useful, but it does not move us even a small step closer to budgeting by function. Quite the contrary. The Provincial Treasurer merely set the calculating machines whirring and every time a bell rang and a total came up, he said: This is a programme.

An hon. member: Bingo!

Mr. Bryden: Yes, that is right, bingo. The bingo master, I would think, is the person from whom the Provincial Treasurer must have learned his conception of programme budgeting.

For years the argument of this group has been that the approach should be the exact opposite. We have argued that a function should be looked at in its totality. The needs should be estimated and costed, and then set into an overall system of priorities. The Provincial Treasurer has claimed that this is what he has done this year, but the facts belie him, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: They do not.

Mr. Bryden: To see that, one has only to look at the blue book of spending estimates as it has been presented to the House once again this year. It is precisely the same in format as last year, and the year before, and the year before that *ad infinitum*. It is strictly the product of budgeting by department, little bits and pieces have been put together and totalled into the estimates of a department. There is no evidence at all of coordination of items that relate to the same function. All the hon. Minister has done to give the illusion of budgeting by function has been to sort out the various little bits and

pieces and total them up by functions, as well as by departments.

In doing so he has engaged in some interesting statistical juggling, and I would like to give two or three examples of that.

Example 1: The Provincial Treasurer has made a great point of the fact that the province's expenditures on university operating grants are to be doubled, but to an important extent—in fact I feel certain to the major extent Mr. Speaker—this is just a matter of federal-provincial bookkeeping. The federal government has pulled out of the field and has made certain tax concessions in exchange. On the basis of the sketchy information the Provincial Treasurer has given us, it is impossible to say how much extra money the universities are getting, but it is clearly very much less than the Provincial Treasurer is trying to imply.

Example 2: The Provincial Treasurer included the \$60 million increase for grants for elementary and secondary education in his discussion of what he called—I am now using his own title—"human development". Then he included it again when he dealt with "aid to local authorities".

Example 3: He listed an item which he described as "university facilities re health sciences", under his general heading of human development. Then he listed the same item with a slightly different description in the general category of what he called, "individual and family well-being".

Mr. MacDonald: Sounds like cooking the books.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): The juggler's sleight of hand.

Mr. Bryden: I will not take up the time of the House with further examples, Mr. Speaker. I will content myself by noting that the Provincial Treasurer topped off his superlative demonstration of double counting by throwing loans and advances in his various function totals, as if they were regular expenditures. This double counting enabled him to make government activity in relation to each of his general functions appear greater than it is. Anyone who is interested in a particular function will very likely be impressed by the great attention the government appears to be giving to that function, without realizing that some of the items used to create this appearance are also used to inflate other functions.

The Provincial Treasurer luxuriated in such flights of fancy until the very end of his

statement. At last, however, the moment of truth had to come. When faced with the necessity of producing an overall total, he suddenly switched back to budgeting by department. This is at about the last page of his statement. The total estimated expenditures by departments turned out to be \$2,193 million.

But let us backtrack for a moment and remind ourselves of all the items he included in his pages and pages of uninhibited descriptions of his six main functions. When these items are all added up, the total is found to be \$3,537 million, as compared with the \$2,193 million which the Provincial Treasurer arrived at in his one sober moment of truth. In other words, a difference of \$1,344 million.

Mr. Gisborn: He will have to explain that.

Mr. Bryden: From this it follows as night from day that there is \$1,344 million worth of hot air in the Provincial Treasurer's Budget statement.

Mr. MacDonald: Steam in the pie.

Mr. Bryden: That is a lot of hot air for a government whose only contact with modernity is in substituting public relations ballyhoo for policy.

Subterfuge is no doubt to be expected in a Tory Budget, especially in an election year. The government's programmes are so badly thought out and coordinated that every trick of the public relations trade has to be used to make them appear to have substance.

An hon. member: In an election year—

Mr. Bryden: Nevertheless, I believe that, election or no election, the people are entitled to a more honest presentation from the Provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Gisborn: Seriously so.

Mr. Bryden: Moreover, I believe that they are entitled to a greater assurance than they now have that their money is being spent wisely and well. One of the most serious difficulties in the practice of budgeting by department, to which the hon. Provincial Treasurer is still wedded, notwithstanding all his assertions to the contrary, is that it makes for poor Budget control. Almost inevitably it permits duplication of effort, overspending in some areas, underspending in others, and general lack of coordination.

Total government spending in the coming year is to increase by \$361 million and the

deficit is estimated at \$162 million. These figures in themselves are not a cause for alarm, but when the taxpayers are going to have more than \$2 billion extracted from their pockets for provincial purposes, they should get full value for their money. The sloppy budgeting in which the province continues to engage almost ensures that they will get less than full value.

This is particularly serious in view of the fact that our present system of taxation bears with undue severity on the lower income groups. I will develop this point more fully in a moment, Mr. Speaker, and in doing so, I will argue that there is an urgent need to undertake a major reform of our tax structure and a major reallocation of provincial-municipal responsibilities, but I will leave that aside for the moment.

In my opinion, those are the most urgent problems to which the provincial Budget should be addressed, but I am not so naive as to think that the Provincial Treasurer agrees with that point of view. Indeed, his Budget indicates that he is not prepared to admit even that the problems exist. That being so, I will, for the moment, content myself with calling attention to a less comprehensive problem in the hope that the Provincial Treasurer might be induced to take action in at least this one limited though critical area. I am referring to the position in which retired homeowners now find themselves.

When a person retires, his income usually goes down. Yet, his property taxes go up year by year. One does not have to be a prophet to foresee the end result of that process. More and more pensioners are being faced with the loss of their homes. Yet, the government's failure to provide anything like an adequate supply of senior citizens' housing leaves them with nowhere to go. Therefore, I propose, as an interim measure pending more comprehensive reforms, that the government should assume the education portion of the property tax of pensioners up to a specified limit of say \$100 or \$150.

Already, municipalities are applying to this Legislature for authority to relieve pensioners of part of their property taxes.

Mr. MacDonald: Leading the government.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, as my hon. leader says: "They are leading the government", they are showing the way to the government. The only trouble is it is almost impossible to show any way, except the backward way to this government.

The action of the municipalities is evident of a commendable spirit of humanitarianism and I think they should be commended for it. The problem is that the municipalities should not be expected to assume this responsibility. In fact, they do not have the resources to discharge it adequately. It is the province's responsibility. Pensioners should be relieved immediately of the education portion of the property tax, but the province should protect the municipalities against the reduction in their already inadequate resources which would otherwise result.

The mechanics of implementation would be relatively simple, and therefore, it should be possible to put the plan into effect immediately. The municipality would simply not collect the relevant portion of the tax from pensioners but would bill the province instead.

The Provincial Treasurer has boasted that he will carry on without tax increases in the coming year. In that, Mr. Speaker, he is hardly telling the whole truth. Actually, there will be a sharp increase in taxes in Ontario, but the government has cleverly contrived to make the municipalities the goats. They are being forced willy nilly to increase the already burdensome mill rate. I think it is a shameful situation, Mr. Speaker, that the government in a desperate effort to save its skin in the forthcoming election should force the municipal councils into this position. They too have to face the electorate and I do not think they should have to carry the sins of this government on their shoulders when they next face the electorate.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, it should not be forgotten that the government hit people of low or moderate income with a heavy increase in taxes last year—far enough ahead of the election, it hoped, that they would forget. In view of its continued failure to undertake the reform of our tax system which is clearly necessary, it is easy to see that, if heaven forbid, this government should be returned to office, the little man will get another solid kick in the pants next year. All those who want a kick in the pants will be well advised to vote Tory in the next election because they will certainly get it.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): They cry all the way to the bank with prosperity.

Mr. Bryden: I know that the hon. Minister cries all the way to the bank but a great many of the homeowners, right in his own city here, just cry.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I do not think so.

Mr. Bryden: Over the past number of years there has been a steady shift of the burden of taxation from the rich to the poor. This has been occurring at all levels of government. The municipalities, however, can be absolved of responsibility because they have practically no freedom of action. Basic responsibility rests squarely on the federal and provincial governments, and I would say about equally on both.

The shift has been taking place in three main ways.

First, there has been an increasing reliance on sales taxes, and I do not think I have to document that statement. It is often said that with the exemptions now in effect, sales taxes in Canada, both federal and provincial, are proportionate rather than regressive. That is true, Mr. Speaker, but it still should not blind us to the fact that a proportionate tax bears more heavily on the lower income groups than on the higher.

When we take in taxes the same proportion of the income of a \$5,000 a year man as a \$20,000 a year man, we hit the former much harder than the latter, because he has a smaller margin to work on. It is true that a regressive tax—that is, one that takes an even larger proportion of his income than of the richer man—hits him even harder, but that does not mean that a sales tax or other proportionate tax is fair. It merely means that it is less unfair than a regressive tax.

Now, let us review for a second what has happened to these unfair taxes. The federal sales tax is now 12 per cent on most taxable items. On top of that, there is a five per cent sales tax in Ontario, making a total which is more than 17 per cent since the Ontario taxes pyramided. So there is almost a fifth of the little man's purchasing power taken away from him. When he buys many necessities of life, such as clothing, shelter, transportation, necessary toilet articles and that sort of thing, we raise the price for him by nearly 20 per cent. This is our way of raising revenue, one of our most important ways of raising revenue, both federally and provincially.

Secondly, there has been a regrettable increase in recent years, particularly, in the use of flat rate premiums for social security. This is particularly noticeable in the financing of old age pensions, supposedly a measure to benefit the poor but actually a measure, as it is being worked out, which merely transfers income from one group of low income earners to another group.

As we know, the old age security pension of \$75.00 a month is financed by what is called an old age security tax. This actually consists of three separate taxes—sales, corporation incomes, and personal, with the personal income tax component yielding the largest amount of revenue of the three. That component consists of a four per cent levy on taxable income up to a ceiling of \$240 a year in tax or \$6,000 of taxable income. The effect of this ceiling is that except at the very lowest income level the tax is regressive.

For example, a taxpayer with a taxable income of \$6,000 pays exactly the same amount of tax—\$240 a year—as a taxpayer with a taxable income of \$20,000, \$30,000 or what have you. The larger a person's income, the smaller is the proportion which is taken in the tax.

The situation is even worse with the Canada pension plan. Last year and the year before I demonstrated in some detail the iniquitous effects of the premiums levied under that plan and I will not repeat my argument now.

To refresh the memories of hon. members, however, I will give one example. The net contribution to the plan of a married man with two dependent children earning \$5,000 a year, is \$62.57 a year on the basis of 1967 tax rates. The net contribution of a man with the same family situation earning \$20,000 a year—four times as much—is only \$43.50, or about \$20.00 less. Yet both of these men will qualify for precisely the same amount of pension. Not only does the wealthy man contribute a smaller proportion of his income, the absolute amount of his contribution is smaller. This is carrying regressivity to the ultimate. People of modest means are being forced to contribute to pensions for the rich.

This makes a mockery of the federal government's so-called war on poverty. What that government is engaged in is not a war on poverty but a war on the poor and relatively poor, who have to cough up with an unduly large proportion of their hard-earned incomes for social security programmes that are quite worthy but ought to be financed in other ways.

But before we point the finger exclusively at the federal government, let us remember that the provincial government is doing essentially the same thing. The so-called medicare programme, the OMSIP programme, which went into effect in this province just last year, is an outstanding example. The very lowest income groups are subsidized

under this plan, but beyond the quite low levels at which subsidization is available the plan is financed exclusively by flat premiums which amount to \$150 a year in the case of a family.

For a family with an income of \$20,000 or \$30,000 a year, a premium of \$150 is a trivial amount, but for a family with an income of \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year it is a heavy burden. In this, as in so many other programmes nowadays, these people of moderate, or low to moderate income in the \$5,000, \$6,000, \$7,000 category, are the forgotten people.

No doubt the government will say that the OMSIP premium is not a regressive tax because it is not compulsory. If families making \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year think the premium is excessively burdensome they do not have to pay it, but then they will not get coverage either, or they will have to settle for inferior coverage, when they are the very people who need coverage most. So they are given the Hobson's choice of inadequate coverage or a premium which for them is excessive.

We in the New Democratic Party have argued persistently that there should be no flat premium for medical care insurance beyond a small registration fee. We are on record as favouring a universal plan—not the half-baked, patchwork plan that we now have—in which the registration fee would be waived for the lowest income groups and for all others would work out to 30 cents a week in case of single people, and 60 cents a week in the case of families.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Is that an honest statement?

Mr. Bryden: Well of course it is an honest statement.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That it is going to cost them 30 cents a week?

Mr. Bryden: If the hon. Minister was with us in spirit as well as in body during the debates in this House he would know that we have never suggested that 30 cents a week for single people and 60 cents a week for families would cover the cost of a universal medical care insurance programme. What we have suggested time after time, and what I have just said, is that we would propose that amount as what we would call a registration fee under the plan. Beyond that, as I was just on the point of saying, the plan would be financed by progressive taxes which would get the money from the people who have it. That

is an honest statement, and when you go across the province you should repeat that instead of the other.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That is not what your ads carried.

Mr. Bryden: That is precisely what the ads carried. The hon. Minister is undoubtedly thinking about the Tory ads which claimed that they had a medical care insurance programme in effect in this province when they did not have anything and they have not got anything yet. The hon. Minister can look at any advertising or publications of any kind that we put out on this matter and he will find that we set forth in precise detail exactly how our plan would operate. Indeed I would refer him to a speech made some years ago in this House by the leader of the party who set the whole plan forth in full detail so that nobody could possibly have any misunderstandings about it, only those who wilfully misunderstand it because they were afraid—

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William): The only people who do not understand are those who did not want to understand.

Mr. Bryden: Precisely right, those who wilfully misunderstood naturally misunderstood because they did not have the courage or the freedom of action to introduce a plan of that kind themselves, notwithstanding the urgent public need for it.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Yours is only talk. Ours works.

Mr. Bryden: Yours works? Yours is an organized mess. You do not know whether you are coming or going.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): That is the truest thing you ever said about yourself, my friend.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Bryden: With the federal government now offering to contribute a substantial part of the cost of provincial medicare plans after July 1 of next year and our plan, which was entirely feasible from the beginning, was never attacked on the grounds of feasibility by anybody but just on the basis of red herrings. Our plan which was entirely feasible from the beginning would be even easier to put into operation because we could, if we would reach out our hand, get well over \$100 million from the federal government to implement such a plan. Why this

government refuses to take \$100 million plus when it is offered to it, is beyond me. It shows the dry rot of Toryism. They are unwilling to take something that is given to them.

Mr. MacDonald: Their doctrinaire approach.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, the doctrinaire approach, the private enterprise approach, the approach under which the welfare of insurance companies comes first and the welfare of the people is considered if it does not get in the way of the welfare of insurance companies. This is the basic philosophy of the Tory party—the party of the insurance companies and all other organizations like them.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Would the hon. member care to answer a question? Can he document the statement that he has just made that this government has ever refused \$100 million from the federal government for this programme?

Mr. Bryden: Well, you are refusing to put out your hand and take it, all you need to do is to meet an entirely reasonable condition and you can get it. Unfortunately, you allowed these guys at Ottawa, as I said earlier, to get off the hook. They were committed to doing it on July 1 of this year. If you had moved in and said “we accept” they would have been stuck. But now they have managed to slough it off until July 1 of next year and if the government in office in this province does not move in before then, they will get off the hook again.

Yes sir, I am surprised at the Minister of Health being unwilling to accept \$100 million but this is the substance of what he is doing.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: After the private debate concludes, Mr. Speaker, I will continue with the Budget.

The third way in which the burden of taxation is being shifted from the rich to the poor relates to the property tax. In Ontario this is the exclusive preserve of the municipalities and it is the only important municipal tax source.

The development of modern attitudes towards the role of government has created heavy pressure for increased spending at all levels. As the Provincial Treasurer himself noted in the Budget statement, this pressure is particularly heavy at the local level. The plain fact is that the municipalities are saddled with responsibilities that they are no longer able to carry.

Because of their restricted tax base, they have no option but to increase the property tax. Yet, this is a thoroughly regressive tax. It takes a substantially larger portion of the income of the small man with a small home than of the wealthy.

Anyone who considers the total effect of the increasing use of the sales taxes, social security premiums and property taxes to finance public services will not question the contention with which I started, that the burden of taxation in Canada and Ontario is being steadily shifted from the rich to the poor.

That contention is simply beyond dispute on the basis of any factual analysis of what has been happening in the last few years. In my opinion, this is our No. 1 problem of public finance today.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Carter, Smith, *et al.*

Mr. Bryden: It is time we not only halted the trend, but turned it in the other direction. To do this we have to consider new ways of raising revenues. Only a fossilized Tory remnant thinks it possible to reduce overall government spending, or even to prevent its continued increase. We are faced with continuously increasing public expenditures. I do not think there is any question about that at all. The growing demands of a modern community make that necessary.

No one can responsibly and seriously suggest that we can reduce the burden of taxation on the small man by reducing expenditures. What we have to do is look to the revenue side and reform our tax structure.

To an important extent, this is a problem on which action must be taken by the federal government. In this House, however, we are concerned with provincial policies, and I think there are a number of ways in which provincial revenues can be increased so as to relieve the burden of taxation on the small taxpayers, without cutting back on necessary services.

I will mention first what might be called the painless way. Economic growth means increased tax yields without any increase in tax rates. The thrust of all our provincial Budgets should be towards growth.

The Provincial Treasurer has claimed—I regret Mr. Speaker that he is not with us. I realize that the members of the Cabinet do not have a very energetic record of attendance in this House, but I would have thought that the Provincial Treasurer at least would be

present for the discussion of his Budget, rather than for just short snatches of this discussion. However, he has claimed that he has produced an expansionary—

Mr. MacDonald: That is what I call instant production.

Mr. Bryden: At any rate, I am glad to welcome him back after his sojourn. He has claimed that he has produced an expansionary Budget this year. If I had time I might argue with him about the degree to which it is in fact expansionist. On the basic principle, however, I could hardly have any quarrel, since I have been advocating expansionist budgets for as long as I can remember.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, and I think this point should be made particularly after some of the comments made by the leader of the Opposition in the latter part of his remarks this afternoon, we should not be carried away by the notion that the increased revenues resulting automatically from growth will solve all our problems. After all, growth also increases our obligations and will thereby absorb a large part of the increased revenues it generates.

It is simply idle chatter to suggest that, for example, the province can undertake so major a change as the assumption of 80 per cent of the cost of elementary and secondary education, and finance it mainly out of the increased revenues produced by growth. I say that is just idle chatter—it cannot be done.

My second point with regard to revenue sources is a minor one, but it is still worth mentioning. Greater efficiency in government could undoubtedly release some money for other purposes. I have already dealt with the lack of adequate Budget control in the province and I will not deal with it further. I think, however, it is proper to state, for example, that the government should no longer be assigning bottom priority to such obvious economies as centralized purchasing.

I am aware that at the public accounts committee this morning the Provincial Treasurer and the secretary of the Treasury board advised us that a report on this subject had been completed, but I will believe there will be action when I see it, Mr. Speaker. I have long ago given up putting any confidence in assurances from the government that it is going to do something. Certainly up until now a matter of this kind, which I consider most important, has had bottom priority as far as the government is concerned.

Stricter economy in administration could very well release \$15 or \$20 million a year for other purposes. Admittedly this is not a large sum in a Budget of more than \$2 billion, but every little helps. It is a saving that can, and, therefore, should be made.

My third point is one on which the Provincial Treasurer himself lays major stress. The federal government has to be induced to take a more realistic attitude to the financial problems of the provinces and municipalities.

There is room for argument as to the significance of the report of the tax structure committee, but one conclusion which emerges with crystal clarity in that report is that the demands for services in Canada today are greatest in fields for which the provinces and municipalities are responsible.

Thus there is heavy financial pressure on the provinces and the municipalities, heavier than on the federal government, and heaven knows it is heavy enough on the federal government, too, and that pressure is increasing.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is the point, of course.

Mr. Bryden: Well, I think that point was well established by the tax structure committee report. Their projections as to future revenue and expenditure possibilities were a little outdated by the time the report came down, but the basic point that emerged I think was unaffected by that fact.

The federal government receives the lion's share of revenues from the progressive taxes, and, in my opinion, should continue to do so. I am not in favour of what seems to be a trend in Canada today, to truncate the federal government's taxing powers. In fact even the federal government does not seem to object to being truncated. We have had a programme of opting out available to the provinces which has been taken advantage of by only one province, and it is quite proper that that province should have that opportunity, but this was looked upon as something available to the provinces only.

It seems to me at times that the federal government is now opting out. In fact I sometimes wonder if Mr. Sharp is not opting out of Confederation. He seems to be wanting to opt out of the responsibilities of the federal government. I do not agree with that, I think the federal government has, and should continue to have, the lion's share of revenue from progressive taxation. At the same time it has to relieve the burden on the provinces and through the provinces on the

municipalities by making more funds available to them—I do not care how it is done, and I suspect the Provincial Treasurer does not care, as long as he gets the money—or by taking over some of their responsibilities or by a combination of both.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Would the member repeat that for the benefit of the leader of the Opposition?

Mr. Bryden: Oh, I am sure the member for Brant will have already digested it and formed his own conclusions about it.

However, Mr. Speaker, to get back to the Provincial Treasurer, we cannot sit back and look to the federal government to solve all our financial problems. After all, there are heavy pressures on it too. Some reallocation in favour of the provinces is clearly justified, in my opinion, but that does not mean that we should evade our own responsibilities.

This brings me to my fourth point—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Does the hon. member mean we should not do this?

Mr. Bryden: If the Minister is asking me if I agree with all the fine philosophical statements in the opening part of his Budget statement, I do. I should not talk disparagingly of them, I thought they represented a good statement of the situation. My complaint is that he forgot about them after he got into the practical context of his Budget. When he got around to putting this book together obviously they had slipped his mind completely.

Mr. MacDonald: That book was put together before he made his speech, though.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We gave a progress report on that—

Mr. Bryden: Yes, I know, I have been hearing progress reports on that ever since I came into this House and we are no further ahead than we were when I came in. In fact, just change the figures in there and this is exactly the same blue book as we had the first year I was in this House.

However, Mr. Speaker, I was getting to my fourth point. The province has a clear obligation to develop to the full the revenue sources which are already available to it. It has failed to do this in the past and its failure continues in the present Budget.

That failure is greatest in the field of resource taxation. The pittance we are now getting in this field does not begin to compensate us for the valuable resources belong-

ing to the people of Ontario which are being used for private profit. I am not objecting to them being used for private profit but I think we should get paid for them. I do not think we have to give charity or outdoor relief, to major mining companies in this province. Maybe some of them need some assistance but the more important ones, the ones that are using up most of the minerals, certainly do not.

Mr. MacDonald: Inco needs it like E. P. Taylor.

Mr. Bryden: And I will just take mining as an example. At the present time, the total amount of revenue now received from mineral taxes is about \$15 million a year. Somewhat more than \$5 million of this is given to the mining municipalities as inadequate—and I emphasize the word “inadequate”—compensation for their loss of municipal taxes on mining properties. Thus, we are receiving for provincial purposes less than \$10 million a year from all the mining companies of the province, for all the minerals they are taking out of the ground. Those minerals will never go back into the ground. If we do not get the money for them now we will never get. But what we are getting is less than \$10 million a year.

Yet, one mining company alone—the International Nickel Company—had a surplus before corporation taxes of over \$250 million in 1965, the last year for which complete figures are available. Its surplus for 1966 will probably be somewhat lower, but that was because it was out of production for a substantial period due to a strike and thus not using minerals. The 1965 figure is a better indication of its capacity to pay for the minerals it is using.

Admittedly, it does not make all its profits in this province, but it makes most of them here. Moreover, it is not by any means the only profitable mining operation in Ontario, though it is the largest.

Its experience indicates that we could give the mining municipalities a square deal in municipal taxation, which has never been done up until now, and in addition, could increase provincial revenues from minerals alone by tens of millions of dollars per year.

Why does the province not exploit this obvious revenue source? The only answer I can think of, Mr. Speaker, is that mining companies have more influence with it than the little man who is now being forced to carry far more than his fair share of the burden of taxation.

Mr. MacDonald: And other business interests, as a matter of fact, in those communities.

Mr. Bryden: Another though smaller potential source of new revenue is the weight-distance tax, which would require large transports to contribute something approaching their share of the cost of constructing and maintaining highways.

Mr. MacDonald: That one got lobbied into the back room.

Mr. Bryden: Several years ago a select committee of this House, chaired by no less than the present Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), unanimously recommended in favour of a weight-distance tax. Thereupon, the trucking lobby, which undoubtedly has large influence with this government, apparently moved in behind the scenes, and that ended all possibility of getting a weight-distance tax as long as this government is in power. It is to be noted, however, that the government has never given a valid reason for failing to implement the unanimous recommendation of the select committee, and I say that it should be implemented without delay.

To recapitulate, there are several ways in which revenues in this province can be increased without resort to proportionate or regressive taxation. Some of them will develop fully only over a period of years but others, notably resource and weight-distance taxes, could together produce as much as \$100 million a year very quickly.

I claim that this money, both that which could become available very soon and that which will become available later, should be devoted mainly to a long-range plan to lift the burden of taxation from the little man.

The first point of attack should be the property tax, which is unquestionably the most regressive of our major tax sources at any level of government.

Therefore, I plan to devote the balance of my remarks to an outline of the NDP plan to liberate the homeowner.

Mr. MacDonald: Sounds very good. That is what the government talks about but does not do anything.

Mr. S. Lewis: NDPLTO.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: LSD. You sound as if you are on a psychedelic kick.

Mr. MacDonald: That is what you people have had over there for a long time, is LSD.

Mr. Bryden: Well, I would think that the government might be able to benefit from LSD. Certainly nothing else has ever been able to put any energy or enthusiasm into it.

Mr. MacDonald: Some mind expansion is needed all right.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: The land of never-never land.

Mr. Bryden: There is of course only one way to reduce the property tax and that is to reduce the spending responsibilities of the municipalities.

In this year's Budget the government continues its old, worn-out patchwork system of grants to municipalities. There are now so many municipal grants that it would take a book about three inches thick to describe them all. Government policy has been, and continues to be, to grease a squeaky wheel there, another one here, and so on indefinitely, but never to take an overall look at the needs and problems of the municipalities.

Its continued lack of realism is well demonstrated by the fact that, notwithstanding all the ballyhoo in the Provincial Treasurer's Budget statement, the proportion of total provincial revenue to be devoted to municipal grants for all purposes, including education, is actually going to decline from 44.6 per cent in 1966-67 to 43.3 per cent in 1967-68.

Mr. MacDonald: That has unmasked them now.

Mr. Bryden: The NDP believe that the province owes it to the municipalities to give more serious consideration to their needs than those figures would indicate.

There are three main areas in which it is widely agreed that the municipalities could appropriately be relieved of some or all of their present financial burdens. These are welfare, administration of justice and elementary and secondary education.

The NDP proposes that the province should immediately take over the full cost of welfare and the administration of justice. The term "administration of justice" is here used in the narrow sense. It is not proposed that the province should take over, for example, the police forces of the larger municipalities. It is however, argued that the operation of all courts and ancillary and related functions are

strictly provincial responsibilities and should be treated as such.

The cost to the province of taking over the full cost of welfare and administration of justice as here defined would be about \$30 million a year. This is an obligation which the province could readily undertake if it would develop the revenue sources I have already referred to.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to go into the question of education costs, which is rather a more complicated problem than this one. It is about three minutes to six. Perhaps this would be an appropriate time to call it six o'clock?

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 21, 1967
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock p.m.

ON THE BUDGET

(Continued)

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, before the supper recess, which the Liberal Party does not seem to have survived, I was discussing the problem of reducing the property tax. I made the point, which I imagine is obvious, that the only way the property tax can be reduced would be through a reduction of the spending responsibilities of municipalities. I went on to say that the province should be prepared immediately to take over the full cost of welfare and the administration of justice, which I estimated would require about \$30 million at the provincial level.

I would now like to go on to one other main area where I think there is widespread agreement that municipalities should be able to look for some relief, and that is the field of education. This of course is a much more difficult problem than the cost of welfare and administration of justice, because education is by far the most costly single function of government at either the provincial or municipal level.

It is an area in which, in my opinion, there has been far too much "sloganeering" by provincial politicians. What is needed is not a lighthearted promise that the province will take over 100 per cent or 80 per cent of the cost of elementary and secondary education, but a sober appraisal of the costs involved and of the province's capacity to absorb those costs.

Last December, the leader of the Opposition stated that the Liberal Party would be prepared to take over 100 per cent of the cost of elementary and secondary education. In January, he cut the figure to 80 per cent. In February, he said it would be 80 per cent over a four-or-five-year period.

I do not know what his March policy will be, but it is evident that he is decelerating at an accelerating rate. In any case, what-

ever his policy may be, it is in my opinion incumbent upon him to give a reasonably precise explanation of how he proposes to carry it out. It is not good enough to suggest vaguely, as he has done, that it will be financed out of the revenues generated by future growth or by savings effected by more efficient provincial administration.

I have already indicated my belief that additional money can be made available in these ways. Such money, however, will accrue only over a period of time and, in view of the growing demand for services which growth will produce, it will not by itself be enough to—I am willing to stop for a moment so that everyone can welcome the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Better late than never.

Mr. Bryden: At any rate, the revenue possibilities I have mentioned will not by themselves be enough to permit the province to assume a major part of the present municipal share of the cost of education. If we are to do that, the province will clearly have to develop additional taxation resources.

Over the years, we in this party have proposed a number of ways of doing this, some of which I have outlined this afternoon. The Liberal Party has flatly rejected all our proposals, even scoffed at them. Yet it has put forward none of its own, except for Mr. Wintermeyer's proposal for the sales tax, made a few years ago, before the government itself got the idea.

Only one or other of two conclusions is possible. Either the Liberal Party is now putting itself in a position of total irresponsibility, making promises which it knows it has no hope of carrying out, or else—the hon. gentlemen to my right say "never" so I guess the other alternative is the likely one, and strikes me as the problem one—it plans to implement its proposal on education costs by increasing the sales tax.

The Liberal Party's friend and mentor, the *Toronto Daily Star*, tried to nudge the Liberal leader out of his present ambivalent position in an editorial which praised him—I might

mention this editorial was favourable to him—for his policy on education costs as announced at the time. That editorial urged him to state frankly that he would finance the policy by increasing the sales tax.

One cannot but agree that this is what he should do, if he wants to level with the public. And he could fortify himself with the knowledge that he would not be getting out of line with the Liberal tradition in this province, because after all the Liberal Party was the first party to advocate a sales tax here.

The last year for which complete figures on the cost of elementary and secondary education are available is 1964, and certainly costs have gone up since then. Even on the basis of 1964 figures, however, it can safely be stated that it would take a sales tax of at least 5 per cent, on top of the 5 per cent now levied, to cover the cost to the province of taking over 100 per cent of the cost of education, which was the Liberal leader's December policy. An additional 3 or 4 per cent, over and above the present tax, would be needed to take over 80 per cent of the cost as stated in the January policy.

I can state on behalf of the New Democratic Party that we are categorically opposed to an 8 or 10 per cent provincial sales tax pyramided on the present 12 per cent federal sales tax. We do not think that that would be of any assistance at all to the small homeowner, unless crucifixion is considered to be a form of assistance.

It is time that the serious problem of education costs at the municipal level was approached in a serious way, not on the basis of election "sloganeering". The municipal taxpayer needs relief. We should not play with him; we should try to find an effective way of giving him that relief.

In 1964, provincial grants covered 43.3 per cent of the cost of elementary and secondary education in Ontario. I have heard Ministers say that the percentage is now between 45 and 50 per cent. I have not seen any figures to back up that statement but I am willing to accept it.

The New Democratic Party proposes that the province should embark on a phased programme to take over an additional 5 per cent of the cost of elementary and secondary education every year for the next five years. At the end of five years, the programme would be reviewed to see if further assistance might be possible.

In the first year, the cost of this programme would be between \$35 and \$40 million a

year. This would be in addition to the approximately \$30 million involved in taking over the entire cost of welfare and the administration of justice to which I have already referred. I have already outlined new tax sources which would more than cover all of the cost of all of these programmes. I did that this afternoon.

Up until now I have been talking about the first year. Forecasting beyond a year becomes increasingly subject to error, but a phased programme such as the NDP has proposed would give time for the other sources of revenue I have mentioned to be more fully developed. If they should ultimately prove to be inadequate, then new consideration would have to be given, not to the sales tax, but to the progressive taxes, notably the corporation income tax. That, Mr. Speaker, is a programme that can be carried out. We have demonstrated how we plan to carry it out.

It would in my opinion provide—well, it is not only in my opinion—it would obviously provide substantial relief to the municipal taxpayer in the first year, and an increasing amount in subsequent years. That, after all, is the objective or should be—to find a practical way of providing him with relief. As I said, that is not done by slogans; it is only done by hard thinking, and working out programmes that are related to facts.

Having said that, however, I do not think our approach to the municipalities should stop there. The hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), has rightly emphasized the necessity of close cooperation between the federal and provincial governments. Well, cooperation is not merely the prerogative of the big boys. There is an equally great need for close cooperation between the provincial and municipal governments.

There should be a regular conference of provincial and municipal representatives on budgetary matters—not just a one-shot Centennial affair, as has been proposed in some quarters, but an annual event. This conference would study both provincial and municipal spending responsibilities, and revenue possibilities, both for the short term of one year and for a longer period of five years. In effect, it would draw up an overall provincial-municipal budget for both the immediate future and a longer period. The five-year budget would, of course, be subject to revision year by year, but it would keep longer term prospects and objectives in the forefront of the thinking of all concerned.

These budgets would naturally not be mandatory. They would, however, keep the whole picture of government spending and revenue measures in the province, and I mean the entire picture, both provincial and municipal, before both the provinces and the municipalities. The prerequisite of intelligent action is understanding. The production of a joint provincial-municipal budget would give the province and municipalities a better understanding of each other's problems. They could then apply their intelligence jointly to the solution of those problems.

There has been much talk of cooperative federalism in recent years, referring to cooperation between the federal and provincial governments. The time has come to recognize that there are three levels of government in Canada, Mr. Speaker, each with an important role to play. The municipalities should no longer be regarded as low man on the totem pole. They should be brought into full partnership in the important process of governing Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, with that I will make only a comment or two on the amendment that the leader of the Opposition has proposed. As members are aware, under the rules of the House we in this group are not entitled to present a further amendment of our own, which I would have liked to have done. I would have liked to have placed emphasis on the matter which I consider to be of major importance and to which I gave main stress in my remarks this afternoon. That is the question of lifting the burden of taxation from the small man, halting and reversing the trend of the last decade to shift the burden of taxation from the rich to the poor, and, in particular, liberating the homeowner from the heavy and increasing burdens under which he now suffers.

I would have liked myself to put particularly heavy emphasis on that point. However, the amendment as proposed by the official Opposition is a no-confidence motion in the government. I will say, Mr. Speaker, that we are prepared to support any no-confidence motion. We do not think that this government is entitled to the confidence of the people of Ontario or of this House. We were quite aware that with their steamroller majority, which they will whip in in time for the vote—we never see most of them during the debates when the matters are being discussed but they can always get them in in time for the vote—they will survive this vote of confidence.

But, Mr. Speaker, they will soon have to submit to a vote of confidence of the people

who are the bosses of this Legislature. I venture to predict that they will have very much less success in that vote of confidence. In fact, they will have no success at all.

They will steamroller it through with their cipher vote in this House, they will survive the vote of confidence, but they have not solved some of the basic problems to which attention has been called this afternoon. And for that they are going to have to account, and the sooner the better as far as I am concerned.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, I move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The 17th order; House in committee of supply, Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Chairman, it is with satisfaction that I report on some of the new programmes introduced by our department during the 1966-67 fiscal year. Each year we are increasingly aware that farming is becoming more of a business and that farmers themselves are more conscious of their opportunities as businessmen. It is the responsibility of our department to encourage this attitude and to introduce programmes which support the farmer in his efforts to move forward to profitable objectives.

It is well to keep in mind that the programmes we have introduced during this past year may well have developed as a result of programmes which were introduced in the years before. As in any business, one formulates the plans for tomorrow on the accomplishments of yesterday. In doing so we are fully aware of our primary role of serving Ontario's agriculture and food industry.

I have said on other occasions, and I re-emphasize, that agricultural research, education and extension services when coordinated, make for a healthy agriculture. Together they form the basis on which future progress in the agriculture and food industry is built. I feel, therefore, that it is appropriate to begin my report with some of the steps we have taken in research, education and extension.

In recognition of the increased emphasis placed on improving research and education for Ontario agriculture, the department's

administration was re-organized. The former director of the agricultural research institute was appointed director of research and agricultural education. The recently formed horticultural research institute of Ontario will report to the director of research and agricultural education. We are confident that important developments will result from this increased responsibility in the area of research and education.

Under the farm economics branch, a milk marketing research section, designed to analyze developments in Ontario milk markets, will provide valuable information for the Ontario milk marketing board and the milk commission of Ontario. The analysis of DHIA record books will also be a responsibility of this section.

The horticultural research institute of Ontario, Vineland, has been organized to co-ordinate all horticultural research in Ontario. A close liaison is kept with other horticultural research organizations to ensure that the Ontario horticultural industry receives the very best research value for the funds expended. The formerly named "Vineland and Simcoe horticultural experimental stations" and the horticultural products laboratory at Vineland comprise the physical facilities of the horticultural research institute of Ontario.

The research and educational programmes at the western Ontario agricultural school at Ridgeway will receive increased emphasis to meet the demand for agricultural education and to assist scientific evolution in food production.

The Kemptville agricultural school will continue to expand its sphere of influence in the agricultural and food industry of eastern Ontario. Increased enrolment indicates the interest of the youth of eastern Ontario in obtaining additional education in agriculture and home economics. To make greater use of existing home economics facilities at Kemptville agricultural school, an additional class in home economics will be introduced this year after the present class leaves early this spring.

A diploma course, similar to those now offered at the Kemptville and western Ontario agricultural schools, was introduced at the Ontario demonstration farm in New Liskeard. Fourteen boys have enrolled in this course and are expected to graduate in 1968.

Extension branch programmes are constantly reviewed and revised to meet the needs of Ontario farmers.

Low-interest guaranteed loans for farmers suffering a farm income loss during 1966 of

25 per cent or more, due to adverse weather, are designed to meet an unexpected need in Ontario agriculture.

A comprehensive series of short courses, to provide an in-depth study on all phases of agriculture, is being offered on a demand basis. These courses are designed to keep our farm people abreast of the many innovations and developments in modern scientific agriculture.

Now to some details on ARDA. Under ARDA—The Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act—there are significant new programmes. One is farm enlargement and consolidation which was announced during the latter stages of last year's session. This is a long-range major programme to facilitate the adjustment of small uneconomic farms into larger viable units with particular application in south central, eastern and northern Ontario. Uneconomic farms are being acquired by ARDA as they come on the market for sale, and will be leased on a five-year basis to farm operators of proven ability who require additional land. This will be done at ARDA's cost price plus any capital improvements made by ARDA. The long-term objective, however, is to sell the land; it is not the government's intention to become a large-scale lessor. Four community pastures, owned by ARDA and available on a rental basis to farmers, have been set up. Two others are under development.

Provisions are made in this programme for the farmer who is selling his farm to be able to obtain assistance in retraining for off-farm employment; or, in the case of older people, to retain a life lease on the residence and a few acres of adjoining land. At present, there are 650 farmers on retraining programmes.

Another of the new programmes under ARDA is the increased drainage grant to aid municipalities and farmers requiring outlet drains. Under The Ontario Drainage Act, grants to municipalities will be increased from 33⅓ per cent to 66⅔ per cent, retroactive to April 1, 1966. Provincial policies previously provided for a two-thirds grant for drainage outlets built under The Drainage Act in northern Ontario and in the eleven counties of eastern Ontario. Provisions will be made, through the ARDA directorate, to ensure that the programme is restricted to lands of high agricultural capability. The programme will operate until 1970 with costs being shared equally by the three levels of government.

Another programme under ARDA is the small field enlargement programme. Farmers handicapped by small fields unsuitable for the use of modern farm machinery, to resolve this problem, may receive financial assistance for the removal of fence rows. Under this programme, 40 per cent of the cost to the farmer of hiring heavy equipment and operators for the removal of, stone, stump and brush fence rows, up to a maximum of \$500 per farmer, is available in the form of a grant. As of January 1, 1967, over 1,000 farmers are participating in the field enlargement programme.

Another, but certainly not the least of ARDA programmes to be mentioned, is the revitalization of the province's maple syrup industry. This has been accomplished through the establishment of a processing and marketing cooperative, a maple syrup extension specialist, and a maple syrup producers' association. These are just a few taken from the large total of 104 projects now under ARDA.

The new milk marketing plan continues to develop. In addition to this, there are 19 other plans covering 38 farm commodities. We also have an innovation that has been making great strides. The Ontario food council, first of its kind on this continent, provides a common meeting ground for all those associated with the agriculture and food industry.

The council has dealt with over 40 major items in 1966. Some of these included quota on Canadian cheese to the U.S.A.; the introduction of new packages for bacon; the use of Ontario produce in Ontario restaurants; and field trips for consumer committees. Six food shows and trade missions were carried out to maintain and strengthen the export picture, and plentiful food programmes were carried out to deal with sales of certain foods on domestic markets.

The new consumer section with consumer participation will be a most effective means of dealing with undesirable merchandising practices and will be used to distribute food information on Ontario farm products. It will also be a very effective means of obtaining consumer thinking on practices and policies which affect the agricultural and food industry. The food council is proving to be a most effective instrument for rural-urban understanding.

The Ontario crop insurance commission was appointed when The Ontario Crop Insurance Act was proclaimed in September 1966. Various factors led to the introduction of crop insurance to Ontario farmers. In order

to make full use of mechanization and management Ontario farmers have been turning to specialization. The proportion of purchased inputs has doubled in a relatively short period. The cost-price squeeze has increased. These factors, combined with drastically reduced yields due to adverse growing conditions during 1964, 1965 and 1966, have created a need for the availability of crop insurance.

Crop insurance was made available for Ontario winter wheat in the fall of 1966. For insurance purposes, yields are based on the average production of the individual farm for the preceding ten years under normal conditions. This important feature tailors the insurance policy to the individual farmer's needs and was specially developed to meet Ontario conditions. In fact, the entire policy was especially designed, after extensive research, to meet Ontario conditions. A farmer has the option of 60 per cent, 70 per cent or 80 per cent coverage of normal yield for his winter wheat crop. The crop is protected against such hazards as drought, excessive rainfall, excessive moisture, flood, frost, hail, wind, winterkill, plant diseases and insect infestations.

The commission's objective is to offer, in the future, protection against weather hazards for all major Ontario crops, including forages. As in winter wheat, it is anticipated that a continuous policy will be provided which offers the Ontario farmer protection from year to year until the cancellation of the policy by the farmer or the commission.

The provincial and federal governments each contribute 50 per cent towards all administrative costs. The Ontario government contributes 5 per cent of the true insurance cost and the federal government 25 per cent.

Under the dairy branch of the department, plans are under way to set up central laboratory testing of composite milk samples. Using an infra-red milk analyzer, called IRMA for short, a pilot testing programme for the northern Ontario milk pool has shown that central testing will work satisfactorily. The IRMA method is more accurate and much faster than the Babcock method for determining the butterfat and other major constituents of milk.

The livestock branch of The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food recently introduced many important policies. A few of these are:

1. The dairy herd improvement policy was revised to provide for membership in an

owner sampler programme. The cost-of-production part of the DHIA programme was made optional.

2. The beef cattle sales assistance policy was revised with more emphasis being placed on encouraging breeders to consign animals that had good performance records. The maximum grant available was increased from \$200 to \$250.

3. A new service to commercial livestock producers was introduced. A dairy cattle specialist was added to the staff of the livestock branch to assist commercial producers in improving their feeding and management practices and so increase their efficiency and financial returns.

4. The elite-herd policy for swine was introduced. This policy is designed to encourage purebred breeders to establish herds that maintain high standards of performance, health and type, and to give official recognition to herds that meet the necessary standards.

5. The rules and regulations of the beef cattle performance testing policy were revised. The main changes were that Charolais cattle were made eligible to participate in the testing programme and the herd test plant was made available to commercial as well as purebred herds.

6. A trial programme to evaluate ultrasonic equipment in determining the carcass quality of hogs previous to their being slaughtered was introduced.

7. The establishment of the performance testing policy for sheep gives official status to performance testing in sheep — trial programme introduced in 1963. This policy assists purebred flock owners in evaluating the productivity of ewes in their flocks.

8. A ram premium policy has been introduced. The policy provides for the payment of premiums on approved rams that are sold in consignment sales or by private treaty. Only rams which have met the standards under the performance testing policy for sheep will be approved.

The Department of Agriculture and Food has established a pesticides laboratory to provide a monitoring service which will be available on a continuous basis as a service to Ontario agriculture and certain other departments of government. The use of chemicals for disease, insect and weed control has substantially improved this province's and this continent's food-producing capability. However, chemicals may also cause harm, if not used in a recommended and responsible manner.

An interdepartmental pesticides committee, reporting to our department, makes recommendations concerning the coordination of the various Ontario government departments' and agencies' activities in the pesticide field. The committee promotes education on pesticides and also recommends needed areas of pesticide research.

This year has been one of continuing accomplishment in the agriculture and food industry in Ontario. The conference on agriculture, held at Vineland last October, enabled us to look back at what we had been doing and to look forward to the future. It renewed our confidence in our past programmes and reaffirmed our faith in our plans for the future. It served to reconfirm our belief that at no time can we be complacent in these times of change and challenge.

The unanimous recommendation of the Vineland conference was that a committee comprised of delegates attending the conference should be established. The purpose of the committee was to study, in depth, suggestions made at the conference to improve farm income. The first meeting of the committee took place on the Monday following the conference, which ended on Friday, October 28. Several meetings of this committee have taken place since. It became apparent to the committee that additional research was required in farm economics. A firm of such agricultural economists has been engaged and they are currently working with the committee in an effort to determine the most practical means of stabilizing the farm economy of Ontario.

Among the recommendations of the Vineland conference was the further provision of capital grants for agricultural purposes. The success of capital grants towards farm pond construction is evident in the 1,500 ponds constructed since the policy was introduced three years ago. Successful though the farm pond policy has been, there are areas of Ontario where, for a variety of reasons, farm ponds are not satisfactory. We will therefore ask your favourable consideration, under the ARDA vote of our estimates, of a grant of 50 per cent of the cost of a drilled, bored, or dug well, up to a maximum of \$500 per farmer.

Under the ARDA programme of rural development, 1,000 farmers have already made application for grants for fence row removal. This programme was introduced in the late summer of 1966, and provides 40 per cent of the cost of fence row removal up to \$500 per farmer.

In the estimates of our department for the next fiscal year we are seeking the approval of the Legislature for \$10 million to be used for capital grants for Ontario farmers. The programme will be spread over the next 12 years, making a total of \$129 million to encourage effective planning by farm operators in capital expenditures. The extended period has been established so that farmers will not have to make hasty, or ill-advised, decisions as to how to use these grants most effectively to improve the production efficiency of their farms.

These capital grants will be available for farm drainage; the erection or renovation of farm buildings; paving barnyards; liquid manure storage tanks; grading, packing and storage buildings; greenhouses; silos; grain storage, and milk houses. The basis of the grants will be one-third of the cost, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per farmer, on any one, or on any combination, of the items I have just mentioned. To be eligible for these capital grants the farmer must own the land on which the capital grant is to be applied and have a gross income of \$3,000 per year from the farm operation.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Who wrote the speech for you?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, as a matter of fact I wrote it myself. Do you not like it?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): It is a good thing you cannot blame anybody else.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I would like to find out, for the edification of our friends who I did not know were not listening—I knew there was a lot of commotion—I thought they were exuberant over the things that I was saying in my speech. Apparently they were not.

Let me say that, with the introduction of the capital grants programme that I have just enunciated, there is now available to every farmer in the province of Ontario a total of \$2,500 in capital grants.

Ontario's livestock population continues to expand. We recognize the importance of this segment, which accounts for over 70 per cent of the agricultural income of Ontario. To ensure adequate veterinary service for the future, you are asked to approve a grant of \$500 per semester, or \$1,000 per year, for the four years of the veterinary course, to

approved veterinary students attending the Ontario veterinary college of the University of Guelph, who agree to remain in large animal practice for a minimum period of four years following graduation. For each year less than the four years the graduate failed to remain in large animal practice a return of \$1,000 per year to the Ontario government would be required.

The extension branch of our department has experienced difficulty in obtaining qualified bilingual agricultural representatives, home economists, and extension specialists. To relieve this situation, arrangements are being worked out to assist qualified bilingual secondary school graduates to obtain a degree which would qualify them for service in our department.

We are asking, as well, for your approval of a programme whereby agricultural students from underdeveloped countries can be brought to Ontario to be given the opportunity of learning food production, processing and distributing technology. We believe such a programme would enable participants to return to their own countries with the knowledge necessary to improve the standard of living in underdeveloped countries through increased food production.

In asking for the approval of the Legislature, for this extensive programme designed to materially advance the agricultural economy of our province, I do so with the recognition that changes in traditional concepts of farming in Ontario are abundantly evident.

Farm organizations and individual farmers realize, as do we all, that some hitherto self-sustaining farm units are no longer capable of providing a satisfactory income for the farm family. The land consolidation programme under ARDA provides an opportunity for the owners of these farms to dispose of them. The retraining programme is designed to help those rural people who wish to fit themselves for other employment opportunities to do so. Some of them wish to relocate in other areas. Some wish to avail themselves of opportunities for employment in the industries being located in areas of rural under-employment. ARDA projects to be effective must be oriented to the needs of the people intended to be served. Rural development officers have been appointed to serve the interests of people in areas of the province where ARDA is most applicable.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister knows what the farmers think of him.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, let us say we know what they think of the member for Grey North for sure. If it had not been for a recount, he would not be sitting in the seat he is in today, that is for certain. If there is one man in the Ontario Legislature who has done everything he can to hinder the ARDA programme in Ontario, it is the member for Grey North.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I would like the Minister to tell the House at length how I, one single member in the Opposition, could be responsible for destroying a \$7 million programme of money you did not even use last year. Tell the House how I can hurt the ARDA programme.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I can tell the member exactly how.

Mr. Sargent: I would like the Minister to tell the House right now—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! The member has stood up on a point of order which does not—

Mr. Sargent: —or retract the statement!

Mr. Chairman: It does not constitute a point of order. I would ask the members of the House if they will, in fairness to the Minister, allow him to complete his message and then you will have ample time in the course—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, if I may speak to the point of order. The hon. Minister said that this man back here held up ARDA. Well, now, what sort of a thing is that? He is misleading the House.

Mr. Sargent: I demand that he tell the House or apologize.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would not do anything to upset my good friend, the member for Grey North.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister will retract that statement.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): He will do everything to upset the Minister, though.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, will you please—

Mr. Chairman: If the member will take his seat for one moment, please.

Mr. Sargent: Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Fine. Now I would ask the Minister if he would deal with the question that is before us.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: My estimates or the question?

Mr. Chairman: The question.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, the question my friend has asked. He should well know that he criticizes the \$7 million, so-called, that was not used out of the first ARDA agreement that was signed in 1962. I would remind my friend in this House that he—and he is the municipal councillor or reeve of a city of this province, or mayor of a city of this province, who was a member of a conservation authority—should be the first to know that the very genesis of the ARDA legislation of the federal government was spawned in the province of Ontario, right here by this government.

I would say to the hon. member, Mr. Chairman, that if he knew of the millions of dollars that have been poured into the municipalities across this province, he would know why we did not throw away \$7 million of the taxpayers' money. And I would say, too, Mr. Chairman: This hon. member asks about ARDA. Let me say that there are 104 ARDA projects in the province of Ontario and there is \$45 million worth of investment today.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Members of the House, I would ask you, if you will please, to refrain from irresponsible comments in the House. We would like to go into the estimates of the department. I realize there have been some provocative statements made but I would ask the members if they would allow the Minister to continue.

Mr. Sargent: I ask the chair to rule on the retraction. If not, I wish to have the opportunity to reply to the remarks the Minister has made about me personally.

Mr. Chairman: There were some statements made about one particular member being responsible for delay of a programme. I would ask the Minister to clarify that, if he will.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I would just say that the reference I was making in the House during the reading of my speech tonight were pretty indicative of his unsympathetic approach to the very problem we are discussing.

Mr. MacDonald: That is evasion.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me say this, regardless of my friend in the socialist party—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I want a retraction.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me say this to my hon. friend over there, the member for Grey North—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: He said it is not working, it will not work. What are we supposed to do, go out and beat farmers over the head and say you have to sell your farms? This is what he suggested.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, let me ask the chair to comment on the remarks the Minister has made tonight. For the last three years, we have been hearing of the great ARDA programme—

Mr. Chairman: I am going to—

Mr. Sargent: I am going to insist that you rule on the retraction.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. I am going to ask the Minister if he will proceed in the House in an orderly way, and ask the members if they will, please, refrain from interrupting.

Mr. Sargent: Not unless I have a retraction, I will stand here until I get one.

Mr. Chairman: I think there have been some irresponsible statements made in the House.

Mr. MacDonald: And they started from the Minister.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): No, they did not, they started from the member for York South.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I ask you to rule on the retraction.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North, as I indicated earlier, has been somewhat provocative in his statements. I am going to ask the member if he will, please, remain seated and listen for a moment while I rule on it. He has asked for a ruling. Members on both sides of the House have been provocative. I think there have been irresponsible statements on both sides of the House. I would ask, under the circumstances, that

the Minister continue with his message and that he continue without interruption, please.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I want a retraction. This Minister has made a very irresponsible statement. He has implied that I have been responsible for blocking a \$7 million programme.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Chairman, may I say a word on a point of order?

Mr. Chairman: No!

Mr. Oliver: Why not?

Mr. Chairman: Members—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Oliver: I wanted to say, Mr. Chairman, that surely we are not going to let this partisan Minister get away with an implication that he made about my friend, the member for Grey North. I remember completely his remarks and they were these: that the member for Grey North is more responsible than anyone else for the failure of the ARDA programme. Now what use in the world is a statement like that? He has not a thing to back it up, so why is he not man enough to retract it?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I have been interjecting from my seat here and I am now going to get up to support this. This Minister is the person who—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I am speaking on a point of order.

An hon. member: What point of order?

Mr. MacDonald: My point of order is simply this: that this Minister is willing to charge anybody with wild irresponsibility and he has made a wild irresponsible statement; it is his responsibility to back it up.

He said to the hon. member for Grey North that he was responsible more than any other man for frustrating the ARDA programme—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That can be his opinion.

Mr. MacDonald: All right, Mr. Chairman. It is the Minister's responsibility to back this up or at least have the courage to retract it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: And he does not have to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs): Mr. Chairman, the whole debate is out of order. A ruling has been made on the point of order and all this debate is completely out of order.

Mr. MacDonald: You want to defend—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Not at all. You do not know any more about farming than Joe Jones down the street.

Mr. MacDonald: Why I know far more about it than the Minister ever will.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has expressed an opinion which has caused many provocative comments. However, under the circumstances it does not appear that a breach of order has occurred.

Mr. MacDonald: Here we go again, on that side of the House, retract, retract; it would be a dull façade. Okay, if you want us to start to say "retract, retract", because the Minister has made an irresponsible statement. He either has to defend it or withdraw it, one or the other.

Mr. Chairman: I have ruled that there have been several irresponsible statements made in the House, and there have been many provocative questions. These do not constitute a point of order.

Mr. Sargent: Name the other ones.

Mr. Oliver: Make the ruling.

Mr. Chairman: And I have ruled that this, under the circumstances, does not constitute a point of order. That under the circumstances what the Minister has said might be said by any member in a House at any time. Now, it may not be—

An hon. member: It happens every day.

Mr. Chairman: And often it has been said! It has been indicated previously that there have been instances of irresponsibility, and irresponsible comments, by members of the House. Under the circumstances, once again I appeal to your sense of fairness and ask the members of the House if they will now listen

to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Thank you.

Mr. Sargent: Either the hon. Minister is right or he is wrong. I would ask to change a rule for a retraction.

Mr. Chairman: I have already ruled and, under the circumstances, I would say to the member—

Mr. Sargent: What is the ruling, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman:—that this does not constitute a point of order. I would ask the member to resume his seat, please.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask you to have the Minister prove his statement—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He does not have to.

An hon. member: Retract! Retract!

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, you have said that there is not a point of order but you have made a ruling in this connection.

There have been opinions expressed by myself, the leader of the NDP, and the dean of the Legislature, putting the point from this side that the hon. Minister's statement was directly offensive as far as the hon. member for Grey North is concerned. He is not prepared to back it up. I must say with care, sir, that if you are going to persist in that position and not require a retraction from the Minister of Agriculture and Food, we on this side will be forced to appeal your ruling.

Mr. MacDonald: Right.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I apologize for upsetting the whole House—

Mr. MacDonald: Why did you not do it ten minutes ago?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Just let me say this: At least I caught the attention of the front row of the Liberal Opposition.

An hon. member: For the first time.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I read this entire speech, and I sat this afternoon in rapt attention to listen to the speeches that were made, and I heard the leader of the Opposition comb us for certain things that we have done and I had the courtesy to sit here and listen. I did not stand up and say anything about it, I simply sat here and listened.

Mr. Nixon: That is not so; the Minister did jump up.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I jumped up and asked the leader of the Opposition if he knew why, and then sat down.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think the ruling has been appealed.

Mr. Nixon: I have done so.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the leader of the Opposition not to get exercised so early in the night, because really—

An hon. member: Too much dinner.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Because really I do not think this—

Mr. Nixon: I would say, sir, that we are exercised. We are not prepared to accept the decision of the Chairman that the Minister should not retract. We believe that he should. Now, if the Chairman is not going to require that the Minister retract, I am afraid we will have to appeal his ruling, which I now do.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of sustaining the Chairman's ruling, will please say "aye".

All those opposed, will please say "nay".

In the opinion of the chair, the ruling is sustained.

Several hon. members: Oh, no!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: There they are, all together again.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of sustaining the ruling of the Chairman, will please stand.

All those opposed to the ruling, will please stand.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Chairman, the "ayes" are 34, the "nays" 19.

Mr. Chairman: The ruling of the chair has been sustained. May I remind the members, if they will, please, to listen now to the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. Sargent: I still think it is wrong.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. members would only bear with me for just a few minutes. I was castigated greatly

last year for speaking at great length. This year I hoped I could speak at a much shorter length, but I found I could not attract the attention of many members of the House, but I was attracting the attention of some who seemed to want to help me with my speech. Now may I continue and finish, Mr. Chairman?

Farm organizations and individual farmers realize, as do we all, that some hitherto self-sustaining farm units are no longer capable of providing a satisfactory income for the farm family. The land consolidation programme under ARDA provides an opportunity for the owners of these farms to dispose of them. The retraining programme is designed to help those rural people who wish to fit themselves for other employment opportunities to do so.

Some of them wish to relocate in other areas. Some wish to avail themselves of opportunities for employment in the industries being located in areas of rural under-employment. ARDA projects, to be effective, must be oriented to the needs of the people intended to be served. Rural development officers have been appointed to serve the interests of people in areas of the province where ARDA is most applicable. Working in conjunction with our agriculture extension branch personnel, rural people are being provided with help and advice on how best to cope with the situations in which many of them find themselves today.

On the other hand, there is and will continue to be the need to make the best use possible of useful farming land in this province. With the evident scarcity of qualified labour in all sections of our economy, it is not surprising that farmers are having difficulty obtaining satisfactory farm help. Quite often the expenditure of modest amounts of capital can appreciably improve the efficiency of labour and result in increased farm income. It is for these reasons we believe that the proposed system of capital grants, along with the various services provided by our department, will be of material help to those farmers who have the land potential, the desire and the ability to continue to be—or to become—successful farmers in this province.

The teamwork of the members of our department, each operating within the organizational framework of their branches, but coordinated under one central administration, has produced an efficiency with which I am justly pleased. I take this opportunity, sir, to publicly express my appreciation to all members of The Ontario Department of

Agriculture and Food for their commendable efforts during the past year.

In concluding these remarks, Mr. Chairman, I, with our staff, have prepared the estimates, which have been approved by the Treasury and entered in the Budget for the department for this coming year; and, with the consideration of the House, I will be pleased to try to answer all the questions that are asked of me.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I am glad to be able to participate in this debate in the calm of the evening. As one enters this debate, you know, year after year, it becomes a continuous process of reviewing the past and preparing for the future.

The Minister has taken us on an excursion of the activities of his department during this past year. There have been many programmes that have been implemented, and we listened with interest to his remarks in regard to that particular phase of the work.

The complexity of the whole agricultural problem makes it very difficult indeed to come up with a workable solution. It is obvious that long-term agricultural policy is just as badly needed today, even more so than it was a few years ago. This policy is imperative if the country is going to cope in a meaningful way with the problem of prime income.

During the period 1949 to 1965, there was an increase of 6.6 per cent in the price the farmer received for his products. During the same period there was a 35.9 per cent increase in the retail price of food. During the same period there was an increase of 57.7 per cent in the price of goods the farmer had to buy. In 1949 farmers received 58 cents of every food dollar, or of every dollar spent on food at the retail level. By 1964 the figure was down to 41 cents and it has been estimated that it is now down to approximately 36 cents.

Today consumers find themselves in the position where they are paying, in a good many cases, more for the container than they are for the ingredients. Today a container costs an average of 24 per cent of sales. Ingredient costs average another 24 per cent. However, for vinegar, for instance, 10 per cent of the selling price to the grocery trade represents the ingredient, 37.6 per cent the container. For tomato juice, 19.7 per cent ingredient and 34.3 per cent container. It is to be noted that the cost of packaging food has gone up substantially as well.

As a matter of fact, the cost of doing business in all phases of the agricultural process has gone up. The difficulty is that the retailers, the wholesalers, the processors and the others involved in the chain of distribution have sought to retain their margins of profit. This has been done at the expense of the farmer and has continually placed him in a worsening position in relation to the cost-price squeeze.

Ernest Nesius of West Virginia University, West Virginia, in April of 1966, aptly pointed out the situation when he said:

The world will long record, and history will be very laudatory about the great agricultural achievements of the current century. Nothing like it has occurred in our historical past. Yet those who are most closely associated with agricultural feel that even a more glorious future is in front of agriculture if it is given the help—

And I underline this, Mr. Chairman,

—if it is given the help in working itself out of its present dilemma.

That, Mr. Chairman, in my opinion, should be the motivating factor and the underlying purpose in government policy as it relates to agriculture today.

I think agriculture does have a bright future, provided it is given help in working itself out of this dilemma. Let me say also that the future of the industry depends on timing and dedication that goes into helping the industry through this period of tribulation. The help, of course, at this point in time, has to come from the government. It cannot come from the industry itself because there are too many things with which the industry has to contend and over which it has no control.

Everyone is aware that the whole basis of our industrial way of life, and high standard of living we enjoy, is based on the fact that the farmer was able to produce more food than was needed for his own family. Yet most farmers ask of society only the chance to do a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, the same as everybody else.

Today, poorly rewarded labour and low yielding capital investment in agriculture is subsidizing a cheap food policy. This may be to the advantage of the other 99 per cent of the electors but it is dangerous for a nation that still relies for its prosperity on agriculture. The average farmer produces food for over 30 people today. An average of 40 in the near future is not unrealistic. This has enabled other families to produce other things

we need for our modern way of life in the homes and the factories.

Traditionally, Canadians have always enjoyed cheap food because of the efficiency of our farmers, the competition within the industry, and the deliberate government policy at all levels that has encouraged abundant production. The advantage of cheap and abundant food is one that only a few nations enjoy and one that many Canadians do not appear to appreciate.

The farm problem, Mr. Chairman, is a complex mix of the peculiarities of our free enterprise system, together with the tremendous technological change, the impact upon agriculture of other sectors of the economy, and the difficulty of human beings in adjusting to a changing world. However the complexity can be sorted out into two main areas: the farm income problem and the technological change within the industry itself. Each has different causes and different effects and each requires different policies.

The farm income problem is not peculiar to Canada. It is a characteristic of all those countries using the free enterprise system of agriculture. Indeed, Canada is one of the few such countries where agriculture has been able to survive without massive aid from government and it has only been able to do that because of the tremendous efficiencies realized within the industry.

As a matter of fact, Canadian agriculture just this year became the most efficient in the world, edging out the United States. That is a real tribute to the farmers of this country.

There are four main reasons for the income problem.

1. It is difficult to gear production to demand because of the large number of farmers in competition with each other. Generally a one per cent increase in food supply means a four per cent reduction in price. There are variations in production caused by weather, pests, disease and so on. Because of the difficulty in removing farm resources committed to production, and because the national interest has to be served with abundant food supplies, the result is chronic oversupply with resultant low prices to the producer.

2. Because the human stomach can only use so much food, increases in personal income do not affect the total amount of food consumed. Increases in personal income are also in many cases inflationary, with the result that prices of production items increase without comparable increases in the price of food at the farm level.

3. Because there are thousands of farmers selling food products and only a few buyers, the farmer is at a disadvantage in the market place and as a result the prices of his products tend to be unduly depressed.

4. There is no way the farmer can retain the reward that should be his because of the increase in efficiency. When he uses new techniques that result in more efficient production, the amount of food produced is increased, the price is depressed, and the farmer's profit may even be less than it was before the new practice was instituted.

There are two exceptions to this. Those who first use the new techniques frequently gain a temporary advantage until the others catch up. Second, when selling on the export market advantages do accrue with increases in efficiency. Another factor that enters in here is fiscal policy. Inflation increases the cost of farm supplies and farm labour and this cost cannot be passed on to the buyer. The result is lower profits and tightening of the cost-price squeeze.

In time, farm prices tend to rise but they are never able to catch up with the ever-increasing costs. Policies and practices that allow or encourage inflationary tendency bring hardship and misery to farm people. Farmers have noted that the present round of wage increases are inflationary and are already adding to his costs. In most cases they cannot be passed on to the consumer as indicated.

These increases come out of the farmer's standard of living. I am not denying of course, for a moment, the right of labour to strike—not for a moment. I am just simply saying that those things affect the farmer perhaps more than anyone else, simply because the added costs cannot be added on as far as he is concerned.

People have talked from time to time concerning corporation farms. Corporation farms at this time, in my opinion, are not a threat. I hope they never will be. It is hoped that they never will become our main source of food supply, because their built-in inefficiency will result in higher food costs and a lesser contribution to the overall economy.

The way to prevent them is to give the farm family a square deal. This involves keeping inflation under control. It involves assistance in gaining access to world markets for those products we can produce more efficiently. It involves making credit available. It involves research, and making

results meaningful to the farmers. It also entails programmes to upgrade his skills and knowledge as well as assisting and encouraging him to obtain his production supplies at lower cost to market his product efficiently. These things are necessary for the survival of the family farm.

Mr. Chairman, I cite all this by way of preamble. The year 1966 will go into the record as a year of revolt, a year of protest for the agriculture community in this province. The most vocal, and the voice that came to the surface most frequently, was that of the dairy farmer; and with good reason. This was only a symptom of the overall problem. Perhaps it happened that way because of the permanency of any defection from milk production. Facilities used in the dairy industry are relatively inflexible, and once a conversion to another type of enterprise is undertaken the possibilities of returning are slight.

I cannot help but make an observation at this point, Mr. Chairman. Last year, the Opposition pressed strongly for this government to pay 25 cents a hundred to the manufactured milk shipper. The Minister opposed this very strongly. He said the provincial government just cannot get into the field of subsidizing a commodity in this fashion. It was pointed out to him that Quebec was doing this but, notwithstanding all of the arguments presented to the Minister, he stood in his place in the House and he said: "I just cannot do it, it would create utter chaos in the whole marketplace."

After the House recessed, things began to change. As a result, in October I believe it was, the Minister announced that the province had finally agreed to pay the 25 cents in milk subsidy that we, in the Opposition, had been asking for. And of course it was welcome news.

Again I cite an example. For the past several years we in this party have said that certain capital grants are necessary to help farm income. The government apparently opposed this. They said there was too much money involved, it was too costly, that it just could not be done. This year they have recognized the need and have adopted capital grants as one of their programmes. On these two counts, I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, the Opposition is batting a thousand, and I hope we can continue to do as well in the future.

May I return for a moment to the protest movement. We witnessed tractor demonstrations, by farmers protesting the low prices for

their produce. Then, more recently, housewives started boycotting supermarkets to protest high food prices. I ask you rhetorically, Mr. Chairman, can both be pacified? These were some of the problems that confronted the people who attended the three-and-a-half day session at the Ontario Vine-land conference, called by the Minister I believe for October 25-28. I was sorry that I was unable to attend at that time because I was engaged with youth committee activities which took me to British Columbia. But I have read and talked to many people since who were at that conference and I am told that, by and large, the conference was a success.

The conference, in my opinion, could have been a real study conference. As it turned out, it was not. The main point was that it placed the emphasis on farm income—where it should be at this point in time—rather than on production and efficiency. If I just might digress for a moment, Mr. Chairman, I noticed, I think it was only a day or two after I got back from the west, that my hon. friend happened to be on CKNX television, the station that I have the pleasure to watch to on most occasions.

I happened to see my friend sitting there, very piously, telling us that he had discovered all of a sudden that the income problem was what was wrong with Ontario farming. Well Mr. Chairman, I cannot help but point out that we have been saying in this party for three, four, and five years, that the crucial problem in Ontario agriculture was farm income—and not production or efficiency. Surely to goodness the Minister did not have to call a conference in order to find that out.

In any case, this was what my friend was saying. He was making the point that The Department of Agriculture and Food was going to stress this more in the future and was going to gear its policies and programmes accordingly. Thank goodness for that.

The proposal that was put forward by the Ontario federation of agriculture at the Vine-land conference was that the government should make direct government payments to make up farm income to its proper level. This policy would replace most of the existing price support programmes, as I understand it.

The idea of income transfers has received a lot of attention since that time. I do not want to pre-judge the committee that is studying this whole matter, so I will not make any comment because they are studying the matter in depth. I am sure they will bring in a very comprehensive and detailed

report which, I understand, will be coming in sometime around June if everything goes according to schedule.

May I suggest that these various solutions should dovetail and should be included in a long-term programme for agriculture. That policy should include the reasonable goals of a public programme for agriculture. In establishing the goals, I was very interested in what the Ontario federation of agriculture's suggestions are as to how these things might be achieved. Perhaps it would be well to put them on the record at this time.

They are, as I understand it:

1. A national system of annual production payments based on the gross value of production of each farmer as indicated by bills of sale.

2. Production payments tied to individual commodities and computed as a percentage of the gross value of each commodity.

3. Appropriate percentage payments for each commodity, announced well in advance of production planning decisions where possible.

If I just might interject at this point, Mr. Chairman, it would be my understanding that if this particular suggestion were implemented this would involve itself with negotiations something similar to what the national farmers' union does in Great Britain where they sit down with the government once a year and work out all the programmes. The farm organizations in Great Britain play perhaps a much more active role in negotiating, and in research analysis, and so on—all the things that are entailed therein—than they do in this country.

As I understand it, the national farmers' union sits down with the government once a year and says: "These are the conditions. Here is where your scarcity areas lie. This is what it is going to cost you to implement the programme that we have envisaged in our brief. And this is what we want you to do". They have all the fact and figures in the way of supportive material and, by and large, I believe the government usually goes along with it if provisions are made in the Budget for such expenditures as are required in the national farm union programme.

What I am saying is that at the beginning of every year farmers know, after those negotiations have taken place, what they are going to get for their produce if, in fact, they decide to grow that particular product. Mr. Chairman, I envisage that No. 3 as stated here would accomplish that end. Frankly, I think it would be a good thing,

and I think we should give every consideration to that type of approach.

4. Adjustment in percentage payments each production period, for each commodity to encourage suitable output response in accordance with projected market requirements. Of course, that involves itself with the first one and, as I indicated earlier, this is the type of work that is done by the national farmers' union. This projection work is all laid out before The Department of Agriculture and Food so that they can see exactly what is involved. I would hope that our farm organizations across this province, as well as the government, would give this type of thing a great deal of consideration because I think it has great value and great merit.

5. Maximum limit on payments per producer as a deterrent to immoderate growth of large corporate farm holdings. Minimum limit on payments if deemed necessary.

6. No restrictions on uses to which payments may be put.

7. Elimination of price supports—offers to purchase—feed freight assistance, and other programmes which this proposed policy would replace.

8. Actual support for the proposed programme to come jointly from the provincial and federal government sources. Presumably this would be on a 50-50 basis. Let me say again that we will be very interested in what the committee comes up with. I stress that when the report is tabled I hope that it will not sit around and gather dust like so many reports do, because this is help the farmers need. They desperately need it—and they desperately need it now.

The Minister, in my opinion, has tended to let The Department of Agriculture and Food drift into a somewhat lesser position than it deserves and has enjoyed over the years. The Department of Agriculture and Food has not grown with the rest of the government departments. I set this out in detail last year when I indicated the various increases in the departments of government over the last 10 to 15 years as compared with The Department of Agriculture and Food, which seems to reflect the attitude of the government towards agriculture, notwithstanding what the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) said in respect to agriculture at the Vineland conference. The Prime Minister's words were:

Here in Ontario agriculture is our biggest and most important industry. As

Prime Minister, I intend to see that its importance is not diminished.

Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can say is that those are strange words for a man who has actually presided over the diminishing of that industry.

This government has not treated agriculture as though it were the most important industry in this province—just on the contrary. One was beginning to wonder if the government took agriculture seriously in this province. However, things have started to improve I must admit. I note the increased amount of the money in the Budget to be spent this year for agriculture. I note it with some pleasure. I note also that there is more activity, a little more hustle and bustle—I suppose you would say a little more “go-go” over there—a little more desire to meet at least some of these problems. I wonder if these changed attitudes are in any way altered by the possibility of an election. Of course, Mr. Chairman, this makes interesting speculation.

Mr. Chairman, let me now turn to a number of problem areas. In so doing I just want to draw, in general terms, the battle lines as they relate to these particular issues. These matters will be pursued further as we proceed with the votes dealing with them.

The first problem is the one that relates to the milk marketing board's policy of transferable quotas—quotas negotiable for cash. Let me say at this point that I am categorically opposed to that type of system. We have had too many unpleasant experiences with this type of thing. We have witnessed the results of the broilers and the turkeys. In the broilers, for instance, the price of buildings has become greatly inflated simply because growers are purchasing the quota—or the right to grow—rather than the facilities with which to grow. The same thing happened in the turkey business where people started to speculate with regard to the implementation of the quota marketing system.

As a result, this particular speculation was based on the theory that, if and when quota marketing came into the turkey industry, then the prices of those facilities and buildings would be doubled almost overnight. As a result we had buildings mushrooming all over the province, particularly in the Niagara peninsula. As it so happens, quota marketing has not come into the turkey business as yet, but I just cite these two examples to indicate to you what can happen in this type of situation.

If the milk quotas are handled in the way the board has said they will be handled, and I realize that these things are still in a tentative stage, there is nothing firm; but the board has indicated that they are going to proceed in this manner, and this will add to the already high cost of producing milk. In addition, it is one means whereby larger and wealthier producers can squeeze the smaller operators right out of business.

This type of thing will in no way help the smaller producer, nor the industrial milk shipper who has been receiving low returns over the years and therefore cannot afford to pay a high price for a quota. The smaller farmer is in the greatest need, in my opinion, of the fluid milk contract, and it would not be within his reach under this system. Quotas, in my opinion, should be the property of the marketing board and should be awarded on the basis of quality milk. They should be allotted to the extent that fluid milk is needed to fill the market. I suggest that the board proposal would be conducive to “payola” and under-the-table deals. The *Rural Cooperator*, dated February 14, 1966, had an editorial concerning this matter and I want to read part of it to the House:

The quotas must be given for quality milk and they must be given to farms that can become viable units. How is the board going to decide what is a sufficient quota to make the farm a viable unit? How is the board going to decide how many increased quotas are going to avoid surplus milk for the bottle trade? Certainly the board should own all the quotas. All first quality milk should go into the pool first.

If a farmer dies, or sells his farm, the quotas should return to the board for distribution to smaller shippers. Gradually industrial milk shippers should be included as their milk comes up to first grade.

I am still quoting—

And the term “first quality milk” should mean first quality. It is no secret that a number of farmers now shipping milk to the bottle trade are shipping an inferior product. They should have their ill-deserved quotas suspended.

The OMMB would then re-allocate them to quality shippers. But the OMMB has the power and the opportunity to change the old system with all its injustices. Let us hope they find a way to do just that. Human nature being what it is, buying and selling quotas is not the way.

I leave it at that, Mr. Chairman, other than to say again that selling quotas is basically wrong and should not be tolerated. I think I have made my point, at least I hope I have.

I want to just mention for a moment this whole business, as it relates to the milk marketing board and that board's relationship to the milk cooperatives that are presently doing business in the province of Ontario. These cooperatives have been established over a number of years and have, by and large, done a good job. The same applies to the cheese factories across this province, either small or large.

Frankly, I am not aware, I do not really know, how the new milk marketing plan will affect the facilities, but I am led to believe that, as it presently stands, the milk marketing board will take charge of all the milk in this province.

This will mean, in effect, that the cooperatives across the province will be out of business. This is what I have been led to believe. The same would happen in the case of some cheese plants, perhaps not all of them.

The point I make is that the cooperatives, I am sure, are very concerned about this. I think their patrons are very concerned about it. I am just wondering if there is any way in which the milk marketing board is prepared to negotiate with the milk cooperatives across this province in order, perhaps, to make them agents of the milk marketing board. I throw that suggestion out. I do not know whether it is workable at this time or not, in the view of the milk marketing board, but I pose it nonetheless.

As an aside, there seems to be a growing fear among milk producers that the milk marketing board does not really know what it is doing, or in what direction it should head. I do not minimize the difficulties involved. They are tremendous. I do not quibble with that for a moment. All I hope is that the milk marketing board tackles this problem with insight and with wisdom so that the dairy industry will be a healthier and more viable industry in order to serve the needs of the people of this country with a high quality and highly nutritious product.

I want to turn very briefly to the farm products marketing board. Since the department has been reorganized, and the Minister spent a few minutes on that particular topic tonight in his opening remarks, there have been a number of new faces in the farm products marketing board, including a new chairman. I want to say that I know these

men are very capable and very knowledgeable. However, I want to deal for a moment with what I consider to be the role of The Farm Products Marketing Act.

We have discussed this particular business before in the House and I just want to underscore it this time, in view of the new members on the farm products marketing board, and in view of the fact that perhaps there might be a change in government philosophy and government thinking.

Machinery under which our Farm Products Marketing Act, or farm products marketing boards, operate is basically wrong in principle, in my view. This has resulted in many difficulties in the past. As I have indicated, we have talked about this before. We talked about it last year when the bean board issue was before the House and, indeed, before most of the province; because, in one form or another, practically all marketing boards became involved and took a very deep interest in that particular situation.

The basic problem is that we do not have producer-controlled marketing boards. We have state-controlled marketing boards. There is no doubt in my mind that the direction in the past, in the operation of these boards, has come from the farm products marketing board and not from the local board. In my opinion, this is a fundamental violation of the basic principle of democratic society. I look forward to the day when the government will change this; then the whole philosophy of the government, and hence the farm products marketing board, will be changed.

The Farm Products Marketing Act should not be concerned with policy matters as they relate to the various marketing boards across this province. That is the local board's business and should remain so. The role of The Farm Products Marketing Act should be to make sure that all of the marketing boards operate within the confines of The Farm Products Marketing Act. The farm products marketing board has not limited itself to this role, but has become engaged in policy from time to time. This in my opinion is not good and should be stopped in order to restore confidence in the marketing board system that was so badly shaken last year.

Marketing boards in our view have served a very useful purpose over the years and will continue to do so in the future. It was recognized at some time, a few years ago, that farmers individually could not successfully engage in the marketplace with the processors and the buyers of their commodities. The expertise was balanced too heavily on one

side. They just could not do it. They were out-shot every time they turned around, so they realized they had to group together. This grouping together took the form, in most cases, of forming a marketing board under the legislation; and collectively they were able to at least improve that balance and improve their position in the marketing place.

So I stress again that marketing boards across this province have served a very useful purpose. I think they will continue to serve a very useful purpose, but I do think the government should take a very serious look at what it has perpetuated in the past in terms of its big-stick approach over the various marketing boards across this province.

Another area I want to engage the Minister in is the area of trading stamps and allied promotional gimmicks. It has been pointed out time and time again that these gimmicks used by food retailers are not increasing the consumption of food. The stamps were introduced because individual firms found it paid them to do so, but competitors did the same thing and the retailers found that they really had, in the long haul, no advantage. They are now anxious, apparently, to dissociate themselves from this type of promotion but just cannot get out of what seems to be a vicious circle.

These things add to the cost of food and, in the final analysis, provide no real advantage to the retailer or the farmer. I suggest this government should put a stop to them immediately.

The final area to which I want to turn is ARDA and I hope in dealing with this area, I will be perhaps a little less controversial than my friend from Grey North. In any case, this is a perennial debate and it revolves around the fact that this province has not really grasped the entire implications of ARDA.

This province is spending less per capita on ARDA than any other province in Canada. I suppose this province is always suspicious of agreements which involve a 50-50 cost sharing programme because the province, due to the complicated fiscal tax sharing arrangements—and I am sure that my friend the Provincial Treasurer is very conversant with these, by now, if he was not before—would actually be contributing more than 50 per cent of the cost; because it is a fact of life that the wealthier provinces in Canada contribute greater amounts to help out the less fortunate. So, in any 50-50 cost-sharing programme with Ottawa, we are actually contributing more than the 50 per cent; so this

province has always been, I think, a little suspicious and a little leery of going too far in arrangements of this type.

I suppose it is a case of dollars and cents, and the purse strings are guarded with iron hands in this case. However, the ARDA programme in Ontario has not been used to solve the basic problems in most rural areas which suffer from low incomes and lack of opportunity.

I have always contended that more stress should be placed on the human aspect than has been the case in the past. We are starting to do that. We are moving in that direction and I think it is a good move. I hope we will continue to underscore that particular phase of the ARDA programme.

I realize that progress has been made, albeit slow progress in some cases. The recent extension to cover the clearing up of fence bottoms and the burying of stone piles and so on should, in my opinion, go further still to include the reclaiming of land that is grown up in hawthorns and brush and so on. I think that this would be a very logical extension and I think that it should be done under the present programme. In my opinion, this would be a good addition to the farm improvement programme under ARDA.

Another phase of ARDA I want to mention, and it interests me very much, is where ARDA—and the hon. Minister mentioned this tonight—buys a farm when it comes on the market and leases it to a farmer who wants to increase his holdings or who is, at the present time, short of land. He is given the option to rent that land over a period of a few years, I believe—five years, is it? I think it is. And at that time he may purchase that farm or re-lease it again for a period of a further five years.

In my opinion, I think this is good. I think that there are certain speculative things attached to that type of programme, but in any case it is good because it allows young farmers—who are perhaps in debt a little more than they should be due to the high cost of machinery and the high cost of getting into farming, as such—today to move in and consolidate their holdings, and increase their holdings, so that they have a viable and economic unit with which to work. I think that this type of thing is good and should be extended even further.

ARDA reaches into nearly every aspect of the use and management of natural resources. It must touch with real effect the social and economic life of nearly all rural people. This has not been the case to date and I there-

fore urge the government to do with the ARDA programme the things it is capable of doing for the rural people of this province.

I just want to say a word about the high cost of machinery. Some few months ago the companies announced that they were going to increase the cost of machinery to the farmer, and of course this is never welcome news. We on the farms feel that the cost of machinery is already too high in comparison with what we are getting for our products. The committee in Ottawa which is studying prices, and the various implications as they relate to food, both at the producer end and at the wholesale and retail ends, has indicated that there have been sharp increases in the prices that the farmers have had to pay for their commodities, the inputs that they have to use in producing food.

As a result of the announced increase by the machinery companies, my friend, the Minister of Agriculture and Food, and our friend at Ottawa—I do not think it was a joint statement—made separate statements suggesting to the farm machinery companies that they should not increase machinery prices. However, that did not deter them. They went ahead and increased prices, notwithstanding the suggestions that were made by the hon. Minister here and the hon. Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa.

I suggest to the Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, that this type of thing is going to happen again because, in my opinion, unless this increase is absolutely justified—and I fail to see that it is when I take a look at the balance sheets of these companies involved in manufacturing machinery. If, in fact, these increases are necessary, I think they should not be made before an investigation is conducted to see if, in fact, it is necessary. And if that investigation shows that it is not necessary, then they should not be allowed to increase their prices to an inflationary point.

What I am suggesting to the Minister is that the action taken by him and by the federal government in this regard is just encouraging the machinery companies to increase their prices, simply because they know that they can get away with it. I am suggesting to my hon. friend that he is going to have to be much more firm in the future than he has been in the past in this regard.

Perhaps the best procedure would be to have an inquiry—and perhaps this should have been done at the federal level—an inquiry into the status of the farm machinery

companies as to whether this increase is justified or not. As I indicated earlier, if it is not justified, then it should not be permitted to happen.

I indicate again that the farmers' costs have gone up tremendously; machinery, of course, is a big item in the overall cost of farming today.

Mr. Chairman, I have sketched in brief fashion some of the problems confronting agriculture at the moment. I will have more to say as we go through the various votes and I know that this holds true for my colleagues as well.

In summation, Mr. Chairman, I want to say that the greatest need of Ontario agriculture is for a long-term policy emphasizing farm income.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I was relieved to hear the Minister say, during the course of his comments in reply to an interjection, that he wrote his speech, because that relieves me of some of the inhibitions that I might have had if I thought I were criticizing something that had been produced by someone else. I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, right at the outset that if you wanted any further evidence that this Minister is incompetent to continue to hold his position, we have had it here tonight.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister, at best, dealt with what might be described as peripheral trivia. Each in its own self was important, but in terms of getting down to the basics of what is the agricultural problem today, he did not even come within hailing distance of it. Indeed, he has not come within hailing distance of it for months; he has not come within hailing distance for years. All he has done is to set up a conference to look into the issue, and now the conference has set up a committee and that is looking into it.

This Minister is either incapable or unwilling to come to grips with what every farmer knows is the basic problem of agriculture today. He came in last spring, during the course of his estimates, and he skirted around the whole issue.

One would have thought there had been such complete tranquility on the agricultural front in the province of Ontario that it had never reached him at all; then in terms of coping with the problem, he announced the

establishment of the Vineland conference. Today he comes back, and once again he has not dealt with any of the basic issues.

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to attempt to deal with specifics, because we can deal with those during the course of individual estimates. I want to take a look back over the past year, because this has been a very eventful year in the history of Ontario agriculture. I suspect it has been the most eventful year since the period immediately following World War I, and I think it is time that we should assess the past year and perhaps look ahead and see where we are heading in the agricultural industry.

Last year, for example, the Ontario federation of agriculture presented its brief to the Cabinet in the usual fashion, and to each of the Opposition parties. It was followed by a presentation by the Ontario farmers union. Then what happened, as usual, Mr. Chairman, was virtually nothing. Indeed, last year, the Ontario federation of agriculture came in and presented a pretty critical brief. There were rumours on the grapevine around Queen's Park that it had caused a fair head of steam in certain quarters of the Cabinet, because of the rather harsh and forthright fashion in which some spokesmen for the Ontario federation of agriculture had been critical of the various departments, and their failure to face up to agriculture's need.

The result was that this sense of indignation, this sense of neglect, due to the insensitivity of this government, grew to a point where some 1,500 farmers marched on Queen's Park. They gathered in the auditorium over at the Ryerson technological institute.

Mr. Sargent: Where was the Minister?

Mr. MacDonald: A very good point. Please do not scoop me.

Mr. White: You were pretty proud of that—

Mr. MacDonald: What do you mean? I would be proud of that whole episode, Mr. Chairman? Now we have the Whip suddenly getting into action.

I went, along with everybody else who was invited, except the Cabinet Ministers who were invited and did not come, and I sat and I listened to them—

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): We were not invited—

Mr. MacDonald: —and I went out to the front and, upon invitation, I spoke to them.

But it was only because the hon. member for Renfrew North (Mr. Hamilton), and a few others, went in and almost dragged the Minister out by the hand, that he even came out to speak to these 1,500 assembled people.

Mr. White: We know your role in these lawless episodes.

Mr. MacDonald: As a matter of fact, my hon. friend from London South does not know what he is talking about; he is talking about another meeting. I will come to it in a moment. He is just so mixed up and so inaccurate in terms of assessment of this situation that he does not know what he is talking about.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. MacDonald: They came and they presented their pleas. They got empty chairs at the Ryerson technological institute. They got nothing here until worried back benchers on the government side, who had many farmers' union representatives from their areas, went out and persuaded the Minister to come out and deign to speak to the farmers of Ontario. He spoke to them and he got rather a rough ride. As a matter of fact, I think he got just what he deserved, after the kind of treatment that he had given.

However, Mr. Chairman, it worked.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Secretary): What did you do about that tranquility bit?

Mr. MacDonald: It worked, Mr. Chairman, because three weeks later, suddenly the Minister came out with a \$1,000 interest-free loan to farmers.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Oh, come on.

Mr. MacDonald: Oh, come on—it was retroactive to January 1. If the government was contemplating it—I would have thought in an orderly fashion with a government that had not yet achieved its go-go image—that it would have let the farmers know that they were going to have the \$1,000. But they did not let the farmers know they were going to have the \$1,000 until the third week of April. Then they made it retroactive and a few weeks later they expanded the items they might buy with this \$1,000. This shows how much of a panic effort, how much of a belated effort it was. And there is no doubt about it.

But they finally got the Minister off that portion of his anatomy that he normally sits on; and he did something. He presented \$1,000, and because of the way in which he did it, I do not blame the farmers for going across the province afterwards and saying, that for the interest, namely \$50 or \$60, "We are not going to be bribed into silence by this government"—the kind of comment that was made in many a meeting that I happened to hear, and quite frankly, it was well justified.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You probably—

Mr. MacDonald: However that was only the beginning. Mr. Chairman, have you any idea as to why the Provincial Treasurer is so exercised?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for York South to continue.

Mr. MacDonald: Because if you have any idea, Mr. Chairman, as to why he is so exercised, I would suggest that you look into the matter.

Mr. Chairman: Order please! I would ask the members to give their attention to the member for York South, please. No interjections please.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —eliminate the eight—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): You have great contempt for people, do you not? You do not think that they would think up things for themselves.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: —you are showing your contempt.

Mr. Bryden: Your conduct here shows contempt for people.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. MacDonald: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if you can get the chairman of the good roads association to convene the meeting once again and then perhaps we can go on with the the business of this House?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Okay, if you want to play it rough and tough, come on and play it rough and tough.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We can get rough and tough, do not worry. You do not have any rules, that is the problem.

Mr. MacDonald: That is fine, go ahead. Just lay down the rules of the game and we will play it according to your rules.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You do not have any rules.

Mr. MacDonald: You are proving this.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I would ask the members to please listen to the member for York South.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, sir, for a few moments more.

Mr. MacDonald: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I am glad you are on my side.

Despite having achieved something with the Minister of Agriculture and Food in terms of an interest-free loan, Mr. Chairman, this had not coped at all with the main problem that was exercising the farmers, namely the milk issue. And if there ever was a government and a Minister who was on all sides of the issue for months, this was the Minister.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is wrong.

Mr. MacDonald: As my hon. friend from Huron-Bruce has pointed out, this provincial government could not give a subsidy. This would be attracting milk into the province of Ontario from other provinces; it would be causing difficulties. Even when a farm paper said the statesmanlike thing for the Minister of Agriculture and Food to do would be to provide a transportation grant to bridge that gap to provide \$4 milk, the Minister could not do it. And why? Because the Minister said if we give you \$4 milk, then you will want \$5 milk—the phoniest kind of logic I ever heard.

An hon. member: He never said that.

Another hon. member: Oh yes he did.

Mr. MacDonald: But then what happened, Mr. Chairman? A month later the Minister, in his petty little politicking fashion, tried to organize a lobby against Joe Greene in Ottawa—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Retract! Retract!

Mr. MacDonald: I said his "petty little politicking fashion," and I will repeat it again, if you did not get it the first time, he tried to organize a lobby against Joe Green in Ottawa, and what was the purpose of the lobby? For

\$5 milk. And who was going to lead the lobby? This Minister.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: And he succeeded.

Mr. MacDonald: Did he succeed? I will tell you he did not succeed. He succeeded because there were a few farmers around here who were not going to accept this Tory sleepiness on the issue and put a bit of fire under him until he had to start to move and he started to—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is a charge.

Mr. MacDonald: —lead lobbies for \$5 milk when he had been decrying \$4 milk a month before. This is the kind of ambivalence we get, Mr. Chairman.

However, Mr. Chairman, they were not fooled. The farmers of Ontario are not the fools that the Minister of Agriculture and Food thinks they are. They had taken enough of this bland pap as an answer to coping with their problems and so they mounted their tractors and they travelled, some of them, 250 miles and they came to the door of Queen's Park to present their brief.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Led by your paid organizers.

Mr. MacDonald: Now Mr. Chairman, just forgive me for one moment—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Who was behind that one?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Do you think farmers are that easily led?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Not many—but a small percentage of them are.

Mr. Bryden: The farmers are perfectly capable of making up their own minds.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, the member knows that what he is saying is completely false.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I was going to comment on the fact that many times before—from the Prime Minister to the Minister of Agriculture and Food down to the Provincial Treasurer and who else, I do not know—they have been saying it was the NDP who organized this. Mr. Chairman, this is the most laughable proposition that could be presented to this House.

Everybody came—Tories, Liberals, NDP—in fact I will be very frank, Mr. Chairman,

to the Provincial Treasurer, the greatest group were disillusioned ex-Tories; these were the people who were organizing the farmers' demonstration.

What these people on the front benches do not realize, Mr. Chairman, is that they are insulting the intelligence of the farmers of Ontario by suggesting that any political party, particularly the NDP which he chooses to believe, has any influence in agriculture and the rural areas at all. You cannot have it both ways, you cannot say we have no influence in the rural areas and then the next day say that we organized the greatest farm revolt since the UFO revolt after World War I. You cannot have it both ways.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You have perpetrated a fraud.

Mr. Bryden: You might be an expert on frauds but this was not one of them,

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, let me deal with this realistically for a moment, if I can just quiet the exercised hon. Provincial Treasurer.

I will acknowledge that few things have divided the farm community more deeply than the issue of their demonstrations last spring. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, it is rather interesting that it divided even the farm union, which was the organization that sponsored the protests. When I attended the farm union convention down at Belleville, I was interested, indeed I was proud, to hear the lady president, Mrs. Jean Williams, get up and say "I was opposed to the demonstration. And I said so. But I was voted down and therefore I supported them."

As a matter of fact, there were many people in the federation of agriculture whose leaders were opposed to the demonstrations, many people even up to the executive level, that were out on the tractors and in the demonstrations that were being led by the farmers union. So the division was right down both organizations, and there is no mystery as to why. Farmers are not demonstrative folk; farmers are not the kind of people who take to the highways in protest even against a Tory government that has neglected their problems and their needs for such a length of time. But finally the day comes when farmers get indignant.

I remember talking to a farmer who lives not more than three or four miles away from where the Minister of Agriculture and Food lives, who said "When I attended a meeting where they decided they were going to take the tractors onto the highway, I put up my

hand like everybody else". He said, "When I went home and thought about it, I never had a greater batch of butterflies in my stomach before; I was terrified of the prospect. And when they called me Monday morning and they said 'Will you come out now?' because I had voted, I had to go out. But when I got out on my tractor, I finally began to see after all of the years, after all of the months and the years of trying to get some action from this government, that this was the only alternative left to me."

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member remembers that word for word.

Mr. MacDonald: You bet I remember it. It is in paraphrase. In fact, Mr. Chairman, let me go back to the Minister's conference.

I think one of the most interesting comments—and in fact one of the most balanced comments on this whole problem of the last year—was given by a man who is certainly not the kind of person who was interested in farm demonstrations, who would have supported farm demonstrations or even would support them in the future. I am referring to Lawrence Kerr of Chatham, a very reputable, solid citizen of the agricultural community. And what was Lawrence Kerr's comment?

Now listen—if I cannot get the attention of these people here, I will bring it to your attention, Mr. Chairman.

This is what Lawrence Kerr told the Minister's Vineland conference:

I agree wholeheartedly and I expect that almost everyone here is opposed to farm strikes, to tractor demonstrations, and is in fact opposed to all strikes and demonstrations which disrupt the efficient functions of the economy and the smooth flow of traffic and trade in our daily life. I suspect also that almost everyone here must admit that the militancy, the tractor demonstrations and the threat of farm strikes in 1966 have done more to bring the farmers' plight to public attention and to precipitate government action than have all the reason and logic presented in the last three or four years.

Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a suggestion for those people who, say from the government benches "It was the NDP that organized the farm strike". I will tell you, Mr. Chairman, who was responsible for the farmers' strike the Tory government was responsible for the farmers' strike.

The farmers had come year after year after year and got no action from this government and finally, in an act of desperation as people

who are not normally demonstrative people, they had to take to the highways because this was the only way.

I borrow the phrase of my hon. friend, the member for Grey South, who said it was a smoldering revolt. Now, he is a solid citizen and the dean of the House, and that is what he said it was, a smoldering revolt. And I say to this Minister that if he does not get action on the basic problems of agriculture, he is going to have more smoldering revolts, and let us not have that *agent provocateur* from London South get up and say that we are responsible for it, because it is the government who will be responsible for it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. White: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, are you going to allow the member to call me an *agent provocateur*?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is really unparliamentary—retract.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, with your quiet Irish perspicacity, you know by the look on his face that the hon. member recognizes he is just that.

Before I leave this point, Mr. Chairman, I want to draw attention to a section of this year's federation of agriculture brief, which I found particularly interesting. They are disturbed about the lack of communication between the individual and government, and their comment was this:

The decline of the individual as a force in political affairs except at the ballot box, and the rise of the voluntary service organization purporting to speak for that individual, have given new dimensions to the art of government.

Perhaps something closer to the ideal of government all for and by the people is now within our grasp if we learn how to use the voluntary organization properly.

There are certain pre-conditions:

(1) Governments must be prepared to listen.

(2) Governments must be able to judge whether the organization speaking is all it claims to be and whether its requests are formed on a sufficiently broad basis.

Mr. Chairman, if I may just interject here, one of the things that saddened me about this comment of the OF of A is that obviously they are spending most of their time here in their continuing fractricidal strike with the farm union. Now this is what is between the lines in this comment here:

(3) Organizations must be certain that they are expressing the true consensus:

That is a very good point. I wonder whether the OF of A was expressing the true consensus of all its membership when it opposed the demonstration last spring. To continue:

(4) Organizations over time must have convinced the larger community that they are responsible and not given to making rash statements for the sake of short-term advantages.

(5) Organizations must have opportunities to hear and understand the real intentions of governments, intentions never fully expressed in the cool language of law nor in the careful wording of press releases.

Then, Mr. Chairman, they go on to raise the question of whether or not it would not be useful to have the standing committees or even the select committees of this Legislature meet between sessions so that farmers who declare increasingly that they do not have the ear of the government—that they cannot communicate with the government, that somehow or other the hearing aid is tuned off at Queen's Park—if they had four or five months between the sessions to meet with them, they might be able to get their problems across.

Mr. Chairman, I agree with much of what they say there. I would only add one other thing, that the Ontario federation of agriculture has not said, and that is that there has to be a willingness and a determination on the part of the government to do something after they have heard a grievance, and that is the main problem of this government. They have heard many times down through the years but they have no intention of moving because apparently their masters are not the farmers whose votes they get four times a year, but other people in the industries allied to agriculture to whom they are closer, day in and day out, and to whom they are willing to respond day in and day out.

I want to turn for a moment to the Vineland conference that was held last October 25 until October 28. I did not attend all of it, I will be perfectly frank; I had many duties to attend. I, at that time, was a farmer by day—or a legislator interested in farming by day—and to be frank, sir, I was a politician by night, because I had some politicking to do over in the Niagara peninsula—

An hon. member: How did you make out?

Mr. MacDonald: You will find out; we have a former warden of Lincoln and of Welland as two distinguished candidates in those ridings there; so you will find out!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, the point I want to make about this conference is that, on balance, it was a very good conference. The Minister called it as a substitute for his absence of any policy, to deal with the basic problems of agriculture.

When the protests came upon him last April, May and June, he had no answer. Indeed, he was so defenceless that when he came out to speak to the assembled farmers in June he had to appear at the microphone surrounded by three burly plainclothes policemen because he was afraid of the aroused farmers. Perhaps he knew better why they should be aroused than anyone else!

But he called a conference to look into the basics of agricultural policy. Some of the aspects of the conference were—well, I was going to say—amusing. I do not want to cast any aspersions on those who organized it, but when you have a conference of responsible people drawn from agriculture and allied industry and farm organizations and—

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): And NDP organizers—

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, the NDP, and there were even some Tories around there. One of the things that they were asked to do was to spend a few moments saying, "If you were Minister of Agriculture and Food, what would you do first?" I can understand why that question was asked; there was a huge vacuum there that the Minister wanted to fill, but it was a bit of an idle pursuit as far as the conference was concerned. But notwithstanding all that, it was still a very useful conference.

On the second day the Ontario federation of agriculture dropped what was described by one farm editor as a "bombshell" into the whole proceedings. The agenda had been drawn up, ostensibly not to deal with farm income—I was interested in the comments of the hon. member for Huron-Bruce.

The present Minister is apparently only now becoming aware of the fact that income is the problem of agriculture. If I may borrow the phrase of the hon. member for Huron-Bruce, the Minister "piously says we now recognize that income is the basic problem of agriculture."

Well, whether accurately or not, the agenda did not seem to suggest that income was going to be the main consideration at Vineland and the result was that there was another little revolt on the floor the first day—or the first evening—to try to get farm income as the main item on the agenda. The assembled delegates did not feel that they wanted to impose a reworking of the agenda on those who had organized the conference—including the Minister—but it was interesting to note that throughout the next two or three days, income came through no matter what topic it was—income, farm income, was the issue that was constantly coming to the surface.

I think one of the most apt comments, Mr. Chairman, on the bombshell—the proposals of the Ontario federation of agriculture—was the one that was carried in the *Country Guide* in November, 1966 by Peter Lewington, the field editor of that paper. I want to read just one paragraph on his one-page report of the Vineland conference. He said:

On the second day of the conference, just as deliberations began waffling into irrelevant futility—

I presume that was when they were asking what you should do if you were Minister of Agriculture and Food to try to give him some ideas.

—the Ontario federation of agriculture's marketing committee unleashed its bombshell. The components were a high degree of originality aided by portions of the Brannan plan which had been discarded in the United States, portions from briefs of the Ontario farmers union dating back to 1957, as well as bits from the United Kingdom's annual price review.

The proposals would maintain low consumer food prices, promote efficiency, plan production, provide flexible incentives and include attractive and stable returns to the producer.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, here was a proposal which was presented by two leaders of the Ontario federation of agriculture—Tom Robson, who was chairman of their farm marketing committee, and Art Musgrave, who was a former president—I think immediate past president of the Ontario federation of agriculture—both of whom said a year earlier that they would not have said what they were then presenting to the conference. But in that year they had changed their minds.

The change which was basic to their thinking was this: that they had finally recognized that agriculture is incapable of winning adequate income to survive in the market

place, even with the strongest development of marketing boards. Men like Tom Robson, who a few years ago was sceptical of marketing boards but who got in and worked with marketing boards that had to deal with Heinz and a few other companies of that nature, came to the conclusion that it was impossible for the farmers to get what they were entitled to, or what they needed to meet their costs of production, or their capital needs.

Therefore, they said they were proposing the proposition of an income-incentive programme. Whatever the farmers could wring out of the market place by slugging it out should be supplemented, not by a patchwork of subsidies to plug the dike here or there or the next place when a crisis emerged in agriculture, but a rational supplementing of agricultural income so that the farmers would be assured that they would have enough to meet their costs of production and to meet their capital needs and be able to sustain the standard of living that everybody else has in our affluent society.

Now I may say, Mr. Chairman, that as far as I was concerned as a New Democrat or as a farmer CCF-er—

Mr. Knox: Tell us about the man from Texas.

Mr. MacDonald: Listen to the idle prattle of this empty shell back here—if he has nothing to say why does he not at least cease and be quiet?

Mr. Knox: I want to know about the guy from Texas you brought in here.

Mr. MacDonald: What guy from Texas?

An hon. member: The fellow you had for your secretary.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. MacDonald: You know the empty noise with one little shell in it rattles around and it keeps rattling and rattling and rattling, and—

Mr. Bryden: And the Tory benches are full of them!

Mr. MacDonald: Exactly. I do not object to an intelligent kind of heckling, but just this sort of old maid intervention all the time is what gets me!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Bryden: For sheer inanity there is nothing to equal the hon. member for

Lambton West and he has a lot of competition on the Tory benches, I can tell you that.

Mr. MacDonald: I sometimes wonder if the Minister of Agriculture and Food cannot get cream to put in his coffee instead of vinegar then he will not have such an embittered outlook on life.

Mr. Bryden: He is looking pretty bitter now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. MacDonald: If you make me come back here to deal with these estimates on my anniversary, I can assure you that I am going to spare nothing, particularly under the provocations the Minister provided!

Now, Mr. Chairman, I want to make a general wrap-up comment on this programme that this Minister has engaged a committee to study. I will say this about the committee; I suspect that it is the first committee for years which has been appointed by this government and which it is not going to control.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): I doubt that!

Mr. MacDonald: Well, I do not doubt it. Because this government, in true and tried fashion, looked to all the people who were critical and then they brought them on to the committee in the fashion in which this government has always operated. You try to pick your opponents off and you shut them up; you make them part of the establishment.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Now, Mr. Chairman, this is—

Mr. MacDonald: That is right, Mr. Chairman, the Provincial Treasurer is imputing motives—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I have risen on a point of order, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Bryden: He has not got a point of order.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, definitely I would say there is a point of order—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: He is attributing motives.

Mr. Whicher: He is only telling the truth.

Mr. MacDonald: I have said, Mr. Chairman, and I repeat it and I will repeat it so you can listen to it carefully, that what this government has done for years is to absorb people who are critical of it into their com-

mittees to silence them, to absorb them into the establishment, so that they can be silenced.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On the same point of order, on the imputing of motives.

Mr. MacDonald: That is right, I am imputing motives.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would like the hon. member, if he is going to make a charge like that, to illustrate this. Give us names and illustrations.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, is that not fine? The member for Bruce is imputing motives, too; the member for Bruce may like to get up and say the same thing.

Mr. Whicher: Why does the Minister not take the gum out of his mouth?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Why does the member not take the noise out of his mouth?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! I think the member for York South is well aware that the imputation of motives is certainly not acceptable in the House.

Mr. MacDonald: The imputation of motives? As to what this government has done for years in agriculture? Mr. Chairman, I do not care what you want to do on it, but this government has for years—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On a point of order again, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. MacDonald: How many points of order has the Minister got?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is the same point of order. This is simply an attempt now to gloss over the specific point of order that was raised before.

Mr. MacDonald: What was that?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The imputation of the motives of the Minister in terms of the conference at Vineland.

Mr. MacDonald: That is right and I will tell you what I will do. I will explain it all to you again, Mr. Chairman. What happened at Vineland—

Mr. Chairman: No, I would suggest to the member that, under the circumstances the

Minister has raised as to his position here on the floor, and has asked here about the question of order, I think I should remind you once again that it is generally understood by all members of the House that the imputation of motives—

Mr. MacDonald: All right, let me put it this way, Mr. Chairman. These people were sharply critical of the government and the government immediately put them on the committee. All I am saying is that this is one committee which the government is not going to silence.

Mr. Bryden: There is nothing out of order about that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: That proves my point—

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): How does that prove the member's point?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Why would I be criticized for putting those men on the committee? I appointed them myself because of the very fact that these are independent, clear-thinking men, who have the ability to think and who made a contribution to that conference.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister is correct—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I think it is grossly unfair for the socialist leader to impute motives in the past.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, these are independent, clear-thinking men and this is one reason why this is one committee the government is not going to lasso and silence—they are going to do a job.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the hon. member about any committee I have tried to lasso and silence—name the committee and the members on it—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: The Minister is going to get sick in a minute.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Name it now.

Mr. MacDonald: Before I am through I will give my examples.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: May I remind the members we have our leader away sick. We do not want any members to suffer having apoplexy.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, and I am standing quietly in my place—

Several hon. members: Sit down!

Mr. Chairman: I would remind members of the House that I rule.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I have been standing quietly in my place, Mr. Chairman, because not only has the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party seen fit to impute motives to the Minister of Agriculture and Food, and that is one point of order, but there is something else that must be said here. At some length, Mr. MacDonald—

Mr. MacDonald: Why does the member not live within the rules of the House?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Oh, the hon. member is a great one to talk about that.

Mr. MacDonald: That is right, we have to live with you people all the time.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The member has not only impugned motives to the Minister of Agriculture and Food, but, earlier in these remarks, he made mention of one person who happens to be from a riding adjacent to mine, Mr. Lawrence Kerr.

Mr. MacDonald: That is right.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: And in the beginning of these remarks he said, Mr. Chairman, through you—

Mr. MacDonald: What is the point of order, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Give him a chance to explain what his point of order is.

Mr. Bryden: Surely we are not going to go back over all of the previous statements.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Bryden: The point of order should have been raised at the time.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member to sit down. I can listen to only one member at a time.

Mr. Bryden: Well, there obviously is not a point of order here.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: My point, Mr. Chairman, is simply this: During the remarks of the leader of the New Democratic Party it was indicated—

An hon. member: What is your point of order?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: I will come to my point of order just as soon as—

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the Minister to come to his point of order.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well, I will repeat for the fourth time.

Mr. Whicher: Please do not.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The leader of the New Democratic Party suggested or impugned that people appointed by this government to various farm boards and commissions were only appointed because we would get the sort of answers which we want. To suggest that Mr. Lawrence Kerr of Chatham is in that category—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: We have dozens of men in this province who act on boards and commissions and they do not do it because this government tells them what to do.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest that there would be much greater progress if these gentlemen refrained from specious and facetious points of order. There has not been a valid point of order raised here tonight.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: All right then, let the members' leader withdraw.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I want the leader of the socialist party to take back what he has said, because to me he has spread a blanket of aspersion on every member of any committee that has ever been appointed—

Mr. MacDonald: I did no such thing and I am not going to take anything back.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please! I would like both members to resume their seats while the chair makes a ruling. And I should remind the member for Grey North of the ruling regarding interjections, if he wants to refer to it, on page 107, rule 22. I would gladly send him a copy of it because he has been quite provocative tonight, and I do not think it is good, from the standpoint of the conduct of

the House, to have a series of interjections. Now I know when we are in committee there is a little more freedom than when we are in the House generally, but it is an understood rule—and I think the member for York South realizes just as well, if not better, than most members of this House, that we cannot impute motives to any member of the House. Under the circumstances, I have no alternative—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order!

Mr. Chairman: I have no alternative—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, what did they do to me tonight?

An hon. member: Why do you not listen to your leader?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for York South if he would kindly withdraw?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I said with regard to the committee that there were three or four people who were critical, and the government resorted to their usual tactic of putting them on a committee to silence them and I predicted they would not do it.

Now if that is imputing motives, I do not think so, Mr. Chairman.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: You are drawing the point very, very finely.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, with great respect—

Mr. Chairman: I think the member for York South indicated to the House earlier tonight and has since admitted that he was imputing motives. I would ask him to withdraw.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, in this instance I have no intention of withdrawing. I know what this government did and they are not going to succeed. Now if you want to try to shackle us in our criticism of a government which would strive to silence the issues and silence the critics, and is not going to succeed, go ahead.

Mr. Chairman: I would say to the member for York South that he is placing the chairman in rather an embarrassing position because I have no alternative but to report.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, may I call to your attention the fact that no member can be asked to withdraw something in general. If he is to withdraw something, it must be a specific remark. Let the gentlemen who are

complaining name the remark that they wish withdrawn. All they have been doing is making a general statement that, because he is critical of the government, he is imputing motives to somebody or other not clearly stated, and then they want a blanket withdrawal. Let them name the remark, let the Chairman consider it if they can identify it and then let the ruling be on that. It is all on generalities now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: All right, Mr. Chairman, if I may. May I speak to this point of order?

Mr. Chairman: Candidly, you know that the Chairman's ruling is not debatable.

Mr. Bryden: He must be told what he must withdraw, Mr. Chairman.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he will withdraw the imputations?

Mr. MacDonald: What have I got to withdraw, Mr. Chairman, specifically?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I will be glad to state that.

Mr. Chairman: I think at the time you indicated that these appointments were made to silence the people.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I have in my pocket a note which states than an opinion expressed does not need to be withdrawn because it is in violation of the rules of the House.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: It was a statement; it was not an opinion.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, in support of your ruling, if we are going to get very technical about this, you might well refer, sir, to page 458 of May, which simply says: "the imputation of false or unavowed motives". I suggest—

Mr. MacDonald: These are not false motives.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, I draw your attention again—and I ask your indulgence, sir, until I state this as clearly as I can—

Mr. Bryden: So far you have confused it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton:—and that is, that whether the words are as precise as those used—and *Hansard* will disclose this to us tomorrow or the next day—the suggestion by the hon. leader of the socialist party was that the selection of those who made up the body of the conference at Vineland, and indeed, who made up the committee that was subsequently appointed—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): What does this have to do with a point of order?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton:—were chosen because it was the hope of the Minister that they would respond to his direction.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I will repeat it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: This was imputing motives to the Minister and I suggest that the rules—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, the words "imputing motives" have been used most loosely tonight; and, I must say, by my own leader. There has not been any imputation of motives in the sense which May is talking about. To say that the government hope to do this, that or the other, good, bad or indifferent, is surely not to be ruled as an imputation of motives, or we will have no discussion in the House at all.

I would suggest to the gentlemen opposite, sir, that they calm down and let us get on with the debate.

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Is your ruling debatable, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. Bryden: He has not made any ruling.

Some hon. members: He certainly has.

Mr. Chairman: The actual words that the Minister—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The statement has not been withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for York South, in order to proceed with the business of the House, if he will be good enough to withdraw the imputation.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Chairman, look—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Now, order please! We are trying to proceed with the business of the House.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I cannot withdraw generalities.

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. MacDonald: Now if you can spell out something other than what was spelled out by the Provincial Treasurer a moment ago, as what I am supposed to withdraw, then I will examine it but I am not going to withdraw a generality.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Would you like to spell it out?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, if you will.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am willing to do this. It is not with any specific reference to the people who were appointed by me at Vineland.

I take exception to the fact that you suggested that all committees that this government appoints—and with specific reference to me—were appointed because we could lasso them into doing the things we wanted done. This is the point to which I object.

Mr. MacDonald: That is right. That is right.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And I say to you, Mr. Chairman, that is absolutely false.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, this demonstrates how ridiculous is the position being taken. What the hon. member said was that this—I am quoting the words as far as I can and this will be pretty close—that this, referring to a specific committee, is not one that the government can lasso, and so on.

Now, the Minister can draw whatever inferences he wants from it but the hon. member does not have to withdraw the inferences the Minister draws. That remark, I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, is perfectly within the rules of debate of this House and every similar House in the world.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, may I speak once more? I would simply say this, that the people of Ontario who have been appointed to various committees by this government—and I have appointed them too—will bear judgment on the statement that has been made by the leader of the socialist party,

and I believe his statement will be judged by the people of Ontario in their wisdom.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: To show, Mr. Chairman, just how valid my comments have been, some of the people appointed to this committee are so determined to retain their independence that they refuse to take even an honorarium from this government.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: And they have refused to accept the economists and the information from the government because they want a genuine, independent inquiry. In other words, this is a committee which is going to do its job and not be lassoed by this government. I repeat it. And there is plenty of evidence to suggest that they are not going to permit themselves to be drawn into your net. It is finally a very good thing that there are some men who are willing to stand up for the farmers and not be drawn into the Tory net.

Now let me proceed.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The farmers vote Tory.

Mr. MacDonald: And who appointed them? The Minister did.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What is wrong with that?

Mr. MacDonald: Nothing is wrong.

Mr. Bryden: We are happy about it, we are all pleased, except you fellows.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, about 15 times I have heard a question as to whether I am going to tell about the man I brought up from Texas. Have you any idea what the hon. gentleman is talking about, because I have not?

Mr. Bryden: He has just lost his grip.

Mr. Chairman: I would just ask the member for York South if he would proceed with his remarks, please.

Mr. MacDonald: Now, Mr. Chairman, if I may move on to a second aspect of this department. Since this Minister is the Minister of Agriculture and Food, as of last year, I wonder how seriously this Minister takes the second half of his portfolio?

An hon. member: He is eating.

Mr. MacDonald: Well he may eat; he ate three times when he was the Minister of Agriculture and Food, as a matter of fact. Because one of the interesting things that happened at Vineland, Mr. Chairman, is that for the first time we had a look at the whole problem of agriculture, not only in terms of adequate income to agriculture, but the high cost to the consumer. Indeed, one of the things that emerged in the OF of A presentations was a recognition of the fact, or an acknowledging of the fact, that, perhaps because of the already high cost to the consumer because of what the middleman is getting, they were willing to accept what farmers believe is inadequate income—what is known in the trade as “cheap food prices”. They were willing to accept it because it was socially desirable to keep food within the reach of people who were within the lower income groups; it was desirable because it made it more possible for Canada to compete in international trade. Back last fall when Mr. Sharp was so exercised, for example, with the problem of inflation in this country, it was also desirable as an anti-inflationary weapon. It is cheap food from the farmers’ point of view but it is not cheap food by the time it gets to the consumer.

If you go, for example, to the cash crop farmer down in Essex who is getting two cents a head for lettuce, which sells in the store for 25 cents, it may be cheap food for him but it is not cheap food for the consumer. This was the problem they were coming to grips with, and in the course of the Vineland conference, evidence was put to us by experts, some of whom had been associated with the food commission—I think that is the correct term—in the United States where they had investigated the high costs of food. The evidence indicated that 40 per cent of the promotion and advertising costs in the supermarkets today come from the gimmickry involved in the selling of food.

Furthermore, in spite of what you may hear from the executives of the supermarkets today when they go publicly before the joint committee in Ottawa, those who had sat with them privately quietly reported to the conference that the executives would say that they are all now on the merry-go-round, everybody is on the merry-go-round; nobody has any advantage and the only way they can be rescued from a situation in which 40 per cent of their promotion and advertising costs become a built-in increase in the price of food, is that the government should pass

a law to banish trading stamps and all the other gimmicks from horseraces to bingo games to car raffles—you name it.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister was presented with the unanimous recommendation of this conference of invited delegates—325 or 350, or it seems to me that I have heard the figure 400 used—300 to 400 invited delegates unanimously requesting the Minister to do something about it. During the Throne Debate I invited him to get up and inform the House—since he was so anxious to get up on other occasions and interrupt me—as to whether or not he had taken this recommendation back to the Cabinet, but he sat silent in his seat. I assume that he did not take it back to the Cabinet, because he was given an opportunity to comment on it.

Some ten weeks went by, Mr. Chairman, and representations from October 28 to January 17—which is about ten weeks. Some ten weeks went by; the Minister neglected to do his duty and a delegation came to see the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), a delegation which, incidentally, represented not only the consumers’ association of Canada but the federated women’s institutes of Ontario—a very important body out in the rural areas—the Ontario federation of agriculture, the Ontario farmers union, the Ontario federation of labour, the retail merchants’ association of Canada, the Canadian retail hardware dealers’ association, the Ukrainian women’s association, United Church women, the council of Jewish women, the Ontario dietetic association, pioneer women’s organization, Canadian daughters’ league, Ontario food council (consumer section), Polish women’s federation, Toronto home economics association, consumers’ protest shoppers’ association, housewives’ organization for a modern economy, cooperative union of Ontario, and the provincial council of women. That is the kind of massive approach that had to be made to this government before they finally would move. And the Attorney General said that he was impressed with the brief. In fact, he was so impressed that he was going to take it to the Cabinet. If anybody is going to get any credit, I hope that the Minister of Agriculture and Food is not going to claim credit for the trading stamps bill, notice of which was given yesterday, because I suspect that the credit should go to the Attorney General. The Minister of Agriculture and Food did nothing for ten weeks, in spite of the fact that it came from his own constituents at this Vineland conference.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): You are just assuming he did nothing.

Mr. MacDonald: I gave him opportunity to get up and he did not at that time. When this Minister does not get up and interrupt even on invitation, I know that he has nothing to say, on the basis of past experience.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. White: May I ask one quick question? If a person does not like trading stamps, why does he not walk across to a store that does not have trading stamps?

Mr. MacDonald: You see, Mr. Chairman, I was interested to get a copy of a letter from Mrs. Edith MacIntosh, who is, incidentally, another member of the Minister's committee appointed to recognize—

Mr. White: Answer my question.

Mr. MacDonald: I am answering your question. If you will not bob up and down as though there was a tack on your chair.

What Mrs. MacIntosh has said to the Attorney General is that she hopes he is not going to be, in effect, misled by the fact that Loblaw's are now going to experiment by dropping trading stamps in Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury and North Bay, because—if I may quote one paragraph from her letter:

In order that a true evaluation may be made, CAC hopes that the consumers in these areas will receive the benefit from the cost reduction to the individual stores resulting from the elimination of trading stamps and not be forced to pay a share of the overall cost of trading stamps throughout the whole province.

You see, Mr. Chairman, what the hon. member over there—who is normally pretty sharp and who I am sure should get this point if he just pauses with me for a moment—should see, is that there is the built-in increase in the price of food all across the province, even in the stores that do not have trading stamps. The prices have gone up in the stores that do have trading stamps. This gives them that much more leeway and they usually exploit the market that much for the leeway.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: How can you tell?

Mr. MacDonald: Well—

Mr. White: That is not in accord with any economic principles of which I am aware. It is a completely fallacious argument, as you

must know. I am asking why the person who does not want trading stamps with his purchase, cannot walk across the street and make his purchase from a store without stamps.

Mr. MacDonald: You see, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. White: Why the pressure to make every store the same?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, let me say quite frankly that I do not wish at this point to proceed to try to answer the hon. member's question, because what I want to draw to your attention is that obviously here is a member in the Tory party who is not likely to be in support, deep down, of the bill that the government has just brought in.

Ten years ago, we fought this issue. Anybody who had any real grasp of economics would have known ten years ago that the introduction of trading stamps was going to increase the price of food; and the only party that fought the introduction of trading stamps was the New Democratic Party. The government was in favour of them; the Liberals waffled—

Mr. Nixon: Wrong!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Wintermeyer—let me get the clipping—I have it here, just by chance:

Immediate Stamp Ban asked by CCF leader.

And what was Mr. Wintermeyer wanting? What Mr. Wintermeyer wanted was that this confusion should be cleared up promptly by consultations between Ottawa and the provincial Attorney General.

He was not dealing with the issue: he wanted to get Ottawa and the province together.

Mr. Chairman, what happened was that this government—let us forget the Liberals for a moment; they were just fence-sitting as usual.

Mr. Nixon: You did better as CCF than NDP.

Mr. MacDonald: The government was in favour of trading stamps and, because they were in favour of trading stamps, this government was responsible for opening the door, not only to trading stamps but all the other gimmickry which has now resulted in an addition to the cost of food.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: Now, Mr. Chairman, since the hon. member for London South is so exercised, I hope he will just calm down to listen to an appropriate quotation. Ten days before the Vineland conference, a man by the name of Douglas Williams, who happens to be this government's appointee as chairman of the Ontario food council, made a speech. It is reported in the *Globe and Mail* of October 19, 1966, and I will read you three or four paragraphs:

The food industry is facing stringent policing by government controls unless it returns to sensible selling practices, Douglas Williams warned food operators yesterday.

The chairman of the Ontario food council spoke to about 300 representatives at the supermarket, drug, variety and confectionery show held in the automotive building at the CNE grounds. He called boycotts of food stores a symptom of the disease of gimmick selling.

I am quoting:

We are trying to help consumers become more knowledgeable about the real problems which exist. Consumer thinking will have to go back beyond many of the retail practices of today, extravagant promotion, the mad rush for trading stamps, the premiums, the so-called advertising specials, the games, the contests, cents-off deals, the gimmicks in all of their forms, all designed to entice the gullible consumer and all of which she pays for heavily out of her pocket book."

Mr. Williams predicted that the consumers will demand a return to selling merchandise on the basis of quality, utility, and true value instead of trying to buy the customer's affection with gimmicks, prizes and come-ons.

Well, Mr. Chairman, there is, I suggest, an intelligent view of this problem and not this doctrinaire, free-enterprise kind of interjection from the hon. member for London South, who is going to ignore the problem in the statement of his doctrinaire beliefs.

All I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is that it is time that this government should move and I will not digress and get out of order by talking about whether the trading stamp bill deals with all the other gimmicks, which is necessary if it is going to meet the problem. It is not just trading stamps now,

because there are many other gimmicks in there. This government has taken a long time to move but now they have been forced to by this fantastic mounting of public concern. Twenty organizations had to come for the second time in ten weeks to present the news to the government before they would actually move.

If we have got some action, let us count our little blessings in this world, because this is the kind of dribblings we get from the government after that kind of pressure, and that kind of pressure is needed to get the dribbling.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I will stop any time the hon. Minister wants.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: How long will you be?

Mr. MacDonald: Oh, I would say I have got about half way through, with all the interruptions I have had. Maybe a little more than halfway, but I have got more to go.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would suggest you adjourn the debate.

Mr. MacDonald moves the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of supply rise and report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, from five to six, there will not be a private members' hour. We will continue in the first instance with this department and, should there be any time, we will deal with second readings and committee of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.00 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, February 22, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to welcome as guests to the Legislature today, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, St. Charles separate school, Toronto, and Our Lady of Assumption separate school, Toronto. In the west gallery, Dorset Drive public school, Bramalea, and Lansdowne senior public school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary) begs leave to present to the House the annual report of The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario for 1965.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the amendment increases the number of judges of the high court from 24 to 26. There is an amendment regarding the accounts of the official guardian and the accountant of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I have a question to ask the hon. Minister of Public Works, of which I have already given notice.

Are any of the members of the night cleaning staff in the government buildings in Toronto who have been employed by the government for many years, earning an hourly salary that is less than the starting salaries of cleaners? If so, why? And does the Minister intend to recommend salary adjustments?

Hon. T. R. Connell (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the answer is no. Male cleaners have a minimum rate of \$1.94 per

hour rising to \$2.06 per hour. Female cleaners earn \$1.69 per hour. These rates were effective January 1, 1967. The answer to the second part—does the Minister intend to recommend salary adjustments: I am prepared to support salary adjustments in order to be competitive with similar work being done under similar conditions elsewhere. However, the salary of the class to which these people belong—buildings cleaner—is under the programme of cyclical salary review. Salaries are determined by negotiations between the civil service association of Ontario and the government. Where negotiation fails, determination is made by arbitration, as was the case at the time of the last salary review.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

Does the Minister agree that it ought to be made unlawful under the Ontario human rights code for landlords to discriminate against prospective tenants because the tenants may happen to have children?

An hon. member: What do you mean, "may happen to have?"

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question of the hon. member for Sudbury, I have noted with interest the articles which appeared in yesterday's Toronto newspapers and which have probably given rise to his question, and I can assure the hon. member that any representations on this subject will receive thorough and sympathetic consideration. I think we can all appreciate, particularly in the years immediately following World War II that there was a severe housing shortage caused by the depression and the war. Consequently there was an acute problem as landlords frequently refused to rent to couples when there was a large number of other applicants. Hence, since the supply of housing rapidly increased in the post-war years subsequently, this problem may have disappeared for a time. I can appreciate that the problem may be much more serious, as the article suggests, and this is undoubtedly due to a decrease in the housing supply, caused largely by the buoyant

conditions over the past two or three years in other phases of our economy.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Also the increase in population.

Hon. Mr. Bales: Since the problem has not reappeared, the real solution, of course, lies in the rapid expansion of our existing supply of housing at prices that families of this province can afford. This objective is being pursued with vigour by The Department of Economics and Development through its varied housing programmes. The question whether an amendment to the human rights code will assist in this situation, deserves and will receive very thorough consideration from this department.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs. On how many occasions during the past ten years has the Cabinet ordered a rehearing of rezoning applications before the Ontario municipal board?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question there have been four such occasions.

Mr. Young: I also have a question for the hon. Minister of Transport. In view of the widespread recall of Ford products in the United States, for examination of possible failure of power brake boosters and steering defects, what action is the Minister taking in respect to similar cars being sold in Ontario?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): In the course of making routine reports to the Minister of Transport on all their recall campaigns, the Ford Motor Company has informed the Minister of this programme. I may say that this is being followed up in exactly the same way as I outlined to the House a week ago today, in reply to a not-dissimilar question by the member for Yorkview.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could ask a supplementary question as to what date this information came to the Minister, because a week ago it was denied that these defects—

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I would say it was within the last day or two that the Ford Motor Company reported, in the U.S., there had been 217,000 of its vehicles recalled on account, mainly, of a failure in the booster in the power brake system. There were 5,900 Thunderbirds involved that have some defect in the steering mechanism. The remainder

had to do with the power brake booster in the Thunderbird, Comet, Fairlane, Falcon, Mustang and Cougar. There were no power brake defects in the Lincoln, Ford, Mercury or Monarch. In cars involving standard braking systems of Ford products, there were no such defects or recalls.

Mr. Young: My question as to the date, Mr. Speaker, was when did this come to the Minister? Because a week ago I brought this problem to the attention of the public.

Mr. Speaker: I would inform the member that it was within the last day or two.

Mr. Sopha: I have a question for the Attorney General. May the House expect to have before it any legislation this session which is the product of the efforts of the law reform commission? Which branches of the law is the law reform commission presently engaged in studying?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the House may expect to have legislation before it which will be based on the work of the Ontario law reform commission. I may mention to my learned friend, the hon. member for Sudbury, that my advisors are presently very busily engaged in reducing several of the projects to legislative form. Because of the intricate and significant nature of some of them, it is difficult for me to give any assurance at this particular moment as to when they will be fully completed in a form that will be acceptable to present to this House. We are certainly doing our utmost to get them in readiness.

In answer to the second part of the question, Mr. Speaker: the commission presently has under consideration, branches of law in ten areas: mechanics' liens; personal property security; family and domestic relations; condominium; real property; compensation on expropriation; limitation periods in actions; execution and exemption therefrom; compensation for personal injury in motor vehicle accident cases and evidence.

I know that the hon. member and others will immediately want to ask when the reports may be expected to be received in these various areas. I would like to say now that I am unable to give any date, but I can assure the House that the commission is proceeding as quickly as possible, and as quickly as the studies will permit.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, might I ask in a supplementary way? Last session, the government put the personal property securities bill on the order paper and it was not pro-

ceeded with. May we expect it will be proceeded with this year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We placed it on the order paper last year and introduced it in order to give an opportunity for further study and for representations to be made to the law reform commission. These have taken place. There have been quite considerable studies, a number of submissions and some changes have now been agreed upon. These are being worked out by the law reform commission and I anticipate that we will have its revision shortly.

Mr. Sopha: I have one more question to ask. There is some confusion, apparently, as to whom it is directed, and I do not know whether it is agreed on the other side, whether it is to the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme).

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Mr. Speaker, if I may, I happen to have a notice of this question to myself, but it relates to a subject matter which is within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Highways. Very unfortunately I was not able to advise him that I suggested to you that the question should be referred to him. Therefore he has not got the information which is required as a result of the question.

I know of the matter, but I would prefer that the Minister of Highways answer the question.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the Minister will answer the question tomorrow.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Welfare.

When does the Minister intend to amend the regulations under The General Welfare Assistance Act to include the payment for prescription drugs to persons on welfare?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, government action with respect to this item will be announced in due course. I may say that it is my hope to have quite a number of items to announce in this and similar fields in the immediate days ahead.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question of the Minister?

Is the present Minister of Public Welfare aware that the former Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Cecile) informed the House some two years or more ago that he would give consideration to this inquiry?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I would say, Mr. Speaker, that I have reviewed all the statements made by the Minister of the department during the last seven years.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I gave notice of two questions to the Attorney General. Since they are interrelated, perhaps I can place the two of them before him at one time.

First, has the Attorney General studied the feasibility of legislation to outlaw other promotional gimmicks in the retail field in addition to trading stamps, and if so, what do such studies show?

Second, what steps does the Attorney General have in mind to ensure that savings resulting from the abolition of trading stamps will be passed on to the consumer?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first question, I would say no particular study—as you might call it—has been given to the feasibility of legislation to outlaw other—what the hon. member calls—“professional gimmicks”. Consideration has been given to the matter but there is nothing in the nature of a study. I would take it that this would involve merchandising and advertising methods and—

Mr. Bryden: Lotteries and such things, which are probably illegal.

Hon. Mr. Wishart:—and a constitutional question would immediately arise. I would certainly say that no study has been carried forward and therefore no conclusions reached at this time, in answer to that question.

Now, the other question—what steps does the Attorney General have in mind to ensure that savings resulting from the abolition of trading stamps will be passed on to the consumer?

Mr. Speaker, I would say to that that I just do not know of any practical method at the moment where that could be done, and certainly I have not reached any conclusions as to how that might be done. I think I would say now to this House that I have no thought of introducing legislation at this session with respect to that matter.

Mr. Singer: After all that nonsense?

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question with relation to the first of the questions I put to the Minister?

Mr. Speaker: The member will have to ask the Minister if he will accept a second question.

Mr. Bryden: I am putting the request to him through you, sir, if he would be prepared to consider a supplementary question on the first of the two answers. In view of the statements of many people in the retail business—to the effect that if trading stamps are banned they will simply shift over to other promotional gimmicks—would the Attorney General be prepared to give early study to this problem? I understand that he has not given any study to it yet, but would he consider it now, as it is a matter that is assuming some degree of urgency?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think that the hon. member is assuming certain results that may, or may not, occur. I think perhaps I will wait and study the results first.

Mr. Bryden: Are we going to get ready for the bill? I am assuming that.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is another question.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of University Affairs. Have any discussions taken place between The Department of University Affairs and the universities of the province in regard to the provision of athletic scholarships or other suitable aids to scholastically qualifying students with extraordinary athletic abilities?

Are any universities in the province now granting athletic scholarships or free tuition to such qualifying students? If so, what is the position of the department in this regard?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of University Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I had a little concern for a few minutes when the hon. member was endeavouring to get up so many times to ask the question, as to whether he himself was attempting to qualify for such a scholarship.

I would say that there have been no specific discussions at all between the department and the universities with respect to athletic scholarships—and I am going now from just personal recollection, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe that any Ontario universities are presently offering any athletic scholarships to any students. I believe that this applies right across Canada, with the exception of Simon Fraser, although some time in the past two or three months, I believe that the universities were discussing this broad question. But I do not believe that there have been any specific results.

As far as the position of the department is concerned, it is very simple: It is a matter for the universities to determine themselves; if they were to embark on any form of athletic scholarship programme, I would suggest that it would probably be done either out of their own scholarship moneys or provided by enthusiastic alumni of the particular institution.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would state whether he would treat the matter of free tuition in the same manner that the department looked at the position of the University of Waterloo last year, when they were giving free tuition to Ontario scholars?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I do not quite follow the hon. member's question. I can only tell you that with respect to athletic scholarships, they just do not exist as far as the department is concerned. The policy of universities as to what they do with their funds for academically qualified people is something that they themselves determine.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, on Monday last I addressed questions to the hon. Minister of Highways about the method of offering compensation to those people whose land has been expropriated by his department for the widening of Highway 27. I suspect he has an answer for me this afternoon.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, it just happened on Monday that I was attending one of the most important conventions to take place in this great city, namely, that of the Ontario good roads association. I am very happy to answer the questions:

Question No. 1: Is The Department of Highways not bound by the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada which states that "no person whose land has been expropriated is entitled to an additional ten per cent for forceable taking"? There has been no expropriation to date in connection with the properties required for the widening of Highway 27.

Question No. 2: On what basis is The Department of Highways offering to those persons, whose land is being taken for the widening of 27, a fair market value plus 10 per cent inconvenience money? The offers are based on the appraised value, plus an allowance for such things as refinancing, moving cost, replacement of rugs and drapes, and is set at 10 per cent.

Question No. 3: Is the 10 per cent inconvenience money a new government policy?

If so, who inaugurated it and on what authority? And if so, do other expropriating authorities in Ontario have the power to offer 10 per cent inconvenience money? As indicated in the answer to question 2, inconvenience is only one of the factors covered by the inclusion of the additional percentage in due compensation paid to an owner. The department policy of including an additional percentage in compensation is not a new one; insofar as other authorities are concerned, I cannot speak for them.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada was abundantly clear. Why does the Minister persist in flouting that decision in announcing the policy that he just enunciated?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I understood, Mr. Speaker, that that was to do with the expropriation of property. I think he is referring to the Drew case, which was expropriation and, as I pointed out, we have not expropriated any property there yet.

Mr. Singer: That is an evasion if I ever heard one.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, prove that we have expropriated.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would love to answer the hon. Minister if it is in order. May I answer him?

Mr. Speaker: No, the question has been answered.

Mr. Singer: That is a pity, because I have a good answer for him. We will get it for him later.

I have a question before the orders of the day for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. Since the deposit insurance bill of the government of Canada received Royal assent and became law on Friday, February 17, does the government of Ontario intend to bring under the control of this federal statute (a) provincially-incorporated loan and trust corporations and (b) extra-provincially incorporated loan and trust corporations carrying on business in Ontario, and if so, when?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, with respect to the first part of the question, it is the intention of the government, as I have previously stated in this House, to bring the loan and trust companies which are incor-

porated under the laws of Ontario under the federal statute.

With respect to the second part, involving extra-provincial companies operating in Ontario, that will depend upon the decision of the province wherein they themselves were incorporated and the position that the home province, if I can put it that way, takes with respect to the federal legislation. That information is presently being developed so that we can proceed in the matter.

Mr. Singer: The Minister did not specifically answer when.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There is no answer to the "when," because the federal government has not sent the forms or developed the organization of that new corporation.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, by way of a supplementary question, I am sure the Minister is familiar with the contents of the federal Act, and it seems to be permissive in two aspects; one of which is that the province must consent and the individual organization must apply. Does the Minister intend to make it a condition, applicable to all Ontario companies, that they must apply under this Act as soon as the mechanics have been worked out?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Not necessarily. If an extra-provincial company is incorporated in a province which does not enter the federal scheme, and if that province were to develop its own scheme on an acceptable basis, then we might make it a condition of licensing that they be covered by some acceptable insurance scheme.

Mr. Singer: Does the Minister intend to make it mandatory for provincial companies?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: For our companies, yes. That is what I said at the outset of the answer.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I had asked a question of the Minister of Public Welfare on February 14, to which I have not as yet received a reply.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the department has been checking to get a very full and complete report to base the answer to that. It is not that the department has not been intending to provide the answers.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, at the same time, I think I also asked the Minister of Public Welfare about those

municipalities with which he has had discussions regarding the development of rest-home legislation. That too, sir, has not been indicated. Might he include that as well?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I had not taken that as a question to be answered before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker. It would be my intent, during the estimates of the department, to detail completely all of our actions in this regard.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 13th order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

(Continued)

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Chairman, at the time of adjournment last night, I was making some observations with regard to two or three aspects of the Vineland conference which the Minister convened last October. I would like to try to draw my remarks together in that connection, conceivably, after last night's session, to tidy them up and conclude them.

I think there were three things that emerged from that conference which are extremely noteworthy. One was the appointment of the Minister's committee to look into the whole question of an income incentive for agriculture, in order to supplement what agriculture is able to wring out from the marketplace either with, or without, a marketing board.

Now the interesting thing, Mr. Chairman, is that when this committee got into operation, so I have learned, they discovered that the basic information for being able to arrive at this decision was simply not available. In other words, it was an underlining of the fact that this department, with all of its resources, has so concentrated, as farmers have protested for years, on increasing production, to have two blades of grass grow where one had been growing before, that there was really no basic information to come to any conclusions with regard to income and income incentive. Perhaps that explains why the Minister's lack of comment on this rather fundamental issue has been so marked in the last two or three years, even though the agricultural community itself had become completely preoccupied with it.

However, Mr. Chairman, I would like just to emphasize this, that as far as we are concerned in the New Democratic Party, we view this development not only with favour, but with great enthusiasm, as conceivably the fundamental answer as far as agriculture is concerned. We have for many years been convinced of the fact, because of the inadequate bargaining power of agriculture in the marketplace, that it was not going to be able to wring out adequately for itself.

The farm union certainly has been advancing policies, as has been pointed out by many commentators as far back as 1957, and I think it is perhaps very propitious at this time, that if the federation has also now changed its basic thinking in this direction, that we have the prospect of both farm organizations—and therefore, the overwhelming majority of organized agriculture in this province—supporting a move in this direction.

Because of the inadequacy of basic material, I understand that the Minister's committee has hired Hedlin Menzies and Associates to provide these studies and that as early as May, there may be the first report on recommendations. I would hope that if that is the case, if our session does not become interrupted, that even before the session normally would conclude this year, that the Minister might be in a position to give some indication as to what this government is contemplating. Because the simple fact of the matter is that last year, the government had nothing to say on this issue. There was some give and take with regard to milk, but this was really a little game of political football with Ottawa in trying to see where they could fix the responsibility, but none on the overall question. And, if perchance, the Minister is now going to be in a position to indicate what the government's line will be in solving this fundamental problem, then we will be in a stronger position to see what cooperative action needs to be sought from the federal level in order to establish a national policy as well as one within the province of Ontario itself.

On the second important aspect of the Vineland conference, namely those responsibilities that devolve on this Minister as the Minister of Food, we are back to the issue that I think we were discussing when the adjournment hour came last night.

This was the fact that the government had done nothing—or at least that the Minister of Agriculture had done nothing—to implement the unanimous recommendation for banning trading stamps as one of the factors which

has resulted in a built-in addition to the cost of food. We will have to leave this matter rest, because indeed, the developments of the last 24 hours now raise a lot of interesting question marks.

One edition of the *Globe and Mail* that I happened to see this morning—it is not the one that is in my hand—had a wording that suggested that the Minister had introduced the bill without the endorsement or approval of the Cabinet. This in itself, Mr. Chairman, strikes me as being a rather strange procedure and it was suggested that some observers contended that this was to put pressure on the Cabinet.

In view of the observations from a number of members on that side of the House, particularly the member for London South (Mr. White), and the fact that this government has been openly opposed to ban the trading stamps for the last ten years, indeed it was their position that "Let the flood gates open" for trading stamps and all the other gimmickry in the merchandising of food. I am not surprised that the Minister may feel that he has got to strengthen his hand by some public support before he can go and get the approval from the Cabinet. It is just another revelation of rather bizarre procedures behind the scenes in the processing of bills before they get to this House. However, we will let that matter rest and hope that it will come as soon as possible.

The Minister attributed to the Vineland conference the motivating drive, as it were, for the government's action in making capital grants available. I am rather surprised that it had to be the Vineland conference to register this idea with the Minister because I am sure if he goes back and looks at the briefs that were presented and ignored—certainly from the farmers union—and I believe the federation of agriculture—a full year ago—he will find that this was one of the major points that they were putting forward. I welcome it. I have a suspicion, Mr. Chairman, that it is something of a last minute decision on the part of the government. Indeed, when I look through the estimates which have been given to us and which we are now going to be proceeding with item by item, I cannot find anything in those estimates at all with regard to capital grants. Conceivably it is hidden somewhere.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): You did not look very closely because it is there.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that right? Well, fine; if it is there then we will have an opportunity to discuss it.

However, I do draw attention once again, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that when the government announces a policy which even they believe is not a policy of very great proportions, they always try to beef it up—maybe this is the appropriate estimate to use that term by presenting the programme for the next ten years, rather than the programme of the next year. The Minister rationalizes that he does not want farmers to be rushing in with capital grants without careful consideration, but the fact of the matter is that the headline is that there is going to be \$129 million made available in the next 12 years, some \$10 million for the current year. It was a little reminiscent, Mr. Chairman, of that programme that was announced for another rather disadvantaged group in our society a year ago, namely our native Indian population. Suddenly we were told in the headlines that there was going to be \$500 million—half a billion dollars—made available to rescue them from their poverty and place them in the Canadian society on something of an equal basis.

What you found if you read rather carefully that the \$500 million programme was a 50-year programme and it amounted to \$10 million a year. This is another of the window dressing efforts that the government indulges in, I repeat, when they want to beef up the public impression of a programme that they are announcing.

However, Mr. Chairman, I will say to my friend behind me that it is a good programme. It is one that I think is going to redress something of the unequal balance of agriculture's position in our economy today.

When I started my remarks, Mr. Chairman, I said that I thought it was necessary and useful to review the events of the last year because of their extraordinary importance in the history of agriculture. In keeping with that kind of approach I think there are two commodity groups which have experienced rather extraordinary things in the past year. It is well just to look back briefly over them. One is the bean board.

Since the House last met, the bean board has been returned to the growers in the province of Ontario. I would like to say Mr. Chairman, that few events have done more to shatter confidence in this government than its handling of the whole bean board issue. For some reason or other, the Minister and the powers that be in the Tory party got it into

their heads that they were going to force a separation between the board and the co-operative.

If they had persisted in that policy with any consistency, then presumably they would not have gotten into so much difficulty, because along the way the Minister presumably must have changed his mind, and because he changed his mind a couple of members of the board did not feel that their integrity should be abused in this fashion, and they resigned. Indeed, in a news story, commenting on the appointment of the new chairman of the Ontario farm products marketing board, in the *Globe and Mail* on December 9, 1966, there is a comment attributed to Mr. Gordon Hill, one of the two who resigned from the Ontario farm products marketing board because of the Minister's decision. It credits Mr. Hill with saying: "The order for changing the policy to ignore the separation idea apparently came from Agriculture Minister William Stewart," said he—Mr. Gordon Hill.

Well, that does not surprise me because I do not think there is any doubt that in the final analysis—as indeed perhaps it should be in the way this government operates in its relationships with boards—they do not really have the power. They are state boards, they are not producer-controlled boards. In the final analysis it is not surprising that the decision should have come from the Minister himself.

However, having called and permitted a vote, which presumably was going to make it possible for the organization to expand its facilities, the government apparently jumped with glee at the fact that they did not get an adequate vote to authorize this and moved in with that arbitrary decision to take over the bean board and thereby create such a feeling of apprehension, not only among bean growers, but among members of commodity groups all across the province of Ontario.

When the board was finally handed back to the growers however, last summer, it is interesting to note the kind of reaction that finally was able to emerge from the grass roots of this organization. Clearly they felt that they had been affronted in a fashion that was almost beyond their control. The *Rural Cooperator*, which reported on that first meeting of the bean growers, carries the rather startling headline for solid, stolid old Ontario: Stewart, Biggs and Arbuckle Told to Quit. Here finally were the people in whom the power should reside and from whom power should come in relation to a marketing board. They had regained their power

through grace of this government in handing it back, and their first demand was that the Minister, the Deputy Minister and the chairman of the Ontario farm products marketing board should quit. So demands from this side of the House have some echo out in the grass roots.

I think it is interesting to note, Mr. Chairman, however, that the Minister is still with us, the Deputy Minister is still with us, but one man apparently had to be made into something of a sacrificial lamb in this whole debacle, namely, Mr. Arbuckle. He was the expendable one and he has now been promoted to some position in the department and a successor has been found from the Ontario farm products marketing board.

Well, I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the real source of the problem, the real source of power, the real area from which the decisions came was the Minister, and that the Minister should be fixed with the responsibility for this, and not Mr. Arbuckle, though he obviously was one of the team who moved in to implement the Minister's decision. But the important thing, Mr. Chairman, is this: This is the best example of Tory paternalism with regard to farm products marketing boards.

As my good friend from Huron Bruce (Mr. Gaunt) said yesterday, ever since the passage of Bill 86 which has warped and twisted the whole course and the whole structure of Ontario marketing boards in this province, what we have is not producer controlled marketing boards; what we have is state-controlled marketing boards, and the local boards are merely a rubber stamp.

Now, I know we were told at the time that the extraordinary power that the government took unto itself in Bill 86 was never going to be exercised. However, the time came when these rather arrogant and power-mad people in the government, with regard to those who object to their decisions, decided they would exercise the power, and we had a rather dramatic revelation of what that exercise of power meant for the basic rights of individuals in this province.

However, Mr. Chairman, I review that because I now want to move on to a second rather important group in this province. My protest is going to be not that the government intervened, but rather that perhaps the government should have intervened to have made certain that the objectives which it proclaimed were going to be fulfilled. I am referring to the milk marketing board. Here we have a very anomalous situation in the province of Ontario. The government has appointed a commission and a board to carry

on in the interim period while we are establishing the new set-up in the milk industry in the province of Ontario. Admittedly this is a difficult period. Admittedly you have for a time a situation in which those who are exercising power as a result of appointment by this government are denied the normal kind of exercise of power from the people in whose interests they are acting and to whom ultimately they are going to have to be responsible. The most striking example of the doubt as to what direction the board is going, however, has emerged in the changes in policy over the past year with regard to milk quotas. When the board was first established, some 15 or 18 months ago—November 1, 1965—fluid milk quotas were going to be frozen. Now, Mr. Chairman, that seemed to me to be a reasonable proposition, because if I can just recall briefly from the Hennessey report two brief paragraphs indicating the tenor of the recommendations of the Hennessey report in this connection, I quote from page 60:

All farmers should have equal opportunity to participate in the pool, and the pool should be required to accept all A milk offered to it by producers.

and again on page 77:

Termination of the quota system presently established in the Ontario fluid milk market had been recommended earlier in this report. We have proposed as a substitute a new arrangement wherein bases having little or no value would become possible for all producers of A milk.

In other words, it was clear from the Hennessey report's proposals as to how we should reorganize this industry that you should dismantle the built-in privileges of a group that had been built in because of government decisions and government legislation in this province over the year. The government is on record on many occasions as saying that they were not in favour of price tags being placed on quata and the marketing, and the negotiating, and the changing and the buying and selling of these quotas, because it resulted in an unnecessary built-in cost in the price of milk.

The Minister stated many, many times that they do not want price tags on these quotas. It puzzles me, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister has sat silent, the government has sat silent, as the objectives mapped out in the Hennessey report, and proclaimed by the Minister himself when he established the commission on the Ontario milk marketing board, have been violated, because what

happened? On April 6, 1966, the order with regard to the freezing of quotas was rescinded. Interestingly enough that interim period when the order was applicable ran for only some six weeks or so from April 6 to May 24. I suggest it ran for only six weeks because it produced a storm of protest in various parts of this province where some people had been working for years through their county milk committees to try to get rid of this business of negotiating milk quotas. Perhaps the most dramatic revelation of this kind of a storm was in the eastern part of the province—in Glengarry county—where because of the OMMB's approval of one selling of the milk quota the majority of the county milk committee resigned and the committee was not operative until a reorganizational meeting was held at Alexandria in December.

I have here before me a copy of a letter that was published in the *Glengarry News* on January 5 from the former chairman of the Glengarry milk committee, Mr. Thomas Aitken, of Martintown, and in this he spells out all the details of what happened. He raises a number of questions which I want to draw to the attention of the House, and put them to the Minister for some replies.

For example in one place in his letter he states that the policy—this is the interim policy in the period from April 6 to May 24 which had permitted the unfreezing of quotas and the negotiation of them and the selling of them:

The policy did not state that you could or could not sell a fluid quota. Only that members of the OMMB and privileged friends had this information as to the right to sell.

Why should some individuals know more about what is taking place than a county committee chairman? In other words, in places in this province, people who have been working on this difficult problem of quotas as chairmen of county committees first learned that negotiations were taking place and quotas were being exchanged, without information having been given to them by OMMB. Rather by the grapevine, the information was becoming available in the locality. Why was there secrecy in this? Why should only a few privileged people—so Mr. Aitken said—close to the operation of the OMMB or other farm organizations, why were only they in a position to avail themselves of the opportunity of getting further quotas?

I would like to quote two or three other sections from Mr. Aitken's letter because as

a man who was involved for many years—I believe up to ten years—on the milk committee, I think he is in a position to present an authoritative inside view as to exactly what happened.

Here at Alexandria a chairman of the OMMB promised the writer (Mr. Aitken) he would make public all transfers of quotas and also the conditions. This would make very interesting reading and I am sure there will be some red faces in high places. It would be enlightening to find out how many members of the OMMB or friends were privileged by their own policy.

Mr. Chairman, this is a very important and serious matter because all across the province of Ontario at the present time—to a degree which may be exaggerated, I do not know, but I think it is the responsibility of this Minister to clarify it—it is contended that in the brief period of unfrozen quotas the people who were able to benefit from it were those who were close to the source of information, indeed, including people who were members of the Ontario milk marketing board. At that public meeting in Alexandria, the chairman of the board indicated that he would make public those exchanges in quotas that took place in that six-week period. I do not know if that has been done. In some instances it has been referred to as 100 and in other instances they referred to it as many as 250. Well, Mr. Chairman, I say right here to the Minister that I think it is his responsibility to clarify this issue and to make available a list of the people who benefitted from the exchange of quotas at the time that it was unfrozen. Then we can find out once and for all who these people were and whether they were people who were able to exercise this inside information to their benefit.

I quote one or two other paragraphs which I think are significant from Mr. Aitken's letter, Mr. Chairman.

During the period when the OMMB was being set up, it was pointed out very clearly by the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, the hon. W. A. Stewart and Deputy Minister E. Biggs, that they did not believe in placing a price tag on quotas, and considered quotas a privilege, not an asset, and rightly so, because the quota was built with government protection.

The OMMB decision allowing quotas to be sold—that is, placing a price tag to quotas—is contrary to what a milk marketing plan was intended to accomplish. Secondly, if you read the introduction to

the Hennessey report, you will find the OMMB was supposed to get rid of all privileges and discrimination. Any fluid milk shipper who was allowed to purchase or have a second quota allowed to him during this period, April 6 to May 24, 1966 was very definitely privileged.

In other words, I now ask the Minister why the government apparently had permitted a basic change in what was their own policy, often proclaimed by the Minister and his Deputy across the province of Ontario with regard to quotas. I acknowledge that what happened at the OMMB annual meeting which was held a few weeks ago, was that the delegates from the various counties came in and this proposal of negotiating of quotas was put before them and was endorsed. But I am informed by those who are very familiar with the delegates from these county committees that the county committees do not represent the industry as a whole—rather that they represent to a very preponderant degree the fluid milk shippers. Obviously it is the fluid milk shippers who are going to benefit most from the negotiation and the sale of quotas, that the basic objective of opening the door to industrial milk producers who are producing grade A quality milk, that they should be able to share in the higher price available for that product, that this objective has been lost sight of and, as I understand it, a decision has been made that the decision now is going to permit the buying and selling of quotas, to bring them up to what they describe as a "viable production" unit. Only when that has been done, are they going to open the door to achieve that basic, long-term objective that inspired the whole Hennessey study and the recommendations that flowed from it, and that is to get rid of the privileges that make an equal price available to those who are producing top quality milk.

I repeat that I think there is an obligation on the part of the Minister to explain the quota issue, and the reversal of policy, with regard to the price-tag now attached to them so that not only those of us in the Legislature here, but a lot of milk producers across the province, will have a clear picture of the direction in which the milk marketing board and the milk commission is moving.

Now, with more specific reference to the milk commission, I want to turn to another phase that has provoked another storm of protest in the province and that is the handling of the application from the Carleton milk cooperative for the transportation of

milk in a portion of the Ottawa valley. Anybody who has been reading the *Rural Cooperator* in the last two, three, four or five months, will be aware of how much concern this has created.

What puzzles me about this whole business, Mr. Chairman, is that it is an old story; it is a repetition of the kind of thing that we have seen before in this province of Ontario—a government that professes to be in favour of cooperatives, that professes to encourage farmers to help themselves in the extension of farm business through cooperatives, into marketing or into transportation, and yet what difficulties are faced by farmers when they seek to implement that principle!

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): It happened at Brantford.

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. leader of the Opposition has just snatched the issue right out of my mouth that I was going to refer to, and that was the Brantford issue. I went down on two different occasions and listened to the hearings of the old milk industry board—I believe it was called that at that time—and, quite frankly, I never saw anything quite so scandalous from a body that pretended to be a quasi-judicial body.

The chairman of the board at that time would intervene vigorously against the legal counsel who was presenting a case on behalf of the cooperative. On the other hand, when the legal counsel on behalf of the dairies which wanted to retain the transportation of milk in their hands, was presenting his case, he would be assisted in the most friendly and sympathetic fashion by the man who presumably was acting as an impartial judge in the case.

But without going into cases, the simple proposition, Mr. Chairman, is that the farmer is being denied a right to carry his own product through a cooperative that is presumably something of which this government is in favour. This is something that just mystifies me. As a matter of fact, let me put on the record to show those hon. members of the House who perhaps do not read the *Rural Cooperator* regularly, the kind of temper that is being created in the minds of those who have been observing the bizarre proceedings for the last five or six months on this issue.

At one point, when the application for the cooperative was being turned down, and the leaders who are apparently very competent and vigorous came back, there was a new excuse presented by the milk commission as

to why it should be turned down. The latest version is that nothing can be done until they are in a position to examine the rate structure and the negotiating of transportation contracts throughout the whole of the Ottawa milk shed. Well, here is one comment to be found in the *Rural Cooperator* as far back as November 8, 1966:

This is an impossible situation and should not be tolerated by Ontario farmers.

This is another indication of the kind of sense of revolt that one gets because of the mysterious actions and decisions of bodies acting on behalf of this government. I continue:

In reality, farmers are deprived of the right to form a cooperative which has long been recognized as an extension of on-farm business and there is one question that screams out for an answer: Who gave the government's milk commission the right to act as a jailer for captive milk shippers?

We have been told that there is a bill being introduced which is now going to make it mandatory for the licensing of a cooperative, if 75 per cent of the producers have indicated their desire for this. However, let me proceed and get it a bit more up to date.

On January 10, 1967, the *Rural Cooperator*, which is an authoritative voice in the agricultural community, raised some questions which I think are rather pertinent as to why this decision is being made as it has been, or why it is being delayed, even if ultimately the cooperative is going to win an opportunity to come into the transportation picture in eastern Ontario. In an editorial on January 10, one paragraph reads as follows:

One stalwart commissioner told the hearing that the cooperative may use its certificate as a club to bring private truckers into line on prices.

Mr. Chairman, what is wrong with that? If the farmers can establish a cooperative and can transport their milk less expensively, what is wrong with this? If I may borrow the phrase from my good friend, the hon. Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch), who likes to accuse others of being doctrinaire in their approach to things—this government is doctrinaire; it is so doctrinaire to free enterprise and private enterprise in its approach, that it even attempts to destroy cooperatives and to frustrate their development.

Now will the hon. gentleman from Kent "Hear, hear" that, because I think he should,

if he is going to be honest about it. The editorial continues:

And what a terrible state of affairs if a cooperative were in a position to inject real competition into the market place by threatening a juicy price structure.

And, Mr. Chairman, the thing does not end there, because you have another of these conflicts of interest which are alleged to exist, with one of the members of the milk commission being a person who is interested, through his family connections, in one of the private milk transportation companies involved.

I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that this is the kind of thing that simply should not be tolerated. It is all very well to have a government get up and prate about the basic principle of avoiding conflict of interest, and it is all very interesting to have maverick backbenchers on the government side get up and try to pass bills or have this House consider bills which are going to strengthen the law to cope with this kind of situation, but I suggest that the government should not sit and tolerate an exercise of a conflict of interest, particularly for strange and mysterious reasons.

The farmers are denied an opportunity of forming a cooperative to transport their milk at what may be a cheaper price and this, presumably, is the worry, because I give you another paragraph from the January 10 issue of the *Rural Cooperator*:

In any case, how can there be an accurate analysis of Ottawa milk trucking prices until a cooperative has been formed? Experience has shown that only cooperatives will open their books for public scrutiny. With no co-op in eastern Ontario, no comparisons can be made since truckers involved in the dispute have refused point-blank to produce their books. So 20 cents, 25 cents, or even 30 cents a hundredweight could be a fair pick-up price. Only the truckers know and the milk commission must have been aware of this when it mentioned a complete market review.

In other words, Mr. Chairman, keep the co-op out until you have your market review and you will forestall the opportunity of establishing a co-op yardstick to find whether or not the private transportation prices are exorbitant. I continue the quote:

It may be asked what sort of a game the Ontario milk commission is playing. It is quite within the realm of possibility that the commissioners never expected farmers

to open up market negotiations in an effort to form a cooperative. Perhaps it was a muddled attempt to keep the lid on a can of worms. There is something rotten in the Ottawa trucking dispute and farm leaders are becoming concerned.

I say amen to that, and I suggest once again, as with other issues in relation to the milk marketing board, that I think it is the responsibility of this Minister to speak up and clarify this issue so that the concern can be allayed instead of fomented still more.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I want to turn to two or three issues that indicative of the kind of problem that farmers in this province have had to live with for years. In a typical and a characteristic way, this government never seems to be able to come to grips with the problem and solve it, even though everybody admits that there is gross injustice in the picture.

I was interested, for example, this past week to notice in the London *Free Press* of February 18, that Peter Lewington, who on his own, and on behalf of farmers who are facing continued and renewed difficulties, with a pipeline company which is going to lay another pipe, had, on his own, gone on behalf of these farmers to the national energy board. And he presented such a convincing case to them that he contends—I have heard it on the CBC farm broadcast and he was going to have a meeting in the Middlesex and the related Lambton areas, to explain what had been achieved or what he had been assured had been achieved, because of his representations. This meeting was taking place just this past week.

Mr. Chairman, I submit that when farmers become the victims of problems that are like running sores over the years, with companies that move in for the prosecution of their own business, in the fashion that farmers have had with pipeline companies in this province, it is an obligation of the government to step in on their behalf and resolve this situation. I do not think that farmers should have to take up the cudgels and go to court or go to the various boards. They can legitimately expect that the government is going to do something to clarify this issue and to lay down ground rules so that the little man cannot be so readily victimized by these big companies.

For example, the one rather striking point in the news story with regard to Mr. Lewington's report back from Ottawa that he was going to present to the farmers of Lambton and Middlesex, was that the Interprovincial Pipeline Company had in the past offered

area farmers \$10 for the use of an additional 20-foot land section. In other words, after having put one pipeline through and while they were considering another pipeline, the farmers were being offered \$10 for an additional 20 feet. Now I am not going to take the time of the House to detail the kind of inconvenience and loss of production—indeed, loss for a time of the fertility of the soil, the productive capacity of the soil—that, it is argued by some, results from the laying of a pipeline. But the proposition that farmers should be handed that kind of \$10 sop, and that the government at this late stage, when we have had this province criss-crossed with pipeline companies, should offer that sop without having worked out ground rules, I suggest, is unforgivable. I think it is time that the government were to move in on issues of this nature.

Related to it of course, are the whole continuing problems of expropriations. I had the privilege of sitting for a year—unfortunately I had to leave in the second year—on the committee on conservation which was set up in the first instance because of the storm of protest and controversy and difficulties arising from the expropriation of land for the Pittcock dam at Woodstock. But this is only one of many different instances.

I was rather interested, for example, in reading the *Lambton Farm Courier*, the official publication of the federation of agriculture in Lambton county, to see that they had presented a brief to the Ontario law reform commission. Now Mr. Chairman, it will only take about two minutes, and I would like to put on record what they described as a classic case of the kind of confusion that farmers have to face as they get variations in assessment when they are seeking to get a settlement in expropriated lands. Just let me quote directly:

May I just cite a classic case, what could happen with the multitude of qualified appraisers? In part those sample pieces given here did happen. A farmer, a veteran from the second world war had 150 acres of land and wanted to enlarge his holdings and modernize. Dealing with VLA, this federal agency sent a land appraiser to appraise his present holdings and arrived at a figure of \$20,000 of value. Before he could finalize the deal with VLA a provincial agency needed land and their appraisers, well qualified and independent, put a figure of \$12,000 on this land.

Since one problem never comes alone a federal agency expropriated another corner

of his land and again their appraisers, well qualified and independent, thought that \$15,000 for his holdings was a well meant figure.

A judge finally settled this dispute and valued the land at \$18,000. All this time the tax assessor assessed the holdings at \$8,000. As misfortune wanted it, the farmer died and the widow learned that the estate tax appraised the value of the land at \$25,000. Amazed to learn that the death of a farmer could raise the value of the farm the widow more or less was forced to sell her holdings and was able by free negotiation to sell her farm for the price of \$21,500. The new owners, in order to finance the enterprise called on the farm credit corporation which appraised the holding at \$13,000.

Now Mr. Chairman, how completely ridiculous and ludicrous a situation can you have? Here you have in rapid succession, \$20,000, \$12,000, \$15,000, \$18,000, the tax assessors putting it at \$8,000; then \$25,000; it was sold for \$21,500 and then when they went to borrow to finance the deal the farm credit corporation valued it at \$13,000.

Now, I am not an expert in this field, Mr. Chairman, but as a layman, I say to you as I think, another layman in the field, that surely the laymen, the people of the province are entitled to something other than that kind of bewildering confusion. I do not pretend to know how the Minister is going to solve it, but I suggest to you that there is an obligation on the government to see that there is some sort of a solution to it.

I do not want to digress at too great length, Mr. Chairman, because I recognize that I am going to be getting off into another department, namely that of the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management, and I will want to deal with it in considerable detail at that point, but away back 12 years ago.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Long before our time.

Mr. Macdonald: Not before my time. Way back 12 years ago, I become interested for the first time in the problem of the farmers in Lambton county who have gas storage areas under their farms. At that time, you know, Dana Porter was the man who was responsible for pipelines and he was pre-occupied with a few major pipelines across the province, and so the little problems of the farmers of Lambton could not be given

consideration. Then, of course, along came that human dynamo, Bob Macaulay, and he was so preoccupied with setting up the department that—with some validity, in all the problems relating to setting up the department—he could not resolve the problems of the Lambton farmers. So finally they gave it to the Langdon committee, under the chairmanship of Professor Langdon. He studied it for two or three years and he reported, omitting any decision on this issue because he had become preoccupied with the problem of oil in the Great Lakes.

Then the Langdon committee, I believe, in its second report, said that it was really beyond their jurisdiction, so, it was referred to the Ontario energy board, back in 1962 or 1963. The Ontario energy board studied this issue and they reported on May 4, 1964.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is two and a half years ago—recommendations for resolving this problem. And the Minister who sits over there and strokes that rugged chin of his at the moment, has done nothing about it in the intervening 30 months.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: It is my chin.

Mr. MacDonald: I know it is the Minister's chin, but what I would like is a little more action elsewhere than stroking his chin on this issue. And I raise it, Mr. Chairman, without going into any more detail, because in this report of the Ontario energy board, headed by Mr. Crozier—who presumably is a person thoroughly familiar with the values involved in this—it is interesting to note that in the Payne pool where the settlement for payment to the farmers for the use of these storage areas, which the companies have been exercising in all this time, paying nothing, the proposal from the report of the energy board is \$13.88 an acre. The fact of the matter is that the farmers were offered a certain amount by Union Gas; they took it to arbitration, and they were offered \$5.50. They appealed from the \$5.50 arbitration award to the Ontario municipal board and the municipal board cut it to \$5. They then tried to appeal it to the Supreme Court of Ontario and they were denied the right of appeal. Indeed, they were subsequently denied even taking it to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, because there was so much delay in trying to get the right of appeal from the court that they had exceeded the time limit on which they might take it to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

What I am drawing your attention to, Mr. Chairman, is that here is an expert in the field, Mr. Crozier, saying that the fair appro-

priation is \$13.88 per acre whereas the Ontario municipal board, another government agency, has come down with a ruling which, for the moment, is binding at \$5 at least on the special case they took.

Well, these farmers in Lambton county, who for ten years have been trying to get an answer to this, are entitled, I submit, to some action to resolve it. I am out of the field of the Minister of Agriculture and Food for the moment, although the federation of agriculture and many farm organizations are involved, and it may be his colleague, the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management to whom I am referring, but he has been sitting for some two and a half years on this report.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. member would like to get back on the agricultural estimates. If he would like to talk about that under my estimates, I would be very happy to. I might say that this group of farmers the member is talking about, visited me in my office. I asked them to go to the oil company to negotiate and, if they could not get a settlement there, told them I would like to see them back. I might report to this House, and to the member, that they have never been back in my office since, nor have I heard from them.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: That is right.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Chairman, I say to the Minister they have given up in thinking there is much point in going to the Minister's office.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: They did not need to give up, they had an invitation.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister might be interested to know, they have so given up on him that they are around Queen's Park today and I am not surprised that they are not wasting their time in the Minister's office, because they have been there many, many times before. Why should they come and plead with the Minister to act when he has been sitting on the report for two and a half years? Here we have another example.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, I would like to correct that statement as well. I have not sat on any report for two and a half years, because, if the hon. member would think, when I took over the department that report was tabled in the House just shortly afterwards.

Mr. MacDonald: This report was tabled shortly after he became Minister?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: May I suggest to the member for York South, and also the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, that we leave it over until we come to that department.

Mr. MacDonald: I will leave it, Mr. Chairman, but forgive me if I may have the last word—the report is dated May 3, 1964.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: And when did I take over the department?

Mr. MacDonald: I do not know when the Minister took it over, but he inherited the responsibility from those who sat on it before he started to sit on it. That is the problem.

Now finally, Mr. Chairman—and my good friend, the member for Huron-Bruce has touched on this—another area in which I think this government is not accepting its responsibilities, is the question of the persistent and regular increases in farm machinery costs.

I was rather interested last fall when an announcement came that there was going to be an increase in farm machinery. The Minister, of course, wanted to try to repair his rather tarnished image among the farmers of Ontario, so he was credited with an announcement that this was bad, that the price should be rolled back and that the costs of production for farmers were already very, very oppressive.

But what else did the Minister do? Nothing. Immediately, he got a retort from some of the spokesmen for the farm machinery companies that they had no intention of rolling it back. Literally nothing happened. In other words, the Minister huffed and he did not even puff. Just one little huff and he bowed out of the picture. And quite frankly, if I may so, Joe Greene did no better, because what he did, was to say that he was writing letters to the machinery companies to find out what their explanation was.

I have never heard what explanation he got from the machinery companies, but I repeat, Mr. Chairman, this is one of the many areas where we, in the New Democratic Party, become more and more convinced, the longer we see what is happening to our economy, of the validity of establishing a prices review board, so that when a company suddenly increases its price, it has to come and justify the increase in the price. If they can justify it, fine, but if they cannot justify it, at least

you let the full light of day in and you get full disclosure to the public.

We had a rather striking example last September of what can happen with the threat of a public investigation, when the steel company increased their prices. Mr. Sharp, who was very disturbed momentarily about the threat of inflation in this country, told them they would either roll their price back or they would come before the joint committee in Ottawa, and they rolled it back. Of course, they know Mr. Sharp is a very friendly soul, and five or six months later they increased their prices quietly anyway and he had nothing more to say.

But this government, as well as the government in Ottawa, has many areas in which I think there is a responsibility to investigate. To find out whether it is justified through a public investigation, just let the farmers have the facts and the farmers can then come to their own conclusions. But typical of this government, it is willing, along with the companies, to sit on the facts so that the public does not know what is happening—*à la* Prudential and a lot of other rather unfortunate episodes.

Well, Mr. Chairman, these are illustrations of three or four of the areas. I have many more—but I will not take the time of the House—where I think there is an obligation on the government, to act and to investigate on behalf of farmers, and to map out procedures for coping with the problem. But they do not do it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, last evening when I concluded the very brief analysis of our department's accomplishments this last year, I suggested, sir, that we might then proceed into the votes, item by item. However, I feel compelled, with your permission, to make some reply to those statements that have been made last night, and again today by the Opposition parties as to the operation of our department in those things that they feel need some explanation.

I would first of all point out that the hon. member for Huron-Bruce made what I think was quite a good speech, and I believe he mentioned some things that I think require a good deal of consideration. I am concerned, however, about his suggestion—and I took it to be a suggestion—that the Ontario government should move into the field of doing something about milk quotas when, as a matter of fact, there has been no decision made by the milk marketing board as to the disposition of the handling of quotas. The

matter is still under review and consideration.

I would say it as well in reply to the leader of the socialist party, when he said essentially the same thing, but said it in such a way that he castigates me in one instance, for not moving into the field of marketing legislation, in this case, or the affairs of a marketing board, and at the same time accuses me many times of state-controlled marketing in the province of Ontario.

Mr. MacDonald: I explained the reason why, but its subtlety escaped the members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, it did not escape me because I think the hon. member would have to agree that the only time he suggests anything is when he thinks it is to his political advantage—and for no other reason.

I want to say that this whole matter of milk quotas is of tremendous concern; it is not something that just blew up yesterday or the day before, it is something that has been of concern for years and years. As a matter of fact, quotas were introduced more than 30 years ago as a means of stabilizing and providing a quality product in given markets.

There are those who have said it has outlived its usefulness. This is something that the milk marketing board must determine.

But I hesitate to accept the suggestion that has been made by the Opposition parties today, and last night, that we should overrule the democratically-elected county committees who have met with the milk marketing board to discuss this very matter of quotas.

Are you suggesting that we should overrule them? I was shocked to note that someone said—and I believe it was the leader of the socialist party—that these county milk committees do not represent the dairy producers of the province of Ontario. Well, if they do not represent them, who do they represent? They are democratically elected in each county and district in this province and I ask you, "Who do they represent if they do not represent the producers?"

Mr. MacDonald: Fluid as opposed to industrial.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, sure. You want to ride this old horse again. These people are elected democratically in their various counties and they have the right to come, as they

did come, before the milk marketing board and explain their position.

I suggest to you that all of this debate is useful, and I think it will be useful to the milk marketing board itself in looking over *Hansard* as *Hansard* records those things that have been said concerning this very vital issue—an issue which is not easy to solve, an issue which will require a very great deal of consideration as time goes on.

I was greatly disturbed to hear the leader of the socialist party refer to decisions of the milk commission in regard to the Carleton county milk transport cooperative. I believe, if I recall his words correctly, that the commission is denying the right of this group of farmers to establish a cooperative trucking company. They were simply identifying themselves with the lack of interest of this government in cooperatives. Now, those may not be his exact words, but certainly this was the inference, and I believe, the meaning. I ask my hon. friend, through you, Mr. Chairman, if he thinks that this government has no interest in cooperatives when last year we made loans of \$625,400 to cooperatives; when we provided a guarantee to a cooperative packing company for another \$600,000 which has just been renewed. Is that lack of interest in cooperatives?

Mr. MacDonald: What about this transportation cooperative?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I will answer you, my friend; I sure will answer you.

The milk commission, believing that the milk marketing board were assuming the responsibility for transportation of milk, decided that they should not grant that licence to the Carleton cooperative because they felt that it would further confuse the issue as far as the re-allocation of trucking routes and the handling of milk transportation by the milk marketing board when they took over, was concerned. They made this decision—

Mr. MacDonald: A lot of farmers do not believe it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, sure. A lot of farmers do not believe it. Of course not; in your opinion they do not believe it.

Mr. MacDonald: Not only farmers, but farm papers.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I will read the *Rural Cooperator*; I read it every issue, and I think it is a good paper. Let me say this to you, that when the milk marketing board evinced

no evidence that it would be to their advantage not to have a cooperative there, and it was also a matter of concern to the milk commission as to the clarification of old section 17 in The Milk Act of 1965, they sent me the following letter, and I read this into the record of the House, Mr. Chairman. It is dated January 19, 1967 re section 17 of The Milk Act, 1965 and I quote:

This section was inserted in the Act around 1948 and with few exceptions, applications under it have been approved and certificates issued. However, legal opinions advanced to the commission on the one hand take the view that the commission has discretionary power under it, while other opinions are to the effect that the issuance of a certificate is mandatory once the requirements prescribed by section 17 have been satisfied.

In the circumstances, the intent of this section is subject to different interpretations and there appears to be a need to revise it for purposes of clarification. The milk commission of Ontario respectfully recommends that consideration be given to amending the section to provide for the automatic issuance of certificates when the requirements have been satisfied.

And this is signed by G. A. McCague, chairman of the Ontario milk commission.

The result of that was the introduction of the legislation to which we gave second reading a few days ago.

My friend, the hon. member for York South, referred to an editorial which appeared in the January 10 issue of the *Rural Cooperator*—and I have it here—and I would refer him, as well, Mr. Chairman, to an editorial and to a statement which appeared in the *Rural Cooperator* of February 14, and it is headed: An Apology to Ontario's Milk Commissioners. I quote:

In the issue of our paper of January 10, 1967, there was an editorial which has caused a complaint to be made to this paper by the solicitor on behalf of four of the members of the Ontario milk commission, namely, George McCague, Professor S. H. Lane, M. A. Craig of Owen Sound, and Gordon Greer of Ottawa.

The *Rural Cooperator* did not intend that the editorial be offensive or misleading. The paper regrets whatever harm may have been done and apologizes for any embarrassment that may have been caused by the editorial.

Mr. MacDonald: Let us deal with the issue; that is their problem. Now deal with the issue.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: To me, Mr. Chairman, this indicates responsible journalism, and I commend the *Rural Cooperator* for that approach. I note, as well, an editorial on the editorial page which says: Commission Takes New Approach, and it refers to what has been done:

The realism adopted by the commissioners took considerable courage and shows that they are responsive to the needs of producers.

And therein, I think, is the crux of the service that is provided not only by the milk commission but by The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food in acceding to the milk commission's request in that letter dated January 19.

My hon. friend can set up the straw men and try to shoot them down, but let us have all the facts on the record.

Mr. MacDonald: Will the cooperative be able to establish a yardstick before you renegotiate all your prices this fall? That is the key issue.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, there are always things that we can never hope to satisfy concerning the hon. member.

I mention again—and I compliment the hon. member for Huron-Bruce on referring to his suggestion that there be convened a national conference on agriculture. I compliment as well, the *Rural Cooperator*, because the *Rural Cooperator* identified this as a major need of Canadian agriculture a few weeks ago and I am in complete accord and agreement with it.

As a matter of fact, we have felt for the last three years that there should be a national conference on agriculture and I hope sincerely that that will come about. I can assure the House that it will have the wholehearted blessing and support of this department.

Now, I want to come for just a moment, if I may, to remarks that were made concerning the lack of our participation in ARDA programmes over the last few years, and I think it is only fair to state for the record that perhaps the picture is not half as bad as some of my hon. friends would have us believe. I refer to my friend, the leader of the official Opposition, when he was castigating us severely not long ago—I believe on two

occasions since he assumed the mantle of leadership—for the fact that we had neglected to use \$7 million of funds that he said were available to us and which we did not use.

In effect, he is saying, “Why do you not grab this money? Why do you not throw it out? Why do you not use it?” before you can get into the field of really studying where that money can be used.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He was not saying that at all!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: In fact, Mr. Chairman, I was reminded of the statement of a very famous Liberal of bygone days whose name will go down in history, not because of his accomplishments but because of what he said, “What’s a million?” and I think perhaps in this instance we could say that the leader of the Opposition is saying, “What is \$7 million?” Now I want to say this—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, my hon. friends rant and rave over there, I will come to you in the socialist party and deal with you quite effectively in a few minutes. Just let me say this, as I have said before, that the genesis of the ARDA programme as we know it in Canada today was founded in the conservation legislation of the government of Ontario.

Mr. MacDonald: Alvin Hamilton always said he drew it up.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Exactly. Alvin Hamilton introduced it and it was one of the greatest things—

Mr. MacDonald: I remember Leslie Frost saying that the Tory government was responsible for old age pensions.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Now, I think in fairness to the Minister we should give him an opportunity to reply. We have listened to the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party, and we will have the response from the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your fairness.

I just want to refresh the minds of the members of the House with the statement that I had made last year in the Legislature. It is to be found on page 5292 and it refers to the amount of money that was spent in the province of Ontario—I should change that word “spent” to “invested” in the province of

Ontario—between the years 1950 and 1965. This government has paid out in grant for resource development programmes \$13,530,000. This was before we ever heard tell of an ARDA programme. Now then, my hon. friend says, “Why don’t you dash in to all these fields to do these kinds of things that that first agreement provided?” The first agreement provided opportunities in natural resource development, but these things had been accomplished in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Nixon: Our resources were all developed.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, come off that—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And then the socialists want to raise the income tax and they would raise the corporation tax and they would drive every business out of this province.

Mr. MacDonald: Put your political podium away.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Just let me enunciate, Mr. Chairman, where this money has gone. It went to agriculture land use grants to county agricultural committees, \$248,000. It went to northern Ontario development grants to farmers for land clearing and water supply, \$2,490,000. Agricultural drainage grants to municipalities under The Drainage Act, \$8,425,000. Grants for farm ponds and community ponds, \$1,135,000.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, would the Minister permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Grants to counties and conservation authorities—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The member for Riverdale had inquired whether the Minister would accept a question?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, I would be more than pleased to.

Mr. Renwick: I was just going to ask the Minister what was the period of time in which these gigantic sums were spent by this government?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, this is ample evidence that the Opposition does not pay any attention to—

Mr. Renwick: Well, just repeat it, I just wanted you to repeat it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Between 1950 and 1965.

Mr. S. Lewis: Fifteen years.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is right, 15 years.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister give us the figures divided by 15 and tell us what was spent by this government in this field?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: You know, Mr. Chairman, I thought the lawyer member for Riverdale was capable of dividing and I would think he would be able to do that himself.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: So I would say, Mr. Chairman, that it would seem to me—

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am making the speech, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I know the Minister is making a speech—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I had assumed that in the estimates it was a question of answering questions back and forth. If the Minister wants to make a speech, will he give us the figures divided by 15, that was spent by the government of the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, maybe one of the page boys could take a paper and pencil over to the member and you could divide 15 into \$13,530,000.

Mr. Renwick: I would like it on the public record.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has answered the question and I would ask him at this time to proceed, please.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

So you see, when the programme came into effect in Ontario, we were just as anxious to get into it and as quickly as we could. We got into community pastures, and I just want to review this briefly. One of the first projects that we established was community pastures, but I find myself being castigated because we got into that field of community pastures because it was one of the first things we could do, to move into it as an area project that would be of some help to the people in the local areas. Now I felt that it

was a major step forward. There were other things that we continued to do. But all of this drainage work, this conservation work, was an ongoing programme of this government all through these years.

Mr. Nixon: Would the Minister permit a question now?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would like to make my speech if I—

Mr. Nixon: I just wondered who castigated the Minister on the community pastures?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: If I recall rightly, it was members of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: Then the Minister does not recall rightly.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The leader might not recall. It is convenient, it is a wonderful thing to have a memory that lapses every time it is convenient.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister has a persecution complex.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh well, my hon. friends over there seem to get themselves exercised awfully easily. I sat all through the diatribe that I listened to for hours. I listened to it without getting greatly exercised and I would like my hon. friends to do the same thing when we discuss these things that they have been saying about me. I think it just simply goes to suggest that when my hon. friend says that we failed to pick up this \$7 million—and I am not sure whether he is talking about \$7 million in the old agreement or the \$7 million in the present agreement.

Mr. Nixon: It was clear from my remarks that it was the first agreement.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Right. That is clear and I appreciate it.

Mr. MacDonald: Does the Minister not pay attention over there?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh yes, I was listening but you see, the first time he said it, I believe, if my memory serves me correctly, that it was in the new agreement and the second time in the old agreement. So if it is in the second agreement, may I say that I have already contacted our friends at Ottawa and they say that we can pick up any amount of money that has not been used in the first—correction: second—agreement

and use it as the years progress in the completion of the agreement. This is being done.

But I wanted to answer a question that I was asked yesterday when he was speaking, concerning why there was not more money available for industrial development. The reason for this, is that the contribution from ARDA is based on \$3 per family under the ARDA agreement, in the designated area, being set aside for industrial development. That is matched by the government in Ontario. The result of this, sir, is that we have used up every bit of that amount of money. I have requested Ottawa to increase that amount. The province of Nova Scotia has done likewise. We have no acceptance of it from Ottawa as yet. Now whether we get acceptance or not I do not know. But I can tell you this, we are going to keep pressing for it, because I believe it is a vital part of ARDA and I think it can provide for a most useful purpose.

Now, the leader of the socialist party stated that in eastern Ontario there are no ARDA programmes actually under way. On page 109 of *Hansard* he says there are no ARDA programmes actually under way in eastern Ontario. Well, let me enunciate a few of these programmes. I wonder really where he hides himself.

Mr. MacDonald: I was quoting from the *Standard Freeholder* of Cornwall.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Exactly. And I carefully read what the member said in *Hansard*. He said "I am quoting from the *Standard Freeholder*". And when he finished his quote, he turned in his flamboyant manner and he said, "But the truth of the matter is that there are no ARDA projects in eastern Ontario". That is what he said.

Mr. MacDonald: I was quoting from the Cornwall paper.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Ah, but the member said the truth of it is that there are no ARDA projects in eastern Ontario. Now I want to enunciate these, Mr. Chairman, if I may.

Mr. MacDonald: It is one of your friends and it is a little off-base too.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well I just read it out of *Hansard* and if my hon. friend wants me to get it for him, I will read it to him in *Hansard*. It is right there. It is right here in *Hansard*. You can find it. I believe it is page 109.

The following programmes are underway and are being used extensively—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: The Cabinet has disappeared and left him almost alone.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Farm consolidation programmes; rural retraining which is being generated by ARDA staff in this region: Over 300 people now are participating in eastern Ontario.

Agricultural drainage outlet assistance: ARDA provides an additional one-third grant for drains constructed under The Drainage Act. This programme was initiated in eastern Ontario at the request of the county ARDA board.

Field enlargement by fence row removal: 1,000 farmers participating in Ontario, many of them in eastern Ontario.

Rural water supply programmes in Renfrew and Glengarry counties: This is the small dams and channelization programmes that are underway.

Establishment of the maple syrup industry in the Madawaska district: Did you never hear tell of that?

Financial assistance to establish a new industry in Glengarry county for rural employment administered by the Ontario development corporation.

Appointment of three full-time rural development officers for this region.

I think this item is significant, Mr. Chairman: A meeting of all the county ARDA boards in eastern Ontario was held February 1, with 125 persons in attendance. There were no new types of programmes put forward, but interest was shown in expanding the following: 1. Farm consolidation. 2. Retraining. 3. Water supply and agricultural drainage.

We agree that there is a great need to press ahead with these programmes. The Budget, which my hon. friend, the Provincial Treasurer introduced and which I further enlarged on last night, and will again, through these estimates, provides for capital grants for water supply and farm drainage to meet the requests that came from these ARDA people in eastern Ontario.

Now I ask my hon. friend, Mr. Chairman, is he speaking for the people of eastern Ontario?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: That is irrelevant, it is a member of this Legislature.

Mr. Renwick: I wanted to ask the Minister if at that conference on February 1, his department or any other department, on their initiative, suggested possible programmes in that area of eastern Ontario?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Well maybe we will get an ARDA programme in Riverdale.

Mr. Renwick: I am hoping so.

An hon. member: You have done enough damage there already.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The irrelevancy of that reminds me—

Mr. S. Lewis: What is irrelevant about it? Answer it.

Mr. Chairman: It is not necessary for the Minister to answer the question.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Let him make the decision.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: We assume the answer is no, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The idea is this. You are trying to get me to say that our department initiates all ARDA programmes in the province of Ontario—

Mr. Renwick: I was asking whether you initiated any programmes, not all programmes, any programmes.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: If my hon. friend would take the time to read *Hansard*, as I have read *Hansard*, he would know that the onus and responsibility of programmes and the real vital interest of ARDA, is founded in local people and what they want.

Mr. MacDonald: Blame it on the local people.

Mr. Renwick: Well Mr. Chairman, will the Minister—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, I will not permit any more questions.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member to resume his seat. The Minister has indicated he will accept no more questions and he now has the floor.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would just like to refer to these ARDA programmes and come back a minute to what the leader of the

Opposition said about spending this money, that we should have rushed into this programme, that we should have spent—

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, what is all this lingo when he is quoting me this way? If he wants to read from *Hansard*, fine, but I did not use the words that he has indicated.

An hon. member: He is making wild, irresponsible statements.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, all right. I will say that my hon.—

An hon. member: This is ridiculous.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. Chairman, if I have offended the hon. leader of the Opposition, my very humble apologies. If I have said what he did not say, let me try to paraphrase what he did say—

Mr. Nixon: Do not paraphrase it, read it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, maybe I could get it for him. Perhaps he would like to get it and read it for himself, if I am saying something wrong. But he is simply suggesting—

Mr. Nixon: I said you should have taken advantage of the federal programme, and you did not.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, all right. Thank you, this is it. I am pleased to know exactly what he said and this amounted to \$7 million. This is what he said—\$7 million. So, if this is correct, let me suggest this to him: I have tried to convince you that we have programmes going on in this province that were being used in other provinces after ARDA was introduced to do the things we had already done here. This is the point I am trying to make.

Mr. Whicher: What about the \$7 million?

Mr. Nixon: Actually it was \$10 million, closer to \$11 million.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Now I would suggest this, we would like very much to be able to say to the people of Ontario that we used our public money responsibly.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would point out to my hon. friend that if he thinks there is any need for caution, that he and his cohorts in

the Liberal Party, if they require any proof for the need of caution in the spending of public funds, they might recall the results of the Quebec election and of the New Brunswick by-election and—

Mr. MacDonald: These people that turn every issue into a political issue—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: —a great help to the farmers—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It was a great help to the farmers. I suggest to you, my friend, and I read now from one of your Liberal Ministers at Ottawa, the hon Mr. Sauvé—

Mr. Chairman: Order. I have asked the Minister if he will stay with the agriculture estimates.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I am trying to do my best, Mr. Chairman. May I just simply read—

Mr. MacDonald: You are a failure and you do not know it. The rest of the Cabinet apparently knows it.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I realize this group on the other side sure like to dish it out, but they cannot take it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: May I quote from the hon. Maurice Sauvé, the Minister of Forestry in the federal government at Ottawa, who has charge of the administration of ARDA. In a press release that Mr. Sauvé made on June 3 last, he said this, referring to the land consolidation programme that was announced jointly in this House at that time and which he announced at Ottawa:

This is the largest consolidation programme so far approved under the ARDA agreement. I am sure that everyone will appreciate the magnitude of this programme and the effect it will have on the rural economy of Ontario. It may also be a model for the consolidation of farms elsewhere throughout Canada.

I think that is a pretty good statement. I do not think there is too much wrong with that.

Mr. Chairman, I listened and I listened well. I listened to the criticisms that were levelled at us in many ways and I could not help but think, as I listened to the leader of

the socialist party, that in all the years I have stood in this House and have read the past *Hansards* for a number of years, that not in one single illustration did he present a constructive idea for The Department of Agriculture and Food. Not one.

Mr. MacDonald: Lots of them.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I thought it was interesting last night, Mr. Chairman, when he stood here with his unctuous and benign manner and said that "I was in attendance at the Vineland conference but I have a confession to make. I confess that I, at night, went out and organized political meetings."

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): You never go to political meetings do you?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: But let me suggest this. The Vineland conference was announced here in this House during my estimates in late June. The dates were set and the hon. member just simply went out and organized meetings in the rural areas of the Vineland area, so that he could capitalize on the—

Mr. MacDonald: What is wrong with that?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —opportunities of the Vineland conference and carry out his political programme at the same time. It is nothing more than that.

Mr. Bryden: He went at his own expense which is something different from the Minister.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend has lambasted me right, left and centre about the divisions in the farm community. I want to ask him what divisions in the farm community has he created? I want to ask him about some of—

Mr. Bryden: That old story will not do.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I think I am entitled to some order. I sat and listened patiently to all this—

Mr. Bryden: You listened patiently? The Minister has become—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Out of courtesy to the Minister, shall we now listen, please?

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): It sounded like Napoleon's farewell.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Why do you people not think positively once in a while—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am surprised to see the hon. member for Sudbury here; I thought he would be out campaigning for the federal leadership—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —or the federal nomination up there in that great riding of Sudbury.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have to wonder with the farmers of Ontario coming to me and saying, "Look, what kind of a deal is this man, the leader of the socialist party, trying to offer us? How many of these rumours are true?" I can think of people who have said to me, "So-and-so has been promised a job as Minister of Agriculture in the new government that the leader of the socialist party dreams of forming some day in this country of ours". Then other rumours come to me to the effect that, "No, we did not hear that; we heard it was somebody else". And somebody else says, "I have the job". Now really—really! What is the basis of it all? Are these ill-founded rumours? Surely they must be! I would think they were.

And then I think, too, of the time when I was in western Canada in 1937 and I recall very well standing out on the hills in southwest Saskatchewan with a rancher and we looked up—

Mr. Sopha: I wish I had been there!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I wish you had been there too. Well, we stood out there and we looked up and there was a huge bird flying—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —and I asked the rancher, "What is that bird?" And he said, "That is a turkey buzzard." So I said, "I have never seen one. What do they do?" "Well," he said, "they just soar around up there and if they see any sort of a situation which they think they can take over, they will swoop down and pick it up." And Mr. Chairman, that fits the leader of the socialist party better than anything I can ever describe.

Mr. MacDonald: I am not going to complain, Mr. Chairman. The issue is really worthy of protest but it is a little laughable and I think that is the way it should be treated.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That may well be, but I would say this—

Mr. MacDonald: He is becoming the biggest joke in the House and he does not realize it!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Is that a fact? Let me say this, my hon. friend may be becoming a bit of a joke, too, because I think his Marxist halo is starting to slip around his socialist—

Mr. S. Lewis: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Could I have that again from the Minister? I missed it in the babble.

Interjections by hon members.

Mr. S. Lewis: Could we have that again, please?

Mr. Chairman: I would remind the member—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I said that my hon. friend's Marxist halo was starting to slip around his socialistic front.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: I wanted to get it again. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: I should remind the member for Scarborough West that his request under the circumstances does not constitute a point of order.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister does not know what Marxism is.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Is that right? May I ask my hon. friend if he does?

Mr. Bryden: I know a good deal more about it than you do.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: You do? Then I—

Mr. Bryden: Would you like me to give you a little course on both?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, indeed, because I believe the hon. member, to sum it up and to avoid his taking up the time of the House, would really have to say that Marxism and socialism are one and the same thing!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Order, please. Could I ask the Minister to get back to the agricultural estimates, please.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order. Order, please.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister does not know anything about agriculture, so let us have a discussion on something else.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am glad that you know about Marxism and socialism—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. MacDonald: You do not and that is the trouble.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is something that you do know, and I know, that there is really no difference between the two, and I think that it is time that the people of the province knew that there was no difference between the socialists and the Marxists!

Mr. Bryden: That is the old baloney you have been trying to sell them for 25 years, but they are a lot smarter than you are.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That may well be—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order. Members, I would ask once again if you will give your attention please, to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. I ask the Minister if he will, to stay with the agricultural estimates.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would be pleased to do just that, but I felt that you afforded my friends—with great respect, sir—in the Opposition parties, very ample opportunity to describe us from time to time as “people who are something less than desirable to the people of Ontario,” and I simply wanted to point out to the people of Ontario, through your good offices, sir, and for the record of *Hansard* what they should really know, and what to appreciate about people who would try to “con” them into believing that their programmes are set up to do things rather than to be programmes to destroy and to discredit the traditions and the opportunities that Canadians have used to build this province and this great nation in which we live.

Mr. Bryden: You do not have much respect for the people if you think anyone can “con” them.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I referred a moment ago—I suggested, Mr. Chairman, that there was no policy, that there was no programme in the socialist party of this province. And I ask them now, where is the socialist programme for Ontario agriculture? Is it the elimination of marketing boards? Is it—

Mr. MacDonald: No! No, of course not!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: All right, look at your socialist states. Let us look at the record: “No”, he says. “Oh, no, it is not the policy of the socialist government.”

So let us look at what happened in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan for 20 years and not a single marketing plan brought in in all those 20 years!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: Has the Minister not heard of the Saskatchewan wheat board?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have heard of the wheat board and I will tell you who brought the wheat board in; it was R. B. Bennett. R. B. Bennett brought in the wheat board and he dragged Saskatchewan screaming and kicking into the effective authority of the wheat board against your party's opposition!

Mr. Bryden: The wheat pool existed long before the wheat board.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Probably that was one of the reasons—

Mr. Bryden: The people of Saskatchewan built their own organizations and the same people built the CCF.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask my hon. friends over there in the socialist party—

Mr. MacDonald: He is a menace; he is a disaster!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Is that right? Well all right, at least I am the fellow who is here doing the talking and I suggest what a menace you are to Ontario farmers.

Let me suggest to you, this: Is your socialist programme the elimination of the farm community and regimentation of the farm community?

Mr. MacDonald: No, no!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is not? Well, is that not great? It is nice to know these things, but you see there are people in this country who ought to know these kind of things.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, but they won't believe you.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Indeed, they are, and I would suggest to you as well, that there are people in this country who really are not

fully aware of the difference between socialism and Marxism. It is one and the same thing so you go right back into the field of communal farms and state control and regimentation. That is what your party stands for.

Mr. Bryden: These ravings are produced by total ignorance.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Now, my hon. friend a few minutes—

Mr. Bryden: Why do you not say what you are going to do about agriculture?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I will, I will.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Bryden: In fact the Cabinet Ministers are not paying any attention.

Mr. Sopha: You have nationalized the cow.

Mr. S. Lewis: My goodness they would not stop at the cow.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well my hon. friend referred to pipeline legislation a while ago and he referred to an illustration of the inter-provincial, I believe, pipeline that is coming across Ontario. I would point out for his information—I am sure he is well aware of this—that this is operating under federal franchise, completely outside the jurisdictional authority of this province. But I am well aware of Peter Lewington's brief. I read Peter Lewington's brief through his very great kindness in showing it to me, prior to his presentation at Ottawa. I offered him some material that I hope was useful to him in that presentation. I would mention for the benefit of the members of the House, that this business of top-soil stripping that was included in the Lake Huron-London pipeline land acquisition, was first instigated on that pipeline and it came as the result of a discussion that took place in my own home and was relayed to the Ontario water resources commission. I am more than pleased that they took it up. It was one of the points that Mr. Lewington made, and I hope that it will be adhered to by the government at Ottawa.

Now, reference was made as well, Mr. Speaker, to the fact, and it was referred to by my friend, the member for Huron-Bruce that we did not implement the 25-cent subsidy on milk last spring and then we did implement it later in the year.

I stood in this House and defended the position that we took, because I believed

implicitly, sincerely, and I hope as honourably as I possibly can, that there had to be an agreement reached between the government of Quebec and the government of Ontario, and the government at Ottawa that there should be national authority and responsibility for industrial milk prices. As a result of our adherence to that simple statement, we were able to arrive finally at an agreement between Quebec and Ontario, and Quebec, Ontario and Ottawa, and I want to read excerpts from a speech that was made by the Hon. J. J. Greene, speaking to the dairy farmers of Canada in Winnipeg on January 17, and I quote:

The past year or so has seen three important and significant developments. In Ontario the milk marketing board has been formed and is now in operation. Quebec producers have approved the plan for control of industrial milk and the federation of industrial milk producers has been designated to administer it as a producers board under the Quebec Agricultural Marketing Act.

At the national level the Canadian dairy commission has been established and will take over its full operating function on April 1. For the first time with any farm product we now have provincial boards and a national board with authority to deal with the same industry in their respective areas of jurisdiction. I suppose that if one were asked what in actual operation will be the respective roles of the provincial and national boards one might put it this way: The Canadian dairy commission will complement this provincial function in that its responsibility will be regulating the marketing and pricing of milk or perhaps more probably milk products that move in inter-provincial or international trade.

In this area the commission can be a very powerful factor. An illustration, provincial boards could hardly establish milk prices were it not for federal intervention in the butter and powder market. If the commission is to achieve its objective of providing efficient producers with the opportunity of obtaining a fair return it is obvious that an important element in that will be the funds provided by government for stabilization purposes. The commission therefore will be the agency to administer those funds.

The way this will work is that the government each year under The Stabilization Act will determine the total amount of money which it will make available to the commission to stabilize the price of milk

and cream. In arriving at this figure there will of course be a calculation of a support level for milk and cream, an assumption of the amount of that which can be secured from the market, and a calculation of the deficiency which would have to be made up by direct subsidies in the cost of supporting prices for products. The money will then be made available to the commission which will be required to submit to the Minister an outline of its programme for carrying out its function during the year. I think it is well understood and agreed to by most dairymen that there has to be some limitation on the volume and that the government cannot be expected to provide subsidies on any volume which farmers might produce.

A sensible procedure, and one which I think most dairymen would support, would be to limit the total volume of milk to which the subsidy would apply to about the amount required to supply dairy products for our domestic market. This then accepts and adopts the philosophy that the subsidy is a consumer subsidy as its benefit is passed on to the Canadian consumer.

And then referring to quotas, Mr. Greene says:

Quotas of course do not need to be production quotas. They could be price eligibility quotas, the amounts eligible for subsidies or for a certain price. A sounder dairy industry than we have now should not be expected to come entirely from higher product prices or government subsidies. Some of it, in fact quite a bit, should come from structural improvement within the industry itself. We still have far too many small production units.

As you know we started the present dairy year with a basic support level of \$4 for 3.5 milk at the factory. This was achieved through a combination of support prices for products equivalent to \$3.25 and a direct producer subsidy of 75 cents. In September we added two cents to the butter selling price. This was the equivalent of about eight cents per hundred pounds of milk bringing the total at that point to \$4.08. There followed discussions between myself and the Ministers of Agriculture for Ontario and Quebec which culminated in an announcement which was made on October 4, 1966. The arrangement which was announced at that time was that Ontario would provide a subsidy at the rate of 25 cents per hundred

pounds until April 1, 1967. Quebec of course was already paying a subsidy of 17.5 cents in the summer and 35 cents in the winter.

And I would interject here, Mr. Chairman, that the Ontario subsidy included, as well, ten cents per pound butter fat to farm-separated cream. The announcement said, and I again quote from Mr. Greene:

The Ministers agreed that the Canadian dairy commission should assume complete responsibility for support and subsidization of manufacturing milk at the beginning of the next dairy year on April 1, 1967. The support programme to be established at that time will include an increase in the price of at least 25 cents per hundred-weight basis 3.5 per cent milk. It was agreed that the provinces of Ontario and Quebec would withdraw subsidies as of March 31, 1967 and that it was essential that provincial mechanisms be in effect that would ensure that the benefits of the programme accrue to the producers. The Ministers recognize that the Canadian dairy commission, in implementing a programme for the forthcoming year, might need to utilize price eligibility quotas should the supply-demand situation so require.

That is the end of the quotation from the announcement and I continue to read from Mr. Greene's speech:

Now, that is a firm commitment that all support and subsidization is to be the responsibility of the dairy commission starting April 1 next, that Ontario and Quebec will be withdrawing from subsidies as of that date and that the federal support would be increased by at least 25 cents at that time bringing it to a total of at least \$4.33. It is a commitment for which the Canadian dairy commission will be responsible for implementing.

Now I feel, Mr. Chairman, that this is a fairly clear indication of the success of the deliberations that went on endlessly last summer, to try to get this agreement reached and I feel now that with the announcement and the appointment of a national dairy commission that we can look forward to a period when industrial milk prices will reflect the unified price structure that can be obtained through a national approach to this. I simply point these things out, Mr. Chairman, as being a sound and valid reason for our government's introduction of milk subsidies at the beginning of October—simply to bring

this agreement about which was a part of the agreement that was formed. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 101:

The leader of the Opposition?

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a few comments on the first vote and I was going to say that—I was going to compliment the Minister on his introductory remarks—he kept them brief this year and they were to the point, followed by the speech by my hon. friend for Huron-Bruce and the leader of the NDP, though we now find that he has actually divided his speech into two parts and I would draw to your attention, Mr. Chairman, that this is an innovation that I am sure you have taken note of. It may well be that the other Ministers would like to do the same thing. I do not consider it really much of an advance, myself, that normally in the past the Ministers have seen fit to answer specific questions, or to hold them over for the vote with which they had some concern.

Mr. Chairman: Excuse me—I was going to say that perhaps I should interject at this time to say that it has been the observed procedure of this House to allow the three opening speeches; then the Minister has an opportunity to reply, and then we immediately go into the first vote.

Mr. Nixon: Yes, well I thought really that my own memory of it was that the answering of questions was about the extent of it, but it is quite all right, of course. The Minister has introduced his remarks, particularly with regard to the milk subsidy, that have been interesting and valuable. Now in three of the comments that have been made with regard to the introduction of these estimates, there has been some consideration given to the possibility of this national conference that the Minister supports as do we all. Over the past year there have been many remarks made by the Minister and others that would indicate that, gradually, we are losing more and more of the responsibilities that have been ours in agriculture, in this province, over a good many years. Now I believe at the time of The British North America Act, when the fathers of Confederation were dividing the responsibility between the federal and provincial governments, they could not make up their mind really about agriculture and left it at both levels.

It has been difficult ever since to decide, except for convenience, what the line of demarcation has been between these two

jurisdictions. I believe now that the balance is shifting more and more toward the federal level. We have all said, I believe, in all parties, that marketing boards, particularly for some commodities, are much better administered under federal jurisdiction and would work to the benefit of all farmers in Canada if they were not partitioned among the provinces.

The same is true of a good many of the support programmes that have been in use in the provinces in past years but are gradually coming under the general responsibility and control of the federal government. Now I believe, myself, that the conference the Minister refers to will be called, and it will be a very important one because it will put down very definitely what the new areas of responsibility are.

The Minister will be going to the conference—assuming there have not been any serious changes in the Ministry by that time—and I was wondering if he would comment, as a part of the first vote, what he sees as the immediate future in the change in responsibility with regard to the federal jurisdiction in agriculture and also the provincial jurisdictions.

There is obviously going to be a shift of some responsibility for marketing; there is a shift of the responsibility for subsidies; there is still some uncertainty as to whether the shared responsibility for agricultural rehabilitation and development does apply in the province of Ontario. The Minister has made it abundantly clear that during the first programme there was to be nothing offered that was of much use to the province of Ontario. Now I really believe that this conference, and the Minister may very well be our chief delegate from this province, that this conference will have great and significant importance for the years that lie ahead. It in fact will be a Confederation of tomorrow conference on a smaller scale, where those immediately concerned with agriculture will be laying out the guide lines for the immediate future—five and ten years. I would be interested to hear what the Minister's views would be and just what the new sharing of responsibility should be in these years and what, in his view, will be changes to which we can look forward.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would say that, to my knowledge, there has been no such conference called.

Mr. Nixon: We have all suggested that it should be and I believe it would be called—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, and frankly we would welcome the opportunity. I think it is time that we sat down and examined these very things that the hon. leader of the Opposition has suggested. I feel that there are always grey areas in extension services, or in research. This is why we have tried to coordinate, in the Ontario research institute, the federal research programme—because the director of the federal research programme is a member of the Ontario research institute.

As a matter of fact, the director of the Ontario research institute is presently carrying out a study with the federal government across Canada and on an international basis, to be sure that we are not overlapping in research activities to ensure that the research dollar is not being expended unwisely at either level. I think these are good things. I think they illustrate how we could best proceed in other areas. I believe that the programme that was so well enunciated by the Hon. Mr. Green, to which I have just referred, is an indication of other programmes that could be established along this line because there is a very great problem in the inter-provincial movement of farm products. We would like to see a clarification, albeit it might well become an interprovincial relationship that might affect regions rather than on a large federal basis.

These are things that I think have to be discussed. To my knowledge, if there is a conference proposed, we have not seen anything on the agenda, but I believe that there are areas that we could avoid unnecessary duplication in the expenditure of funds at either level.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if the Minister would tell the House his views, if he possibly can under these circumstances, as to the future of our marketing legislation. I cannot quote the Minister on this but I know other responsible people have said that the future must surely lie with federal marketing legislation and federal boards. I wonder if the Minister believes that this does lie in the future for Ontario and, to avoid the overlapping that he has suggested, we might find ourselves specifically withdrawing from this field, if in fact the federal marketing boards do come into being. This could include milk and it could include many of the other individual products that we are concerned with.

Now secondly, and very specifically, the Minister has been loathe to accept in the past, any extension of our subsidy responsibility. Yet, from time to time, it is necessary to step into these fields. It may come again. Now

I wonder if he could underline what this responsibility really is. Are there certain products that are so regional that they would be only the responsibility of this province?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: First of all I see no diminishing of the importance of commodity marketing boards in the province of Ontario. As a matter of fact, I think that there is ample opportunity for the expansion of such boards in other jurisdictions, because it simply makes it possible then for the federal authority that would be established, in this instance, as an illustration, the national dairy commission, to work with the respective provincial or, if necessary, regional marketing boards.

I think that herein lies the great strength of marketing legislation in an interprovincial or national relationship, because the inter-provincial movement of farm products is, of course, a federal responsibility in as far as inspection and grading is concerned. So I see no particular problem there.

There are certainly regional crops—crops that can be grown in our particular region that are not grown in others and there are some crops that may be associated with the province of Ontario as specifically a regional crop that can be grown in other jurisdictions as well, so that is an extremely difficult question to answer.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Chairman, I have several questions relating to the policy of the department that lie within this first vote and I would ask the Minister to comment on press articles that lead me to believe that the philosophy of this department, which has been to encourage specialization of farm operations in certain areas, is now shifting slightly towards that of a diversified farm operation. I believe this was reported in the *London Free Press* and picked up in some of my local weeklies, and I specifically ask the Minister that if this emphasis is now shifting, just how the capital costs, that the farmers would have to become involved in, could be handled and whether, under your new grants for capital purposes, would this play any role in this shift in emphasis?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well Mr. Chairman, first of all I think my hon. friend is referring to a statement that is attributed to me and which I made at the opening of western Ontario agricultural school farmers' week in which I asked the question—"Should farmers not consider the inherent dangers that can occur when they carry all their eggs in one basket?" I think those were the words I used.

Now it was taken up as a criticism of specialization. It was certainly not intended as any criticism of specialization, but I believe that there are inherent dangers. For instance, there was abundant evidence of this last year of farmers who had all corn, or all tomatoes, or some other particular crop, that was lost and they had not anything to fall back on. Now there are some who feel that this method may be worth taking the risk.

Having been a farmer all my life, I have had some doubts about carrying all the eggs in one basket, as it were. I believe that our Department of Economics and Statistics reports would indicate, that over the years, the farmers that have, perhaps, a source of income from two or three sources were those who could sustain a loss in any particular field and at the end of a given period of time they might come out much more effectively and, perhaps, in better financial shape, than those who specialized in any one particular line. Now I know my hon. friend has mentioned that there are high capital costs associated with diversification. Sometimes it is worth having some investment in capital costs for diversification. For instance, the fact that I was trying to convey—and I might not have done it as well as I should—was that, for instance, there are those who grow corn as a cash crop. Is there not a possibility some place along the line here for some of this corn stover that you know so well exists in southwestern Ontario to the extent of 375,000 acres more or less, in round figures, that is ploughed back into the ground every year—could it not be used to carry some beef cow herds? It has been proven by research at the western Ontario agricultural school that it can be done and that it can be done apparently economically. Now if this is the case is not this an opportunity for a farmer to diversify? The capital grants programme that has been introduced—and that incidentally is in the main office vote here—can be used for many purposes that would be associated with that capital cost diversification.

Mr. Paterson: Might I ask further of the Minister—and this is related to the particular problem in my own riding in the fruit and vegetable industry which seems to fluctuate advantageously for the farmers to a great degree. Does the Minister or the department feel that we should continue in this fruit and vegetable industry to the extent that we should, or should we be planning to move out of certain crops such as lettuce, which one year is good and the next three years is bad? Has the department given any long-range look into this matter or should we get

out of the business altogether and just import this particular crop?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I must confess that I am not prepared to answer that question at the moment. It may well be that there is a study on in this particular field—a survey being done through our Department of Economics and Development that might very well indicate the answers to the hon. member's question. I do not have them at my disposal because I do not think the report is completed as yet.

Mr. Paterson: Might I ask further of the Minister—I know that requests have come in from the greenhouse industry which is going through a bad state at this point with disease in their tomatoes—is the department considering, Mr. Chairman, or will they consider, any long-term loans should these people or this industry itself get into very dire straits because of their extreme specialization? Would this be considered if things get worse?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, this is a purely hypothetical question and would have to be considered on its merits at the time if we should be approached in any way.

Mr. Paterson: Therefore, if extreme cases have arisen, applications could be made direct to the Minister with the pertinent facts and consideration would be given?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: We are always ready to listen to any proposal.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 101 agreed to?

Mr. Nixon: Yes, that is, the first item.

Mr. Chairman: We can go through it item by item. I have been considering all items under vote 101.

Mr. Nixon: If I might say something more, then, about one of the items here which is the \$10 million capital grants that we are all so concerned with. I know the Minister already has given considerable indication of what this would be for. I wonder if he could give us some more specifics as to how this \$10 million will be allocated among the various areas of need. He has indicated that drainage would be one of the most important ones. Comparing it with programmes in other provinces—I know that in Quebec they have given assistance for the purchase of bulk milk tanks, I believe, and the provisions of adequate milk houses which would come up to standard. There have been a number of programmes of this type and if the Minister could give us a

little more detail about this it would be appreciated.

Secondly, I wonder how this \$10 million would be administered across the province. Will the local county representatives of the department have the main responsibility for accepting the applications or will there be a group of people with this as their main job?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I am happy to answer this question as to how capital grants will apply. First of all we have the \$500 grant for farm ponds, which is approved by the extension engineers; the application is submitted to our extension branch, is examined, and if everything is in order, it is then submitted to The Department of Energy and Resources Management, who pay the \$500—or the maximum grant up to \$500—50 per cent of the cost up to \$500. This is an ARDA project. Half of the money is recoverable from Ottawa.

In the second instance, 40 per cent of the cost of fence row removal. Both of these are provincewide programmes—40 per cent of the cost of fence row removal up to a maximum of \$500. Now the new capital grants programme provides 50 per cent of the cost of drilling, boring or digging a well up to a maximum of \$500, applicable to any farmer in the province of Ontario, according to the schedule that we have laid down. The \$1,000 grant that I mentioned is applicable to any farmer with a gross income from farming of \$3,000, on drainage, on the renovation or erection of farm buildings—greenhouses, sheds, paving barnyards, building liquid silos, grain storage, packing plants, packing manure storage tanks, tobacco kilns—practically the whole gamut.

Mr. Nixon: The \$3,000 limit—how does that apply?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: A maximum of \$1,000. The farmer can apply for one third of the cost of any one or a combination of those I have just mentioned up to a maximum of \$1,000 per farmer. So that in total, a farmer in Ontario can now qualify for \$2,500 in capital grants.

Mr. Nixon: But is there a limit on his own income?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, no limit on his income.

Mr. Nixon: No limit at all?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, no limit on his own income. If he receives \$3,000 gross from

farming, he qualifies, but this is not on a per-farm basis, it is on a per-farmer basis. I want to make that emphatically clear. There are no capital grants on equipment, such as bulk tanks or other types of farm equipment. This is only on buildings, drainage or wells, water supply.

Mr. Nixon: How would it be administered then?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It will be administered through the advisory services of the extension branch of our department, who will try and help the farmer plan to use the money under this capital grant, to help him first of all save labour, to develop an efficient production unit and be of benefit to him as a farm operator.

The application will be submitted through the extension branch—

Mr. Nixon: Does that mean the agricultural representative?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, through the agricultural representative, and the extension branch specialists, the engineers and those who are associated with the department in the field, that is, the farm management people. The application will come in to Toronto and it will be administered by the central office, the finance and administration division of our department under Mr. Arbuckle.

Mr. Nixon: Finally, just a couple more questions. Does it require any legislation and when does it become effective?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, it does not require legislation. And it will become effective at the beginning of the fiscal year. Effective immediately, we hope to get right on it.

I neglected, Mr. Chairman—if I may return to this capital grants business—to say that there is still a grant available for housing of seasonal farm workers in the fruit and vegetable areas.

Mr. Nixon: Included in the \$10 million?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, that is extra.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask the hon. Minister, did I understand him to say that there would be a maximum of \$2,500 grant per farmer?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, but that is including all those that I mentioned, \$500 on the farm pond, \$500 on fence row removal, \$500

on a well and \$1,000 on drainage or buildings, making a total of \$2,500.

Mr. Whicher: I realize there are bound to be problems in connection with this and I want to congratulate the Minister on this programme because I think it will be very satisfactory, sir, and many of the farmers of the province of Ontario will require this assistance. They really have required it for some years. But when the Minister said "per farmer" may I ask, what would happen if there were two farmers, say two brothers, who are farmers, no question about it, on one farm? Could they qualify for—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is a farm unit.

Mr. Whicher: And the maximum would be \$2,500? For the farm unit?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is right.

Mr. Whicher: Realizing too that in many programmes of various governments there are quite a number of people who do not wish to see how much each farmer might have in the form of money—that is, if we do not require a means test particularly or do not desire it, but nevertheless there are some farmers, a small percentage of them, who are making a considerable amount of money in the province, who run large units. I am thinking about, maybe, tobacco farmers who have been in the business for 10, 15 or 20 years. Does the hon. Minister feel that they should qualify for this grant too?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I would say this, that they are farmers and they should qualify. How can we discriminate in this particular way? I feel that they are in effect farmers. While you may question their right to qualify for a grant of this kind, I feel that many of those people are contributing very substantially through income tax and through the taxation on the property, that they own and operate—the assessment that is levied against them—I feel that they are quite entitled to participate in this grant.

Mr. Whicher: Then may I ask this: Probably this is a technical question and I realize—I do not want to try to put the Minister on the spot. I think, as I said to start with, that he is doing a good job in this particular connection; but supposing he put up a building and he got a direct grant from the government, from the Minister's department—how about the depreciation on that? Can he turn around and write it off for income tax purposes?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, this grant is simply on a capital basis and the writing-off of the capital asset through depreciation will apply here the same as it does anywhere else. This is a grant towards that capital asset.

I would like to explain one thing more if I may, Mr. Chairman, and it will clarify the points that the leader of the Opposition made that I did not quite enunciate fully enough. And that is in regard to the application for these capital grants for specific farm purposes, using as an illustration the paving of a yard. The grants will be based on so much per square foot in the covering of that yard. If it is the building of a silo it will be based on so much per ton or per cubic foot of grain storage and what-have-you. So that if the farmer decides that he is going to pave the yard himself or he is going to build his own milk house, he will qualify for so much grant. And this will avoid any suggestion or any suspicion that there could be any type of deals made—and I am sure there would not be—but there could be a suspicion here that perhaps a contractor might try to up the price. This will apply on a worked-out schedule. Supposing the price of, we will say, paving a yard is, for round figures, 30 cents a square foot—I do not know whether that is right or not, but we will use that as an illustration—10 cents a square foot would be available as a grant. And supposing it cost the farmer \$400—no, that is not a good illustration—\$300, supposing it cost a farmer \$300 for the cement and the gravel and he did the work himself. He would qualify for one third of the \$300, which is \$100. Then he decides that he wants to build a milk house and this milk house may cost him \$1,500. He gets \$500 there, which is \$600. Then next year, or two or three years hence he decides that he needs a new silo or he needs a new grain storage, the same thing would apply there. So he does not have to spend it all in one year, it can be spread out. But I think it is fair to base the grant on a per-unit basis rather than on the actual one-third basis.

Mr. Whicher: May I ask the hon. Minister, is it the department's intention to have booklets or something like that go out to the farmers of the province of Ontario to explain this?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, we will have a special booklet printed on capital grants and we will make them available throughout the province to explain this.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): Mr. Chairman, I understand that there are grants available for the drilling of wells. On Amherst Island, which I represent, water is a problem because many of the wells are dry, it is very difficult to get water through this particular limestone. I was wondering if these same grants could be provided for bringing water up from the lake where it is a fairly expensive proposition in that you have to blast a ditch from the barn down to the lake through the limestone. And I am just wondering if that same grant would be available for that way to obtain water.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. Chairman, this is a new proposition and quite frankly I see nothing wrong with it. I would feel this was a means—we want to get water for the farmers and if it is more convenient to bring it from a lake, why, I see nothing wrong with it. It seems like a sensible suggestion and we will try and incorporate it.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Essex South.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, I realize that the Minister is talking to the Provincial Treasurer with regard to exempting certain farm equipment from sales tax, such as tires and batteries. I would ask if he might consider tomato hampers, which are an essential part of the handling of this product and the processing equipment. I feel that these should be exempt and I believe that there has been a battle going on between the processors, the farmers and the tax department for a number of years and it would be nice to have these exempt from tax.

Mr. Chairman: This would not be before us under this vote—

Mr. Paterson: It is a matter of policy, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kent East.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister about grants for grain storage. Does this cover the corn cribs in southwestern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes.

Mr. Spence: Whether it is a building or not?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I beg your pardon?

Mr. Spence: Whether it is a building or whether it is not a building—a corn crib is different from a building in many cases.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, it is a structure and I would think with all due respect to—and I assume that my hon. friend is suggesting corn cribs, or snow fence corn cribs? Is that what he is talking about?

Mr. Spence: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would think that there would have to be some discretion exercised there—

Mr. Spence: I just want to get it clear.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have had a few of of those snow-fence corn cribs, and probably my hon. friend has too, and they are not noted for long duration. I think that if we are going to put public money into a project, we want to see that it is a useful project and that it is going to be there for the farmer to use for a while.

If a man is going to put up a regular corn crib—that has a real degree of permanency in that he may line it or put snow fence on the inside of it or something like that—then I think that he should qualify, but if he is just going to put circular snow fence corn cribs around the farm, I would have some reservations about that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Spence: I agree with the Minister.

Mr. Chairman: The leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder what went into the Minister's decision that \$10 million would be the appropriate amount and that this would go on over the years. We have been doing quite a bit of arithmetic here and it seems to me that there would be about 4,000 farmers who could avail themselves of the maximum grant, if that is correct. I do not know whether this would be on a first-come-first-served basis, or if the Minister believes that perhaps there will not be that many farmers to make use of this. I suppose they would have to meet it with about another \$4,000 or \$5,000 themselves in order to make use of the maximum grant.

Would it be possible, if this were oversubscribed—if that is the right word—that you would have sufficient funds to accommodate it within the first few years, or whether it would be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The intention is—and I must confess that when we set \$10 million there, it is very difficult to know exactly how much demand there will be on it. I refer to the farm pond policy, for instance—about

1,500 ponds in three years. You might say that that does not seem like very many; on the other hand, some may say that it seems like a great many.

As far as the first-come-first-served basis is concerned, that does not apply, absolutely.

Mr. Nixon: All applications? Even though they go beyond—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Absolutely, absolutely.

I would say this with reference to the hon. Provincial Treasurer, that we cannot put \$10 million in the Budget and then pay out \$20 million, but they will be paid. I want to leave with the positive statement that a man does not have to dash in and make an application to throw up a building that he has not really planned out too well just to be sure that he is going to qualify. He will be taken care of.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Huron-Bruce.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, we have so far supported, over the years, the capital grant system. Certainly we welcome the system as it is presently undertaken by the Minister and by his department. The one area that concerns me just a trifle in this whole regard is the capital grant system as it applies to drainage.

I think one of the limiting factors in the whole business of drainage is the facilities, the machinery, with which to do the draining. Those machines are in very limited use; at least, there are very few of them across this province. I would foresee competition among them under this particular programme. I think there will be a bit of a scramble on the part of the farmers to catch up with their drainage programme. This being so, I can see competition among the existing machines within the province. Hence, the rise in prices for doing the job.

So, in the final analysis, perhaps the capital grant as it applies to the farmer who undertakes drainage will have very little beneficial effect because it will be eaten up in added costs because of the extra competition due to farmers who want to get the work caught up in terms of getting their farms properly drained, and so on.

I wonder if there is any possibility of the department undertaking to give incentives to people to buy additional machines so that, at the initial stages at least, this problem could be resolved. I think that, over the long haul, it will not be a problem, but I think it will be, initially.

I wonder if the Minister would have any comments in that regard?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I suppose what the hon. member has suggested would apply to many fields of construction equipment other than to drainage. I do not anticipate that it will be a major problem because the programme extends over 12 years. In the drainage work that farmers normally do, they try to get it done in the year they want to get it in. But there are many of us who do not succeed, and it has to be laid over for another year. This is the advantage of this programme, that it does not have to be done in the one year.

I would hesitate to suggest, and I am sure that the hon. member does not want to suggest, that everyone should dash out and buy a drainage machine. We do not have grants available, nor do we have loans available in our department for such equipment.

I just throw this out as a possibility, that under The Federal Machinery's Syndicate Loans Act that was implemented by the federal government a few years ago, there may be a possibility in this. Supposing that two or three farmers—and I believe that the minimum number is three—wanted to go together and buy a machine, they might do so. I can foresee, in some areas of Ontario where drainage is very badly needed and where I hope that this capital grant will have wide application, that some farmers will find that they need another drainage machine in this area, and will explore the possibility of getting it under this syndicated outfit. Now whether this would qualify under the federal Act, I do not know, but I think it is worth a try.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make one more comment in that regard. In the brief that I mentioned, I understood that under the ARDA programme, where there has been assistance given for drainage projects, one of the limiting factors was the availability of machines to do the job. I foresaw the possibility that there would be extra pressure on the existing machines; and perhaps the cost to the farmer would rise accordingly and in the final analysis eat up all of the capital grant. I think the Minister's suggestion about the farm machinery loan which is available at the federal level is a good one and perhaps that could be pursued further. I am not sure at this point whether drainage machines would qualify, but perhaps they would because they are, in essence, a part of machinery. They are machinery in the sense that we view it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, this is a problem, I must confess. We just do not know for sure what will happen. I say: Let us get into the programme and see what the results will be. I have not heard of any municipal ditches—and I assume that this is what you are referring to under the two-thirds ARDA grant—that have not been dug because of the lack of a machine. There may be some but, as I say, I have not heard of them and I have not heard my colleague the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), mention it either.

I think that it is fair to say that in relation to this capital grants programme, Mr. Chairman, I feel that it is most important that guidelines be set out indicating the one-third of whatever figure should be applicable as calculated by our extension service engineers on any given project, so that the farmer would know how far he should go, or what he could reasonably expect to pay for any given service.

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the hon. Minister a question on the policy of the government on the present position of farmers in this province in relation to The Labour Relations Act. I think the Minister will recall, back in December of 1963, where grower-dealers were organized in a couple of cases in the Holland Marsh area, and there was tentative organized labour moving into the agricultural industry. Have there been any new developments in this field, on the organizing of either farm workers or in the packing sheds and so forth?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would think, Mr. Chairman—and with great respect, and I am perfectly willing to deal with the question—but I think we should stick to the vote. You will find that in another area.

Mr. Chairman: We will deal with it there.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Minister of Agriculture and Food for this new capital programme. It goes to show that he has got the little people—the farmers—at heart and I am sure this will go over very well indeed with the rural people throughout this great province of Ontario.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to comment on the capital grants programme, because I have been very much interested in this type of programme and have endeavoured to promote it. It is the type of programme that to

me is a real contribution to agriculture. It is not money in the farmer's pocket, but it is money that is available to put agriculture on a sounder basis. Every one of these programmes that the Minister has talked about will be a development on the farm, that will remain with the farm, whether the farmer moves off or not.

Many of the people in my own area I know will be greatly interested to know that there is some assistance in draining out the wet corners of their fields and erecting silos. Some of us have to drill deep wells and renovate stables. All of these programmes are really not money in the farmer's pocket but it makes it possible for him to get the down payment. Perhaps, with the use of a farm improvement loan, they can then get the balance of the financing and make very necessary improvements that I am sure will be a great contribution to agriculture. As agriculture becomes more efficient, it will also spill over onto the consumer.

We will have a better, more uniform production and a better living, not only for the farmer, but for the consumer as well.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, before we leave 101, I wonder if the Minister could give us an explanation for the \$100,000 aid to foreign students. How does this compare with last year and what do you anticipate is the likely growth of assistance in this way?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have not the figures available for what was used last year. I know there were some students brought in. Some of them were brought in by private organizations and performed certain functions as a labour relations job in the tobacco fields. This is not the programme we have in mind here.

We propose, here, to enter into agreements through The Department of External Affairs at Ottawa, to negotiate with governments in other countries to bring students from under-developed countries to Ontario and place them on farms where they may have the opportunity to learn the technology of actual farm production, to work in processing plants, if need be, and to get some idea of the food distribution industry as well.

So that over a period of time they will acquire a good working knowledge of the food production industry in this country. Now we feel that these students will be able to go back to their home countries and, in a very practical way, demonstrate the knowledge that they may have been able to acquire in this country. I would hope that we might be able to bring in say, 100 students or

more—I do not know how many we can bring in. We are going to bring in all we possibly can under this vote.

Mr. MacDonald: Is this a new programme?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is a new programme in Ontario and I feel that it will make a significant contribution to the development of food production in under-developed countries.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Chairman, if I might just make a brief comment. I heartily support this. I think we have a moral obligation to assist people from these countries to develop their own food production programmes.

I am just a little curious, however, as to the emergence of it in the provincial estimates. If it has got to be here to do the job, I am not objecting to it, but in the new pattern, where the federal government is clearly indicating that responsibility for universities is a provincial matter, it would seem to me that here is one place where a line can be drawn, or at least an argument can be made with the federal government, that this is part of our external affairs policy. It is not only in relation to this, quite frankly, it is in relation to a lot of assistance that is given to foreign students in all of our universities.

I think we should contribute to the education of these people, but it represents a growing and sizeable burden, and the burden is already great enough at the provincial level. I am wondering if the government has, on this, or on comparable kinds of outlays, not put the case to the federal government for this being accepted as part of our external affairs policy?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, this matter has been discussed with The Department of External Affairs. They do not have a programme such as this. They may well get into this field and if they do, then I see no reason why we should not let them take it over completely. On the other hand, I think we have an obligation to do something in a very tangible way for students in under-developed countries.

There have been contacts made with me on numerous occasions from individuals, and from organizations, asking if we could provide this kind of an opportunity. Now the chairman of the federal-provincial farm labour committee, my assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Bennett, has been in touch and is working with the federal government along these very lines.

But this will get the programme started and we hope it will lead to something bigger and better.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I have a question with regard to the standard programme of assistance to the veterinary student. As I understand it, a student to qualify, must remain in the large animal practice for a certain period of time after he graduates. Has the Minister given any thought to taking into consideration the difficulties that certain areas of the province are having in acquiring veterinary services? Would he consider making it a provision of the programme that they must practice in certain areas?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well Mr. Chairman, first of all, the hon. member raises a question that can be dealt with in the veterinary services' branch of my department later on.

With relation to this assistance to veterinary students, I would say that this programme is designed to encourage veterinary college graduates to locate in areas where they can provide a service for large animal practice. The programme applies in this way:

The first two years of the veterinary course at the University of Guelph is really a general course and bursaries are available for the agricultural applicants in that course. The last four years is entirely veterinary work, that is, it is a vet course. So we will provide \$500 per semester, or really \$1,000 for the year, to each student who graduates from that course. He has to pass his examinations each semester. But he gets \$4,000.

Now we expect him to go into large animal practice after he graduates. If he stays there for four years, the \$4,000 grant is forgiven, but for any part—if he only stays three years—he returns \$1,000 to the government. Now this is the arrangement and the veterinary applicants, the students, will be selected on the basis of their interest in large animal practice and their aptitudes for this particular course.

Mr. Smith: But is there no consideration being given to expanding that, in order to provide veterinarians in those areas where services are not available?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well as I mentioned, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member's question will be answered under vote 118, item 7, and I would like to adhere to your policy, Mr. Chairman, in trying to follow the estimates. I am perfectly willing to discuss that with you when it comes here.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I am seeking guidance at this point. I wonder if I could discuss 4-H club work under this vote, or should I discuss it under the extension branch?

Mr. Chairman: Extension, I think.

Vote 101 agreed to.

Vote 102 agreed to.

On vote 103:

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, I have a brief question for the Minister concerning this. It relates to workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance. I believe the Minister is aware that the Ontario tobacco growers have requested an exemption from reporting employees who work less than 40 days in any one year. I wonder if the Minister has spoken to his friends at Ottawa regarding this problem, as it affects the market gardening areas and tobacco areas, in relation to the Canada pension plan and these other factors. I have had a great number of farmers approach me to say that their casual help is just not going to come to the farms this year if they have to abide by the strict letter of the law.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, these matters have been discussed with the Canadian horticultural council—I believe as recently as last week. They do not fall within the purview of our department, although we are vitally interested in them, and I can appreciate the position in which both those types of growers take. As I say, it is a matter for another jurisdiction and it is under consideration.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would explain—how does he sort out the relative responsibility of The Department of Agriculture and Food and The Department of University Affairs for grants to the university at Guelph? I notice there is a building grant of \$800,000 to the University of Guelph. Is this a carryover, so to speak, from the days when the university came under The Department of Agriculture and Food for the completion of buildings? Or is The Department of Agriculture and Food going to have a continuing responsibility for development of the university in the agricultural area?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: In reply to this question, Mr. Chairman, this grant applies on two specific buildings at Guelph. There is a crop science building and the animal science building. At the time these buildings were

proposed, they were quite expensive buildings. Quite frankly, we entered into an agreement with The Department of University Affairs that, first of all, they would provide 85 per cent of the cost of those two buildings through The Department of University Affairs. The university itself will put up so much money from its capital grants programme and we would put up the balance of the 15 per cent. It amounts in this instance to \$800,000. This is spread over two years. I would assume that next year this will be out as I believe last year we put up \$750,000. I think this is the last year for it. But it was for those two buildings, because they will provide a tremendous service to agriculture, not only in Ontario but throughout Canada. This crop science building is a magnificent building and the service that will be provided there is phenomenal. And I would say the same about the animal science building. This whole field of animal nutrition and the research that is necessary to bring about the greatest efficiency in the use of feed for animal purposes—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, does the Minister anticipate that The Department of Agriculture and Food will retain a continuing interest and financial obligation for the development of the agricultural end of the University of Guelph—beyond this, the obligation for these two buildings which I presume was initiated before The Department of University Affairs was set up. In other words, has the Minister a continuing responsibility and does he intend to accept it?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Under item 124, Mr. Chairman, under research and services, I believe there will be a continuing responsibility in that particular regard. But I would say as far as any continuing interest of our department in capital assistance to the University of Guelph is concerned, no, we will not have it.

Mr. Nixon: I was wondering if under item 10 the Minister could give us some statistics as to how many farmers have applied for the special assistance that is covered by this million dollars?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I think I have it here some place.

Mr. Nixon: This has been in effect just since last spring; is that the programme?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I think I have some figures here. I thought I had, but I can get it. I do not have it right now.

Mr. Nixon: I understand this is the programme that assists farmers who have suffered crop loss through weather, is that so, through drought?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh yes, here it is. Yes, the loans to date: 2,910 loans have been made totalling \$11,136,528.

Mr. Nixon: Guaranteed at what bank rate?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: \$5,000, interest free for the first year and we will pay any interest over 3 per cent for the remaining period of repayment of the loan.

Mr. Nixon: And how long are most of those loans?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I cannot tell you because I have not got that information here but the loan is repayable over five years with a given percentage payment that must be made each year, but with the opportunity for the borrower to pay it all off at any time that he wishes.

Mr. Nixon: With the introduction of crop insurance this would be phased out over those years?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes that is right.

Mr. Paterson: Might I ask the Minister the number from Essex county in that—or do you have it broken down?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, I do. As a matter of fact Essex county—129 loans, for a total of \$540,307. Now this is to February 21—that was yesterday.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, on a point of clarification—we are talking about the \$5,000 loans. I am wondering about the other loans—the \$1,000 loans.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: They will find it for you. I have that information and I cannot recall the exact number, but I can get it for you.

Mr. Nixon: While we are waiting for this information—as I understand it the farmers who are approved for this programme get the money at the bank at the 5.5 per cent rate or the 6 per cent rate. Do you happen to know that?

You subsidize anything over three per cent you said in the rate?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: And then the farmers would get it at a special rate—5.5 per cent—the farm improvement rate or the standard rate?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is the standard rate—we are paying six per cent. In the first year we pay the whole six per cent and the rest of the time we will pay three per cent. The farmer pays the first three—we pay the last three. I will get those figures for you.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering as to the extent of participation in this particular loan. I realize that the \$1,000 loan applied at a period of time when eastern Ontario farmers had undergone three bad years. I just wonder to what extent the participation was in this particular programme?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: With regard to the \$1,000 loans there were 3,465 such loans made at a total amount of \$2,572,218.

Mr. Gaunt: And the repayment period—when did it lapse, or has it lapsed?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It will be paid March 31 of this year, 1967.

Vote 103 agreed to:

Vote 104 agreed to:

On vote 105:

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, vote 105—I would like to ask a question in relation to farm ponds, if I may, under the ARDA branch and in the regulations governing farm ponds. This was a white sheet put out by the department. I just would like some clarification of what the government means in clause (7)—I think it states, I have it written out here—"that all ponds must be properly finished with excavated material neatly disposed of and banks properly graded". The reason I ask this question is that in my county we have a habit that is not too aesthetic of digging the pond and heaping the mounds of earth up the side and letting them go. As you realize we have a fair population density and many of my councils are besieged as to whether these farm ponds should be fenced or not fenced. I would like some direction from the Minister as to whether these mounds surrounding the pond should be levelled for safety purposes or aesthetic purposes, or whether they should be fenced, or just what should be done before any provincial grant is given to the farmer.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, it is a requirement of the programme that the excavation material must be levelled or disposed

of and a fence erected around the pond to qualify for the grant.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, earlier in some of his remarks, the Minister emphasized quite rightly that the initiative in the first instance for ARDA programmes originates from the county committees. Now, I have heard observations made in many parts of the province that the initiative simply was not arising from there.

Does the Minister share the feeling that in some fashion or another incentives must be created for a more imaginative development or use of ARDA programmes from, in the first instance, the committee? If so, what in his views does he feel can and should be done from the provincial level to step up the kind of development, particularly in areas where there is an acknowledged high degree of rural poverty, as we know is the case in some areas of eastern Ontario, or as a matter of fact, were spelled out in a number of other areas of both southern and northern Ontario in that Ontario economic publication that came out just a year ago?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Let me say this, that I believe first of all that ARDA programmes must be people-oriented to be really effective. Now, having said that, I believe as well that the best use can be made of those ARDA programmes that are generated at local level by the interest of the people who want to use this programme to help themselves.

On the other hand, I think we have to recognize that there may not be as keen an awareness in some instances of the availability of ARDA programmes. So I would feel that the rural development officers that we have now appointed, working with the 24 county and district ARDA committees, and with the ARDA field men that are being appointed, with the rural development courses that are being established and have been established, and are being carried out again in a few days.

More awareness is being brought to the attention of local people as to the possibilities of ARDA. So I would hesitate to say categorically that every project must be initiated at local level. I think there are projects that may be well initiated by local conservation authorities. Now these might be outside the purview of the local ARDA board, but nevertheless the local conservation authority usually has a membership on the ARDA board because they work together.

So I would feel that there is ample opportunity for anyone who feels that they have a

contribution to make to the initiation of an ARDA programme, to make it through the local committee, or through the local agricultural representative—whom we believe, particularly in the areas where ARDA has the greatest application, should be oriented to a greater degree than perhaps in some other areas of the province. And I think there are various sources for it.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could follow with two questions?

First, how many rural development officers are there now?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There are four, and there are others being hired; and there are at least three ARDA field men to work with them. This is on a regional basis, working with the local agricultural representative and extension workers.

Mr. MacDonald: In what areas do the four work?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I can tell you.

Mr. MacDonald: Or do they move around?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Most in eastern Ontario, but Grey-Bruce also has one. There is one in Lanark and Perth, one in Kemptville, one in Grey-Bruce and one in Renfrew. Then there are three field men associated with them, working with them. We are trying to get others into the service, but I think you realize that it requires a person with an aptitude for this work. We have eight new positions in this particular branch for this specific purpose because we feel that there have to be negotiations. I think this with ARDA, Mr. Chairman—if you will forgive me for taking this time of the House with regard to ARDA programmes: land consolidation, retraining.

I had a wonderful experience last summer, sir, I visited a number of countries, just drove through the counties with local people. The agricultural representative was with me in all instances. I talked to farmers, and I found that there were farmers who were interested in the programmes which were available but they did not know about the programmes. Now one could say, "Why did they not? It is their responsibility to know."

I am not so sure that it is. The farmer toils long hours and he may not have the various media to bring those things to his attention. But when you go to his farm and you sit down at his kitchen table and talk to him and to his wife about the possibilities of

ARDA, where you find him with a piece of ground that provided a right good living for his grandparents, but is no longer suitable for this, and you suggest to him—and you can size up right away whether that man has an aptitude to farming, if he is a real farmer at heart—and when you have discovered that, you suggest to him that there are other farms that he might use to expand his holding to become a viable economic unit.

If he is interested in this kind of thing, then I think it is the responsibility of the ARDA field men who have been appointed and will be appointed, and the local agricultural representative, and the extension branch people, to work with him in establishing that unit and use the capital grants that are available here to set him up in an operation that will provide a decent standard of living for him.

I think that there is also an obligation on these ARDA officers and, indeed, on all of us, to say to some farmers who really have not got the feel of the land—it is an indescribable thing, it is something that only a good farmer possesses—that perhaps there are other opportunities that should be available to him. The very fact that there are 650 farmers today availing themselves of the retraining courses is an indication that some of them feel that there are other opportunities that are better for them.

Now, through the land consolidation programme, we offer to buy their farm—they do not have to sell it, but they can sell it. If they sell it to us, we try to use that agricultural land on a lease basis to somebody else to develop a viable unit there with the lease going for five years with the option to buy or to re-lease if necessary.

Mr. MacDonald: How many farms have been bought?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I can tell you the exact number of farmers—I believe. I have it some place in here. You see these figures all around and then when you want them it is kind of difficult to get your hands right on them.

Offers to purchase 120 farms; there are 61 farms purchased; there are 25 transactions under way and 34 farmers have decided that after reviewing it all they will turn down the offer to sell because they want to carry on.

Mr. MacDonald: This came into effect a year ago?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, no. This came into effect last September. I believe that there are

a great many applications that have been received which will be appraised next spring when the snow is off the ground.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I have one other question. I do not know whether you want to pursue it now.

My question is this: In some provinces there has been a development of the ARDA programme along lines that were not originally envisaged as moving out into industrial and related development for the general rehabilitation of an agricultural economy. To what extent has there been authorized this kind of thing in Ontario? If it moves beyond what might be regarded, in the first instance, as an agricultural concern, does it still come under this department or to what extent has it become a concern of The Department of Economics and Development? I am thinking of tourist development and anything else that might strengthen and revitalize the languishing rural economy.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, if we could crave the indulgence of the House perhaps we could clean up this vote.

Mr. Nixon: If I may just speak to that, I do have some more comments or questions that I would have on ARDA, if you would not mind putting it over, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, may I answer the member's question?

Mr. MacDonald: I thought mine was an ARDA question.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is, indeed, and I am willing to answer it. There are a number of these projects. They are administered by whatever particular department they happen to fall under. If it is a conservation project, it is handled by The Department of Energy and Resources Management; if it is a project that has to do with the development or assistance to an industry, it is under The Department of Economics and Development. And so on. I could itemize these, but the whole problem is we have used up the money, that is the thing.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: moves that the committee of supply rise and report that it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to;

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report that it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow it is the intention to continue the estimates of this department

and, when time permits, go into Budget Debate, probably second readings and committee of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Dymond moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to. .

The House adjourned at 6.05 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 23, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests in the east gallery students from the G. L. Armstrong public school, Toronto; in the west gallery students from St. Paul's separate school, Toronto, St. Basil's separate school, Toronto, and Our Lady of Sorrows separate school, Toronto.

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I would like to correct that; the G. L. Armstrong school is from that great riding of Wentworth in Hamilton.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you.

Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Mr. Reuter, from the standing committee on private bills, presented the committee's sixth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment: Bill Pr18, An Act to incorporate Peterborough Racing Association Limited; Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments: Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the town of Burlington; Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Your committee would recommend that the fees less the penalties and the actual cost of printing be remitted on Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table the final recommendations of the select committee on aging.

Mr. Speaker, before I make a brief statement on the report and recommendations, I would like, with your permission, to recognize a number of guests who are present in the gallery today. These are people who have shown a keen interest in the work of the

committee on aging and have been of great assistance to us during our deliberations. We have with us today in the Speaker's gallery Miss Vivian Adair, executive secretary, section on aging, Ontario welfare council; Dr. Charles Harris, medical director, the Ontario geriatric study centre; Miss Hope Holmsted, chairman, national committee on aging, the Canadian welfare council of Ottawa; Mr. Jack Rose, an officer of the united senior citizens of Ontario incorporated and editor of their association's bulletin, and Mrs. V. Halfpenny, chairman, section on aging, Ontario welfare council.

We are very pleased, Mr. Speaker, to have these guests with us on this occasion.

We decided, Mr. Speaker, that we would place our 44 specific recommendations before the House early in the fifth session, and then if we are able, make our complete narrative report available later.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): You want to get the election propaganda in anyway, is that it?

Mr. Carruthers: No.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): They will be in early enough for the government to pass the legislation.

Mr. Carruthers: I can see some people are not interested in the aging population of this province.

Mr. Bryden: We are interested in action, not propaganda.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Carruthers: Some of our recommendations, Mr. Speaker, may come as no surprise to you or to the other hon. members, since you were treated to a preview, so to speak, some days ago. Here, however, is the full and accurate version of what we, as a committee have agreed upon.

Our recommendations deserve to be considered as a whole and not in isolated snatches. The key to our findings is coordination—coordination of health, welfare and

housing programmes within government, for example, coordination of public and private voluntary agency programmes and coordination of research by biologists, social workers, medical practitioners, economists and others.

One result of the advance publicity, Mr. Speaker, has been that we have already been treated to some very good editorial coverage.

The *Guelph Mercury* of February 4 had this to say:

They have been a long time coming, but the recommendations to be made to the Ontario government by the Legislature's all-party committee on aging are welcome nonetheless.

The *Toronto Telegram* on February 2, summed up its views thus:

It is an impressive and worthy programme that has been conceived by the committee, but it will be very costly.

I have no intention, Mr. Speaker, of reading these 44 recommendations, but I should say that our findings are unique in two important respects.

First, we have presented enabling and practical recommendations. Each item ties in with established services of the Ontario public administration or private agencies, and most are, therefore, ready for early implementation.

Second, we have asked for an independent review of achievements for 1969.

Mr. Speaker, some of us were surprised to learn that we had made 180 major visits during the course of our inquiry. Of these, 140 were to clubs, housing projects, homes and hospitals for the aged, two-thirds of them in the province of Ontario. A quick calculation indicates that any MPP who was present on every occasion, on every inspection tour, and walked through these buildings, observing their facilities, and chatting to the residents, walked close to 200 miles, and that perhaps is a conservative estimate.

One result of our visits to five other provinces of Canada, has been the establishment of a cordial liaison between the office on aging and responsible officials in these other provinces, and may I especially refer to Quebec.

At this time I wish, on behalf of my colleagues, to express sincere appreciation to our consultant, Mr. Lawrence Crawford. Mr. Crawford has given unstintingly of his time, his talents, his expert knowledge in the field of gerontology. The successful work of the select committee is due in no small part to his efforts, and we as members have the

assurance that in his appointment as director of the office on aging, our report will not lie forgotten on some dusty shelf, but its recommendations will continually be reviewed and action taken on behalf of our senior citizens.

Our thanks are also extended to a number of other persons who have played key roles in furthering the work of the committee. To Miss Cleo McIlroy, our efficient secretary, whose services have proven indispensable; to Mr. Earl Ludlow, the former director of homes for the aged, who accompanied us on many of our tours, and whose advice and experience were most valuable; to Dr. Bill Priddle and Dr. Charles Harris, for their co-operation and their support; to Dr. Keith Stewart, Miss Vivian Adair, Miss Holmested and Mrs. Fran McHale, for their interest.

I wish to express my thanks to the members of the committee for their cooperation at all times, and for their dedicated efforts on behalf of the aging in Ontario. It has been my privilege, Mr. Speaker, to serve as chairman of a very congenial group.

Neither these recommendations, nor our full report, will ever reveal the extent to which we are indebted to other surveys and to published findings, or to countless individuals and groups who have submitted briefs and in discussion given us the benefit of their wise counsel.

One major Canadian report was released by the special committee of the Senate on aging on February 2, 1966, and at that time the chairman, Senator David Croll, acknowledged, as I now wish to do, our very pleasant cooperation and informal exchange of information.

Due to the establishment of this select committee, Ontario is the only province which did not formally present a brief to the Senate committee. We hope that these recommendations will now stand as Ontario's statement of intent for all Canadians to read.

At this time I would again repeat that we have not finalized our complete narrative report and will, if possible, make it available before the prorogation of this session of the House. Our committee may, therefore, meet again during the present session, but I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that these recommendations as tabled be placed on the order paper for discussion.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might ask when we might expect a statement or statements from the government as to what they intend to do about these recommendations?

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): It would be a good idea to have the report first, would it not?

Mr. Bryden: Why are you tabling the recommendations without the report?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Bryden: I thought maybe you wanted to get on with it.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health.

Does the Minister intend to request the directors of OMSIP to appear before the standing committee on health at the next meeting of the committee on March 2, as demanded by the chairman of that committee, the member for Wentworth (Mr. Ewen), as reported in the *Hamilton Spectator*?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I would have to say through you, sir, that I know of no demand ever having been made upon me by the hon. member who is chairman of that committee, but we have every intention of having OMSIP executives appear before the standing committee, not in response to demand, sir, but by the request of the chairman of the committee and by our own design.

Mr. Speaker: Did the member not have his question changed to "requested"?

Mr. Gisborn: The word "demand" was struck out as it was put on my desk, but, sir—

Mr. Speaker: Then the member should have read the question as I had it edited, and as it was submitted back to his office.

Mr. Gisborn: I submit, Mr. Speaker, the question arose from the quote from the *Hamilton Spectator* and the word "demand" was used by the hon. member for Wentworth.

Mr. Bryden: The whole point of the thing you wanted to ask about.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. How long does it take the registrar of used car dealers to process an application from a new salesman?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer is 48 hours. When the complete application is received, together with the required fee and bond and there is no reason for further investigation resulting from the answers given by the applicant on the application, the certificate is issued within 48 hours.

Mr. Young: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would allow it.

Why then the feeling that has been expressed by Mr. Jaffray that used car salesmen should be allowed to operate between the time they apply and the time the licence is granted?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There are certain provisions for that. They would exist in the area where a man is changing his employment, going from one employer to another, which requires notification to the branch involved. During periods of transition such as that they would be permitted to carry on.

Mr. Young: I have a further question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Has the Minister read bulletin 7-A dated February 16, 1967, issued by the director of The Used Car Dealers Act? If so, does the Minister agree with item 3-1 regarding registration of used car salesmen?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is yes, with respect to the second item, I say no. The section of the Act dealing with the registration of salesman will be administered strictly in accordance with the Act itself.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Attorney General.

What arrangements have been made for the advertising throughout Ontario of the legal aid plan to acquaint citizens with it, in how many languages, and what advertising firm will be employed to advertise the plan, as was the case with OMSIP?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I have discussed the matter of publicity for the legal aid scheme with the law society, and a special committee has been appointed to develop and provide for what we think will be necessary publicity for the plan. That committee consists of Mr. Joseph Sedgewick, Q.C., as chairman, Mr. Charles Dubin, Q.C., and Mr. Arthur

Maloney, Q.C. Those three gentlemen, I think it will be agreed, will form a very competent committee and they and we are aware of the desirability and the necessity of providing full publicity to the public and perhaps the desirability of using another language than English in certain areas to make sure the plan has publicity for all who need to know about it.

There has been no decision, Mr. Speaker, as to using any particular advertising firm or other media at this time.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship.

Has the booklet about the legal aid plan been prepared in various languages? If so, when will it be available, and if not, will the hon. Minister undertake to prepare such a booklet?

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first question, our department has not prepared such a booklet. I think really the answer to the second question has already been given to the member by the Attorney General, insofar as the formation of this committee is concerned. If this department can cooperate with the Attorney General in any way in this regard, of course we will be very happy to do so.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Public Welfare.

Has the Minister designated the welfare officers of his department who will be required to report on each application for legal aid under the legal aid plan for Ontario? If so, who are they, and if not, how many additional officers will be necessary for the additional work load imposed under the legal aid plan?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, this entails the digging up of some considerable information and I have taken the question as notice.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Oh, the plan is about to begin.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: March 31.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): We never hear your answers. You take them as notice.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, in one of his many capacities as House leader.

In view of the impending release of the Carter report, is the Minister in a position to indicate when the Smith report can be made available?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes, I can understand that question. I think the matter properly, Mr. Speaker, should be answered by the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), and if I could take it as notice he will answer it as soon as he comes in in the morning.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 14th order; House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

(Continued)

On vote 105:

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, we are asked to vote in support of the ARDA programme about \$5.5 million and I know that the Minister is somewhat sensitive to criticism that has been levelled at him previously on the inability of the government under his direction in this particular field to make use of the federal funds that were made available under the terms of the first agreement.

But I want to talk about this as reasonably as I possibly can with the Minister, through you, sir, and say something about the aspects of ARDA which I feel might be emphasized in importance during the period of the second agreement.

Added to the importance of this, is a statement the Minister made yesterday when he indicated that the unused funds from the first agreement could be applied to the second agreement.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Chairman, that was an error, I noticed it in the transcript, when I was looking over *Hansard* this morning; I should have said the second agreement—there is \$25 million assigned to the province of Ontario during the second agreement, which will run from 1965 to 1970 and any money that is not used in the first year of the second agreement can be carried over into the second year, so that we can use \$25 million in the period of the agreement. That was an error on my part and I corrected it in *Hansard*.

Mr. Nixon: Well, I am glad to have that set straight, Mr. Chairman, although I wish

sincerely that the Minister's first statement had been correct, because as he knows, and as a matter of fact as asserted in the House, we really missed out by about \$10 million during the period of the first agreement, moneys that could have been used to develop the rural areas of this province. I had hoped, and was really quite pleased at the inference that I took from his earlier comment, that this money would still be available for ARDA programmes in the second period of agreement. Unfortunately, the Minister tells us this is not now so.

I hesitate to join with the leader of the NDP in recounting to the House the areas of real need and poverty in the province of Ontario because we do not want to give the impression that the province is poor in this regard. Yet the Minister himself being a farmer, and having it in his capacity as the local member to visit so many of the small areas in his own constituency, he must know certain hamlets and certain farms where real assistance could be forthcoming if the ARDA agreement could be managed and extended out into all of the areas of the province rather than just the selected areas which are bounded by certain requirements for cost of land and so on, that are admittedly a part of the terms of reference agreed to with the federal jurisdiction.

I do want to put on the record briefly, Mr. Chairman, some of the information associated with need in the rural areas of the province of Ontario in the farm families and the non-farm families as well.

ARDA has defined rural poverty as a family farm with a total capital of less than \$25,000 gross sales of agriculture, products of less than \$2,500, and off-farm work by the operator of less than 25 days a year. As I understand this, the farm income of these farms would be less than \$2,500 and, therefore, farmers in this particular position would not be eligible for the grants and assistance the Minister was talking about yesterday. I understand they must have a minimum gross farm income of \$3,000.

So the new programme that the Minister announced would not apply to these people, and in many ways they can hardly be called farmers because they have allowed their operations to dwindle to the point where they are probably depending on outside assistance for the maintenance of their families, rather than what they can raise and produce on their own acres.

But these figures represent about half the national average farm income in 1961. I

emphasize, "national average". Sixteen per cent of Ontario farms, I am told, are in this category; 16 per cent then of the farms over which we have some responsibility and direction in the programmes laid out by the Minister are in the position where they cannot benefit from the grants in aid that were announced by the Minister's new programme yesterday.

In one area of the province, near Parry Sound, more than 40 per cent of all farm families have been hit this hard by poverty according to the ARDA figures that are available. By comparison, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, have no areas where more than 40 per cent of all farm families have these low incomes. I believe the province of Quebec has several areas that come under this category.

Now, getting away from the farm people themselves and realizing that ARDA deals with rural people, not just farm people, I would say that a group often forgotten are those rural families with low incomes not living on farms. As you drive out of the small towns and cities into the rural areas, you can see where these families, perhaps attracted by the low cost of living, perhaps by the low housing standards that are permitted in some municipalities, have been able to buy or build housing for themselves that would accommodate their families—sometimes very large families indeed—in situations that are a bit below the provincial average of accommodation. As a matter of fact they are well below these poverty standards. I hesitate to use that word, but it is the term that is used by ARDA itself in referring to them.

In Ontario, 31 per cent of the families living in the country, but not operating farms, have incomes of \$3,000 a year or less. Ontario has two districts where over 40 per cent of the rural families not living on farms have these low incomes—Manitoulin Island and Victoria county in the areas north and east of Toronto. Alberta has only one such section and British Columbia has not any. But other provinces do have this same difficult problem that is present in Ontario.

What of the individual incomes earned by persons in rural areas not living on farms? In Ontario, 24 per cent of these, according to ARDA statistics, earn \$2,000 a year or less, far below the average wage in our cities, and if you think about it, Mr. Chairman, at a level which is really not compatible with providing for a family even in the most meagre circumstances. Our province has three sections where more than 40 per cent

of these wage earners have incomes below the \$2,000 mark, 40 per cent of them—Parry Sound, Manitoulin and an area close to my own constituency in Norfolk county on Lake Erie.

These figures are about 18 months out of date and certainly there has been progress, but not through ARDA—certainly not in Norfolk through ARDA—to improve the situation somewhat. Nevertheless, the problem is there and it is a problem that I believe the new ARDA programme is not properly dealing with, at least in this province.

ARDA, of course, has taken a broad look at rural poverty in Ontario, and has published many interesting figures dealing with education. It is a fact that 2.8 per cent of Ontario's population of five years or over, in other words school age, have had no education whatsoever.

There are several explanations for this, but I will not go into that now. Sometimes it is because they are remote from facilities. Anyway the figure is at 2.8 per cent. Roughly 30 per cent of the province's out of school population have had an elementary education and no more. Grade 8 or entrance used to be a sufficient standard for young people in any community to go out into the farm labour force, or perhaps migrate to town and take some training that would enable them to get jobs, but no more.

In this field we are put to shame by four other provinces, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia, which tend to lead Ontario in the areas that I have drawn to the Minister's attention. It is estimated that 59 per cent of Ontario's rural population of school age or over but not attending school has grade 8 or less. At least four other provinces have lower percentages than Ontario in this regard, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia.

I know that you will notice, Mr. Chairman, that Quebec and Ontario do share these problems. I do not have the comparative figures here, but I would suggest that in Quebec many of them are worse off than our own people.

It is sobering, however, to think that in Ontario 13 per cent of the rural population of school age and over but not attending school has grade 4 or less. In other words, they are completely unequipped, as far as education is concerned, to face the requirements of moving out into their own community or any other community and carving out a place for themselves, either economically or in any other sense.

In one area in Ontario—Lanark—more than 15 per cent of the population of working age has had no more than four years of formal schooling.

The point of these statistics, Mr. Chairman, is to emphasize once again the need for an imaginative expansion of the ARDA programme in this province to assist in dealing with this problem. We are well aware of the Minister's concern with the agriculture population, and in this we concur and we appreciate the programmes that have come forward in the last day or two. But the new programmes do not affect even the farm population with gross income under \$3,000. I have pointed out in the statistics this afternoon that there is a significant group in his connection.

But even more seriously, the ARDA programme has not been brought into force and into application to relieve the serious need of those non-farm rural families who are living in a position that is bordering on abject poverty, whether it is laid out statistically by ARDA, or by our own experience as members of this Legislature when we go out into the rural areas of our own constituencies.

I say to you, Mr. Chairman, that with the application of ARDA as we have come to experience it in the province, the emphasis was first on conservation programmes. This was one means whereby the Minister, with the cooperation of his colleagues, could enter into some programmes with the initiative at the local level with conservation authorities, in order to use up the federal funds for the good of the rural communities.

In some areas, particularly the Renfrews, where there is no conservation authority at all, ARDA has really supplanted the whole conservation approach and they are very happy in that area. Those of us on the conservation committee have discussed this and we are well aware of the fact that in that area they believe that their needs are even better served by ARDA than they would be with The Department of Energy and Resources Management, because they get a better deal in the application of the conservation projects there. So conservation has been the mainstay of the utilization of federal ARDA funds.

Associated with that was the community pasture programme which the Minister for some reason feels that we on this side would not support. This, of course, is not true. We have urged the expansion of this programme and I am sure that the Minister himself knows that it was at the urging of the hon.

member for Algoma-Manitoulin (Mr. Farquhar) that one of the community pasture programmes was set up and is presently, as I understand it, active and useful.

The third area of utilization of ARDA funds has to do with the farm consolidation programme that the Minister referred to yesterday. When he quoted the statement of the Minister of Forestry from Ottawa saying that this was the largest in Canada and a model for the rest of Canada, I would say this is a very appropriate statement, indeed. Most of our ARDA funds are going into this programme and I believe that much of these funds could be used more imaginatively for the assistance of the rural poor and the development of programmes that will give them an opportunity to prosper and to take a part in their own community without pressure being put on them to move into the large urban areas such as Toronto which really has not the facilities to accommodate them, nor the jobs for their particular levels of skills.

The Minister's programme of farm consolidation has associated with it a very interesting programme of training and in some cases, where elderly people are concerned, a programme of early pensions which I think is worthwhile. But it seems to me that the ARDA funds that are channelled into farm consolidation should largely be returned to the provincial Treasury eventually. After all, we are buying the farms in a relatively run-down area, perhaps the soil is shallow, at least the farmers concerned have not been able to make a good living on these areas and are prepared to sell.

Apparently the government is going to offer them something up to \$100 an acre for their land, the fences are going to be taken down, the rock piles are going to be moved, the whole area is going to be put together so that the farms themselves become economic units, but then they will be sold to someone who will move in and take over the responsibility for management.

The Minister certainly does not want to get into the responsibility of managing the farms himself or through his staff, so there will be a considerable return from this which, although it will not balance our expenditure, will obviously be able to be a very powerful balancing factor when we add up the cost of ARDA during the next five-year period.

So I would say to the Minister there are two specific criticisms that I have of his general view of ARDA now. I do not believe that we have the interested people on the

scene who are prepared to work with those people in the community who perhaps do not have the initiative or the background themselves, or the imagination to bring about new programmes that could be financed through ARDA funds and would accrue to their own benefit.

Those of us on the conservation committee who have had an opportunity to visit some areas in the United States, where a somewhat similar federal programme applies, were really amazed at what had been done in some very small communities. It was not necessary to deal with them on a county basis, this happened in the United States to be a federal programme. Those people with the responsibility would move into an area, they would attempt to consolidate farms, they would attempt to improve the farms.

But when both of these things failed and the rural population concerned was so rooted in the area and their former farming practices that they simply did not go along with the original federal plan, they branched out in a very imaginative approach. They got into the tourist business and provided the facilities for individual people to take on new areas of responsibility and endeavour, in this particular case, tourism. I was most impressed with this. The thing that impressed me more than anything else was that the government officials were dealing with the individuals concerned.

I know that the Minister is very proud of the fact that under his leadership the province has been organized with county ARDA committees. But he must surely be aware of the fact that most of these committees are not functioning. I doubt very much if the Middlesex ARDA committee has done anything that would be of great value. I know this is true of the Brant ARDA committee, because they find that the costs and the limitations on their activities in the areas of the province which are generally more prosperous cut them way back and it is very difficult for these county committees to function.

So it is only in those areas of the province where the soil is shallow, where the farming community over the years has had a tremendous amount of difficulty in being economically viable, that the programme has any real application.

I am thinking about the rural poor who show up in the statistics that I brought to your attention, Mr. Chairman. Very little has been done for them, and through ARDA, nothing. We believe that education is the key to the development of these areas and

through the Minister's colleague, I know that these schools and the buses have developed across the province to the extent that they do have access to improving education.

But surely there is an area that has been as yet untouched by an imaginative ARDA administration that would go into these areas—and they are small pockets even in the most prosperous parts of Ontario—and assist families who for generations have been unable to gear themselves to the progress of the times, to lead them into productive capacities and enterprises which would have so much to do with the development of all of Ontario.

So I would say specifically, Mr. Chairman, that the regionalization of ARDA is a good thing, except that some of the regions are left completely blank. There is a misconception in the minds of the Minister and those who apply his policies that the large areas of Ontario do not need the assistance that ARDA can provide. He himself said it has got to be people-oriented. Now it seems to me that this is sort of a catch phrase, a phrase that is easy to say without really understanding and believing in it. Community pastures, farm consolidation, all of these are important programmes, but they do not strike me as being people-oriented. We are talking about the poverty-stricken families in the four-corner hamlets in all parts of Ontario that the \$25 million, matched by a similar provincial \$25 million in the next five years, can really assist.

Here is a \$50 million programme and it is presently being used not exclusively but in great measure, in farm consolidation. Much of this money is going to be returned to the provincial government. I would say that we should have a programme to assist in the problems of rural poverty, that it can be done hand in hand with federal assistance but with the Minister's leadership.

Much has been said about the fact that the programmes must be initiated locally. I would not criticize the Minister at all if in this particular area, moving into the problems associated with pockets of rural poverty, his staff, led by the Minister's own imagination, would provide a programme that would give the assistance that we so sorely need.

In completing my remarks, and they are a bit lengthy for this particular order of business, I must admit, I want to stress again the fact that it is very unfortunate that during the first programme period, Ontario was the lowest province in Canada in the utilization of ARDA funds. We used only 3.8 per cent

of the funds available, and I would compare this first with Quebec, knowing the response we will get.

Quebec used 85.7 per cent of the ARDA funds that were available during the first programme and they used it, I suppose, in some areas in a rather outlandish way. But I do not believe that the other criticisms levelled against our sister province's application of these funds are fair, because they share with us special problems associated with rural poverty and were much more experimental in its use.

Before the answer to Quebec's utilization comes back, I would like also to say that the province of Saskatchewan used even more of their share than Quebec, 88 per cent. Ontario was at the tail end, with less than 4 per cent of the ARDA funds that were available during the first period.

We are in a new programme now. We have another five-year period in which to make use of this federal assistance in a provincial programme, and I urge the Minister to consider, as I know he must be doing on a regular basis, how the programme can be improved.

We agreed with its application in conservation, in community pastures, and in farm consolidation. But there must surely be a large amount of this money left over that could be imaginatively turned to the relief of rural poverty.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, the leader of the Opposition has raised many excellent points, points that I wholeheartedly agree with, points that are already in operation.

I would point out to him that he referred to a magnificent programme that is underway in the United States, and has been underway since 1956. We are now in the year 1967. They have had a long time to build that programme up. We have had two years operating under an agreement that was tailored to fit some of the needs of the province of Ontario.

In the years previous to that, the ARDA agreement really provided for the development of natural resources under conservation, as I mentioned yesterday. And, as I mentioned yesterday, the province of Ontario prior to the ARDA agreement that was entered into with this province of ours, had already spent \$13.5 million. These things had been done.

Now the second agreement has been drafted, and I am pleased to say that with

officials of our department, I had the opportunity of having something to do with the drafting of that agreement in Montreal at the national conference on this agreement when it was first presented to us for consideration. We stressed this very thing—that there has to be an upgrading of the educational standards and the opportunities afforded to people who might erstwhile have called themselves farmers, because their situation no longer provided for the opportunity to earn a decent living from the farms.

This programme is already underway, and while it might be said that we have not enough ARDA officers to do the job that has to be done, I would point out that since the ARDA agreement has been made, we have increased our staff, with the approval of these estimates, to something like 28 people. We will have under this agreement eight new rural development counsellors with five rural development officers.

These people will have as a responsibility—their chief responsibility—to work in those areas that the leader of the Opposition referred to as areas where there are real problems as far as decent standards of living and income are concerned. They will not necessarily be confined to the farm community.

Mr. Nixon: May I ask a question at this point?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: I am thinking of the exclusion of large areas of the province. I would think the Minister's own constituency and mine would be included in that area. Will ARDA officers be able to go into those areas, of normally prosperous farm families? This is what has bothered me in the past.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Quite frankly, I think we have to approach this from the standpoint of priorities, and it would seem to me that the chief priority is in the areas of the province where we know the greatest problem exists and that we concentrate on those. As I mentioned yesterday, the development officers are concentrated, such as one in Grey and Bruce, who will be designated for that area specifically.

There are three operating in eastern Ontario, and more will be added because these are the areas where the greatest problem exists. I would feel that in counties such as the leader of the Opposition's riding, and in fact in our own, and in the counties of south-western Ontario generally, that an ARDA

officer might not find a great deal of interest in ARDA, other than in the application of the programme of ARDA which now exists, and pertains or is applicable, in those areas. I enunciated those yesterday—capital grants under ARDA that are available in those areas.

The ARDA committees and the farm organizations in those counties that have been concerned about this—the application of ARDA in these particular areas—I think quite rightly have been wondering what we can do in an area where there is virtually no unemployment; where unless it is on a seasonal basis, everybody has two or three jobs offered to him if he wants to take them. What in the world can you do there?

On this matter of rural education, the upgrading of education, this programme has been embraced with enthusiasm, and I point out Renfrew county as an illustration. At Palmer Rapids they have a course going there with, I believe, something like 100 students, all of them rural people who have embraced this course for upgrading themselves in an educational standard to fit themselves for a vocational training course.

We are the first province in Canada to do this, and we have 650 farm people already enrolled in these kinds of courses. To me this is quite significant, bearing in mind the fact that this programme was just introduced last fall.

It takes a while to get these things on the road and get them rolling, to get people around you, get them trained and oriented to do the job, and then get them to go out and sell the job, in the local communities. As this programme catches on, I fancy that there will be a great many more.

But what do we do with these people after they have been retrained, and their educational standard has been upgraded and they are ready for another job? Then I think it is beholden on all of us—and this is the purpose of the regional development council, the Cabinet committee that has been established under the chairmanship of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts)—to try to do everything we possibly can to direct, where we can, industry into those areas that will absorb these local people.

We do not want to denude these rural communities of people, we want them kept there if they can be kept there. Their roots are there, their family connections are there. But let us do what we can to get industries into these areas so that people can have job opportunities.

I think of several illustrations, the recent one in the riding of the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) at Carleton Place, where an industry was opened through the assistance of the Ontario development council not long ago and where you get a great deal of employment generated by the introduction of a new industry into the community. I would feel that there are all kinds of opportunities to do this.

There are some communities where we feel that this HOME programme will have a major effect, where an industry comes in and says: "We require X number of people close to our plant, but there are no homes there". Under this programme, homes can be built in this area to assist these people.

My hon. friend referred to Quebec's utilization of the funds under the first ARDA agreement, and I am sure he would not want me to criticize the use of ARDA funds in those communities.

I explained yesterday that much of the funds that were available under the first agreement were used by provinces to do things that were already in operation in this province. That is a fact.

Because we had already done these, they did not have the same application here.

He mentioned Saskatchewan. Almost the entire amount of money that was used under ARDA in the first agreement in Saskatchewan was used to establish community pastures. Now, they might have caught on better out there because they had had community pastures there to some degree before the ARDA programme came in. I very well remember the Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan saying in federal-provincial conferences that here was an opportunity really to expand community pastures and I thought it was a good idea.

This was what generated the community pasture idea in Ontario. And then I found some people suggesting that perhaps we were moving too quickly, that we were not sure the local people wanted these community pastures. I could not go along with that idea. But let me say this to my hon. friend, that when I am talking about "people-oriented" projects, I think a community pasture is a people's oriented project because it helps the people in that community who use its services to upgrade their income, or it should. That is its purpose and intention, and I think it is working that way. When we say people-oriented projects under ARDA, education and retraining and upgrading their standards so that they can embrace a better standard of

living, that to me is the real significance of the ARDA programme, as I tried to explain last night. I think along with that we have to bring in these other projects that have come along.

My hon. friend suggested that most of the money in the ARDA allocation is going to farm consolidation. At least I interpreted him as saying it, I thought he was saying it.

It is embracing a good deal of the ARDA money, but it is not the main project; it is one of the main projects. I think we have to say to the person who, as I explained last night, that if a person's income is not sufficient on the farm and he cannot possibly upgrade that farm, we should be in a position to buy that farm from him or offer to buy it from him; offer to pay him to be retrained; offer to pay him to move; offer to pay him to get re-established in some line of endeavour that will help him to help himself.

This is the programme of ARDA, and I do not think my hon. friend is too far away from what we are trying to do here. I think he is talking along the lines that we suggest.

I just want to point out to him that our programme is nicely under way; that we have these things in mind; that we are doing them. The proof that these things are being done is in the fact that 650 farmers are now in the process of retraining. This to me is a significant number.

I talked last week with the new director of federal ARDA at Ottawa and mentioned to him the progress we are making in this particular regard. He was greatly impressed with what we are doing in Ontario in this way. This is a major step forward into a new field and I believe that it is a field that offers many, many opportunities.

I believe, as well, that we should enunciate the amounts of money that have been allocated for various projects that are not particularly associated with The Department of Agriculture and Food. For instance, under The Department of Lands and Forests there is a programme amounting to \$1,564,500. Under The Department of Energy and Resources Management for farm ponds and rural water supply, a programme of \$3,500,000. Under The Department of Municipal Affairs, \$750,000 for the agricultural outlet drainage assistance.

These are all projects that are outside of our agricultural ARDA estimates. So we have a total programme in the province of Ontario this year under these estimates of \$11,178,000. It is quite a substantial programme,

along with the programme of 104 projects that are already completed or under way, amounting to \$43 million-odd.

We can talk about these figures and they mean something. They mean a great deal to those of us who have to put up the money as taxpayers in the province of Ontario.

But the real impact, the real significance and the criteria by which it will be judged is the impact that it has on communities of Ontario where the ARDA programme is really applicable.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Chairman, there are one or two things the Minister has said on a programme which is so important that I want to prolong this for a moment or so more.

The Minister yesterday mentioned that there had been some kick-back on the programme of community pastures, feeling that they were moving too quickly. Unwittingly, the Minister may have indicated why there was a kick-back. He indicated that in some federal-provincial conference he learned of the enthusiasm with which the province of Saskatchewan was promoting them, a province where they had considerable experience with community pastures and therefore they could move readily because the people knew what they were. They had been sold on them, they did not have to be sold again.

I think that what has happened in the province of Ontario is that if the Minister got some kick-backs, it is because he violated one of the basic principles of the whole ARDA programme. I have heard those who are promoting the ARDA programme say so often that it is not something that is dreamed up at Queen's Park or some distant place, it is something that grows from the conscious need of the people back home.

This brings me to the next point that I raised tentatively yesterday. If you have a poverty-stricken area or an economically depressed area, for the very reason that it is economically depressed and poverty-stricken, it is possible that the ideas are not going to emerge there in the first instance. You have this rather difficult problem of seeding the ideas, if I may use that term; of going in and working with the people; of finding out what the facts are. If you have rural poverty, do not close your eyes to it. It saddened me to see the kind of reaction I got from some of my colleagues in this House, as well as others in eastern Ontario, when I pointed to the cold, hard indisputable fact of rural poverty. When you have it then you have to work with the people to find out what are

the solutions, until, indeed, they think they are the solutions. Then when they are their solutions, they emerge presumably through the county committee and become acceptable as a joint project in which all levels of government are going to participate.

This brings me back to the point that I touched on yesterday, and the Minister's comments. I thought there was one part of his comment which was a little in contradiction to his reaction the day before.

His reaction the day before was that the responsibility for starting ARDA projects lies in the county committee. If they do not do it, we cannot do anything.

I submit to the Minister that this is not the case. As a matter of fact, the broad picture of ARDA involving Energy and Resources and Tourism and Information and other departments—Lands and Forests—means that I think you can get people to take the initiative if it is handled correctly, if it is handled in a psychologically sound way of saying—after an assessment by a professional person who is thoroughly familiar with all the facts—here is obviously a programme.

Along with it, you have got to have the kind of thing that was done in my view in the TVA development of 30 years ago in the United States, and certainly I think to a fairly commendable degree in the project in eastern Quebec, where you had almost as many people involved in what you might call adult education and "buzz" groups, and all of these procedures which are now accepted by every organization that attempts to work with people who participate in decision-making processes. These people were involved in it. They spent whole winters with group discussions, discussing their problems, so that when spring came, what maybe was a foreign idea, imported from Quebec city and some department in Quebec city in the month of October, by March or April or May, was a local idea and everybody agreed with it. It was theirs, they were ready to go.

I think it is this kind of process which is a very complex process and involves people who normally might not be considered in economic development. It is people who understand the use of radio and TV and all of the means of communication, films and film strips, and so on, so that you capture and create an interest on the part of people in a problem that is theirs even though they may not at first realize it is theirs.

I conclude with what I would agree I thought was an implication in the Minister's comment, namely that while we have got to

count to a considerable degree on the county committees, that we have also got to count on initiative from various government departments that are now involved in ARDA, in creating the interest and working out the project so that it can be handled this year, rather than five years from now. I think the common complaint on this side of the House is as the Minister says, we are only now getting rolling. This is the point, Mr. Chairman. ARDA has been on the books now for five or six years, yet we are only now getting rolling. This is the reason we are complaining.

Well the fact is that you are now rolling. Let us maybe forget about the past, but make certain that we are rolling to the fullest extent possible, particularly in those areas where the need is greatest.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I would like to just point out one or two things here. I think there might have been some inconsistencies in what my hon. friend has just said. He castigates us for moving too quickly in some instances and then not quickly enough in others.

Mr. MacDonald: Because you move the wrong way.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well let us just take a look at that particular charge. Now he says we should generate some of these things. We must confess that when the first ARDA agreement was drawn up in 1962, everybody thought the way ARDA was sold at federal level, that it was going to really solve all the problems of everybody at once, and nobody really knew how it was going to have application. So you had to orient first of all, the people who were responsible for the administration of it in the various provinces and from there, the next step down to the communities, the counties and what have you. This was the genesis of our establishment of county committees, which we hoped and which we felt, and I think with reasonable justification, were the logical people to do the job at the local level, bringing in all of the organizations, so that they would all have a part in it.

What my hon. friend has suggested about generating ideas at local level is as sound as can be. This is right. This is where it should come from and there is not a thing wrong at all with suggestions going out through the ARDA staff field men to the local areas to help those people formulate opinions and ideas and policies and programmes that will be of help to them.

In the community pasture idea, every one of them was the recommendation of local people within the counties; every one of them, and I think they met with a great deal of success.

Now, through the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis), I have discussed with him the possibility of holding what might be described, as through want of a better name, orientation courses throughout the areas of rural Ontario. Not necessarily on a county basis, but perhaps on a group of townships basis. The local people might be invited to come to a series of meetings, maybe two or three in a week, and these opportunities for upgrading educational standards, or vocational training for the possibilities under industrial opportunity might be presented to them.

I think this is a good idea. I think it is a way that the people can generate some decisions to make changes. This I think is a programme that will work. I point again to the Palmer Rapids area where a rural development officer went in and held a few meetings, talked to the local people. The enthusiasm was generated, they said this is a great idea, we want to go ahead with it. There are 100 people taking that course right now.

This was the way too—in a general way—the 650 people became involved right now. I would hope that that figure would multiply many times over in the next few years. But again I point out to my hon. friend that we are now in the second year of the agreement under which we operate. Prior to that, we could not do all these things. Now we can. Now we are moving into these fields and I would hope that we would be able to accomplish those excellent suggestions that have been made this afternoon by members of the Opposition.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): Mr. Chairman, I feel called upon to make a small donation to the debate under this vote. Algoma-Manitoulin has been mentioned on two or three occasions, and as the hon. Minister knows, I represent an area in which there are two ARDA committees and I feel that an effort has been made by these committees to explore the full potential of ARDA. I want to mention just a few of the projects that have had treatment by these committees. I want also to make a suggestion and I want, if I can, to get a comment from the Minister.

I have had a partial answer already this afternoon, but I do not feel it is a complete answer to the problem as I see it.

These are projects that have been developed, worked on, explored, investigated by these two committees. These are just a very few of them, but I am going to put them on the record anyway.

At the moment, there is a course being established in Massey under the sponsorship of ARDA, a three months' retraining course, which is finding some favour and will be successful, I think. Another one along the same line is an agricultural seminar in Elliot Lake in the new centre.

Another project that is actively being supported and examined by ARDA is the construction of a bridge to St. Joseph Island, in conjunction with The Department of Highways.

Another is providing assistance towards establishing and promoting the maple syrup industry. A full scale examination and brief has been compiled in this respect.

A tremendous brief and a lot of work has gone into an effort to assist in the establishment of a ski resort in the area, even to the point of having developed and arranged for a full scale geography survey.

Another one is the slaughter house, or a killing plant, or a custom service plant in the west end of Algoma, which is I would say, pretty well at completion point.

A lot of work of course has been done by the committee on farm enlargement, the consolidation programme. Many applications have been examined and lots of work has been done on that, and I am sure it is having an effect.

Another one is an extensive examination into the development of the production of blueberries. A lot of work has been done on that. Some of these sound silly—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Not very silly to me, it is a good idea.

Mr. Farquhar: —but when we really examine them and find what figures they can come up with, find what potential is developed, when you figure it out, they are not foolish at all.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is for sure.

Mr. Farquhar: It is not easy to find a great big programme that cures everything but it is not so hard to find a multitude of little ones.

I want to mention, and I am not going to develop the background of this next one at all, the turkey plant operation in Gore Bay on Manitoulin that has had treatment here in

this Legislature and is undergoing some consideration right now. It has moved from a 9,000-bird production facility to something like 60,000 birds. It is in a problem position now but I think the suggestion that I am about to make, when I finish, will perhaps clarify that one or make a move towards clarifying it.

There has been work done and reports filed in connection with the possible production of a charcoal industry.

And the next two have to do with summer tourism. I want to deal with these just for a minute. One has to do with the Manitoulin waterfront development which involves waterfront development on three harbours on the Manitoulin. Another one has to do with the fact that—through ARDA or partly through ARDA—land has been found and made available for park sites.

I am going to read a little item from a report of the previous secretary-treasurer of the ARDA committee, and it goes like this:

An industry that is developing slowly on Manitoulin is the tourist industry. We thought this would develop rapidly under the ARDA programme, but even though land has been made available for park sites, and some property has been purchased for waterfront development, none of these projects have been completed. One department of government always seems to be able to blame delay on some other department, and while the bickering goes on the economy of Manitoulin continues on a downward trend.

These are not my words, these are the words of the former secretary-treasurer of the association.

Another project on which work has been done—quite an extensive brief and examination was made into the possibility of stopping the removal of the fish hatchery at Little Current, and I think with some success.

Another request which I think has been given some consideration is a request for a feasibility study of a grain storage elevator. I will not go into the community pasture management programme except to say that there is a further request being dealt with now for a second community pasture in the village of Sheguiandah.

There has also been plenty of work done by the committee in connection with the livestock assistance programme, and I do not want to deal with that any further at the moment.

As I said, I have no desire to develop the background of all these projects, or even to do more than refer to them. I do not intend to table the minutes of the many meetings called to discuss these matters and some of which I attended and made such contribution as I could. There are many reams of correspondence involved. I do not want to engage in a debate to establish the percentage of these projects that have really and actually been acted on, I simply want to make one point.

In my opinion, it is absolutely essential to the sorting out of these projects and to keep these valuable committees functioning, in every case to have the services of a rural development officer. I do not think these local committees will function for any length of time, or do anything but become frustrated in one way or another, or actually really accomplish anything, unless the services of a rural development officer are provided.

One is not necessary for every committee or in every area, but certainly some person that these committees can turn to who has the ability—and I think this is a very important point—who has the ability to eliminate the impractical and the non-feasible, and to know from experience that some of these things might just as well not call for ten or 20 meetings and finally die.

There are people, and I am sure the Minister knows some, who could be engaged for this purpose and I think it is very important.

I think that until this person is found and established in a community to work with area committees, they might just as well not—in fact I think they had much better not—try to encourage such committees to be formed.

I would like the Minister to comment in this regard, if he could; I think it is a very important thing.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: First of all, I would agree with the hon. member that a great deal of progress has been made in the Algoma-Manitoulin area, due in large measure to the enthusiastic support and interest of his local ARDA committee.

He mentioned a rural development officer. We are in the process of trying to appoint a rural development officer for his area, and I agree it would help greatly in an area where there are such vast opportunities for rural development.

As far as the summer tourist industry is concerned, the land that has been acquired has been acquired entirely at the expense of ARDA. The whole project is now under

study by the ARDA directorate with The Department of Tourism and Information, and while you make reference to interdepartmental problems here, I do not think that that is quite a valid criticism because I was pleased to hear you refer to the fact that you do not really want, or you do not think there should be uneconomic projects developed.

I think it is most important that when a project that has the possibilities that your summer tourist industry appears to have, that we should be able to develop it in a way that will mean the most to the people that are involved. This is the status of that particular project at the moment.

I am pleased to note the other projects that are under way; the abattoir that has been approved under the Algoma livestock cooperatives to build and operate that abattoir. I think this is a move in the right direction. Many other programmes that you have mentioned are under negotiation; the second community pasture is actively under negotiation and I am hopeful that we might be able to get something worked out there. I believe that the hon. member knows of the intricacies of the problem that is involved.

I am very pleased to have the comments of the hon. member. Quite frankly, I believe that his statement is a very splendid illustration of how ARDA really can work in an area where there are possibilities for that programme.

Mr. Farquhar: I want to make one further point in connection with the establishment of a rural development officer. I have some knowledge of the person you are talking about, and I hope that you are able to finalize that matter, in fact, you may already have. I am wondering if his operations could not be extended to include and to cover both committees?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Both committees?

Mr. Farquhar: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, yes, the North Shore board as well as your own. I see no reason why that could not be done.

Mr. Farquhar: I think discussion with him so far has only covered Manitoulin committee matters. I would hope that some arrangement could be made to broaden his authority and his interest because I feel he is prepared to take that on.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I think that is an excellent suggestion; Mr. Chairman, We

would be prepared to review that, and I think this is worthy of consideration and approval.

Mr. W. G. Noden (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, I want to assure the hon. Minister that the added assistance to the agriculture drainage plan in the Rainy River area is working satisfactorily, sir, and is accepted by our farmers. This assistance has given confidence to the farmers in knowing where they are going in their financial requirements, that is, how much they have to put out on their own behalf in completing a drainage programme applying to a certain area or to a certain farm.

This assistance has made it possible by further drainage to bring into production a larger acreage. This will affect the farmers in a manner that will help them with their economics and upgrade their operations.

I want to thank the Minister for looking kindly on this assistance to our plan. It is working and acknowledged by the farmers of our area.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, coming from an urban riding, such as the riding of Windsor-Walkerville, I do not have any suggestions to make to the hon. Minister on this vote. But I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. members of this House, that in the east and the west galleries we find approximately 140 fine examples of the youth of the city of Windsor, students from David Maxwell school and Ada Richards school, primary grade eight students, who have come to Toronto to see the Legislature in action. I know each and every member here would like to extend their greetings and best wishes to these students.

Mr. Nixon: I did want to ask one or two questions more specifically about the way the budget applies to this.

If we are going to spend this money in purchasing farm lands and consolidating them and selling them back, how does this work into the budget of ARDA? Will those funds then be available again for purchasing more land? Is it on sort of a rolling basis?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The money will be available if the farmer purchases this land that is acquired through ARDA. It will be retained by the two levels of government. If the new ARDA agreement that will be drafted at the end of the five-year period indicates that the programme should be extended, it could be used for that purpose again. If not, it will be turned back on a

pro rata basis to the two levels of government.

Mr. Nixon: Have you any idea how much money then would be available, assuming that all of this land will be sold either to individuals or made use of by some other government department. How much of the \$5 million a year that we are spending on this will be returned?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have no idea. I have no guess on this at all. I really do not know. We have mentioned 120 farms already under negotiation and I believe about 300 applications in to explore for next spring or next summer. It is hard to tell.

Mr. Nixon: You say if it is bought. Is it not the intention that it would all be taken off the hands of the ARDA administration? You are not going to keep it, are you?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, we are not going to keep the land that we are using in farm consolidation, but when we acquire the land—let us go through this step by step and then I think we can get a better illustration of how this can be done.

Supposing the farmer, after he has been in one of these orientation courses—well if you want to listen to it it is all right, if you do not, it is fine with me. I thought I was trying to be helpful here.

Supposing the farmer wants to sell. He makes contact with the agricultural representative or the local ARDA development officer in his area. They try and arrive at a price. He makes application to sell. The appraiser for the junior farmer loan board goes in and appraises the property. He puts a valuation on it. They submit the application, with the appraisal from the junior farm loan appraiser to the junior farmer loan board here who looks over it. If they approve it, it is submitted to the ARDA directorate. The ARDA directorate approves it, it goes back to the local ARDA development officer, the farm is purchased, or an offer is made to the farmer to purchase the property.

Supposing the farmer sells, ARDA then owns the farm. They attempt to make the agricultural land on that farm, or the whole farm, or the agricultural land on it, available to another farmer whom they are trying to build up to a viable economic unit in the community. Now they give him the opportunity to either buy it at what the government paid for it, or they lease it to him for five years with, I believe, only the taxes for the first year, and no interest for the first

year. Taxes only for the first year. Three per cent interest for the next four years until the end of his five year lease has expired.

Now during that time, while ARDA owns the property, they may spend up to \$50 an acre in improvements on that property. This could include fence row removal, it could include cleaning up some stone piles, or something like this, or fencing, or perhaps a farm pond or channelization or whatever it may be. Drainage might be something that would be really necessary.

Now, at the end of the five year period, the farmer has the option to buy that farm from the ARDA directorate for exactly the amount of money that ARDA has in the farm, that is the initial cost, plus whatever, on a per acre basis, they have put in it. He can do that. If he is not in a position to do that, he can renegotiate a lease for another five years, but he pays the taxes and the going rate of interest on the property for the next five years, if this is necessary, but we do not want this to happen. We really want them to buy the land and we provide the capital for them through various forms to buy this land. But it is not closed off to him if he is not in a position to do it at that particular time.

I hope that clears up what is happening.

Mr. Nixon: Well over the long run then, you can expect to get a reasonable return on your investment. As a matter of fact, on the \$4 million a year that may go into this, you will probably get 75 per cent of it back.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, yes.

Mr. Nixon: The other thing I want to ask about is in connection with the cost. My understanding is at the last federal-provincial conference it was agreed that the federal government would take 100 per cent of the responsibility for manpower programmes. Surely this is that sort of programme. Why do they not pay for it all?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well I am not sure that they take 100 per cent of the cost of the programme as far as the ARDA retraining programmes. We are participating with the federal government, sir, and through the manpower retraining programme, this is applicable, through The Department of Education, through our department in working with these rural areas. This is happening.

Mr. Nixon: My understanding of the agreement, and perhaps the Minister might check this for me, because I feel it is fairly important, that at this last agreement, they had a revamping of several areas of responsi-

bility, but the government of Canada said that they would provide the funds to the provincial government to pay for 100 per cent of the cost of manpower programmes. Now as I understand a manpower programme, it would be some sort of training for adults to enable them to take part in some new vocation, other than, in this case, farming, and if that is so, it would be a reasonably important adjustment in our costs.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well I think it is and it is a point well taken, but we do not know the final breakdown of that agreement. We have not been advised of it yet. So far, we are just carrying on on the basis of the original agreement. It has not been announced as yet.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister, are farm ponds eligible now under the ARDA programme?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes.

Mr. Oliver: Altogether? All farm ponds?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes. Well, those that are approved for grants under The Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act. There may be some farm ponds that are built that are not approved for grant purposes.

Mr. Oliver: Yes, well, are there those ponds that could become eligible for ARDA grants? Do you build ponds other than those—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, I fancy there are. I do not know how many.

Mr. Oliver: I would ask, too, if the Minister could break down this \$5 million estimate as to what you are going to spend for community pastures, or land development, or whatever you are going to do with it. Could you give us a breakdown of that?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It provides first of all for land use and farm adjustment, rehabilitation, development programmes in the low income rural areas. This is what I was talking about. Water conservation, research, rural development staff and training services.

Those are the areas that are provided for on a cost sharing basis under the new agreement.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, my leader has dealt with our position as it relates to ARDA fully and well, but I did want to mention one aspect. I mentioned this particular thing when I led off the other night and it relates to the extension of ARDA

as it applies to the clearing of fence bottoms and the removal of stone piles.

I wonder, in view of the fact that I have had a number of representations from various people in this regard, whether the ARDA programme could be extended to the area of reclaiming land that has grown up in hawthorns and brush and so on. I think this would be a logical extension. There is a lot of land across this province that has grown up in hawthorn and brush of one sort or another. It is unsightly for one thing. The land is needed in a good many cases, for another thing, and I think that this would be a very logical step in the extension of this particular programme. And I would ask the Minister to give it his consideration.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Someone else asked this question, I believe yesterday. I am not sure who it was asked if this could be done. Frankly, it has not as yet been included in the ARDA programme. I think it is a good idea but I would like to point out that it is extremely difficult to decide what area gets that kind of consideration. This fence row removal programme applies right across the province—now, are we going to apply a programme right across the province where we could clean up all the stones that are on top of the ground, or clean off all of the brush that is on top of the ground or all the hawthorns, or are we just going to clean off areas that have grown up which have been at one time cleaned up and cultivated?

You see, it becomes extremely difficult to determine just how this programme should apply. I think we have to move step by step into this whole field. I think the idea is a good one, we are prepared to give it consideration and to discuss it with the federal authorities.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria): Mr. Chairman, I would like to express, for the people of the Muskoka riding, Simcoe East, Ontario county and Haliburton and Victoria counties, their thanks for the Black River watershed study to be undertaken by the ARDA committee. To find out the facts of this terrifically large watershed area, will be of great benefit for the people of these ridings—in controlling flooding in the future, in raising the water table and for possible recreation development. I wish to say, on behalf of these people, "Thanks" to the committee of the ARDA directorate and "Thanks" to the Minister. Thank you.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I neglected to mention, when I was up before, another mat-

ter about which I have some interest. This involves the request last fall, I believe by the Parry Sound ARDA committee, for a total survey of that area to determine the needs of the low-income groups in that particular area. I am just wondering how this is coming along. Was the request granted first of all, and if it was, how is the study coming along in terms of progress?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am given to understand that the project is under study by our directorate. A study is under review and the overall requirements are being looked at for the whole programme.

Vote 105 agreed to.

On vote 106:

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Chairman, on vote 106, I have a question or two for the hon. Minister.

I would ask what fruit and vegetable crops, if any, will be given this crop insurance coverage during this coming growing season. If any of these crops are not covered by insurance, are the crop loss benefits that applied last year, to be extended into this growing season?

Secondly, since the commissioners were appointed since the House prorogued last spring, I think it would be nice to have the names of these commissioners put in the record of the House. I would further ask what the salaries of these people are?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: First of all, the names of the commissioners: The chairman is Mr. K. E. Lantz, assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food; the vice-chairman is W. W. Snow, director of the soils and crops branch of The Department of Agriculture and Food; the members of the commission are the hon. member for Elgin (Mr. McNeil), Mr. Wilfred Roy of Paincourt, southwestern Ontario and Mr. Peter McKinnon of Bath in Lennox and Addington counties. The salary is \$50 a day, plus expenses, to the commissioners for meetings. That is outside of those two members who are civil servants on the committee.

With regard to the first part of the hon. member's question, concerning extension of crop insurance to fruit crops, it does not appear as though our crop insurance commission will have a fruit insurance programme ready for this coming year. I must confess that it is an extremely difficult matter to arrive at a satisfactory basis of insurance for many of these crops, on which there are utterly no records, or no previous experience,

to go on. We are working on this; we will have the programme evolved, but I am afraid it will not be ready for this coming spring.

Mr. Paterson: To follow up, might I ask the Minister: Will the crop loss benefits that apply this year be extended for another growing season in view of the inability of the commission to provide this coverage for these growers? Is consideration being given to this problem?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, I would say that this again, Mr. Chairman, is a purely hypothetical question. We have not had the crop loss yet and we had better determine that as time goes on.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister how much wheat was insured under the crop insurance plan this last fall, and what crop insurance will be available for this coming spring?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There are 400 applications for fall wheat, amounting to a coverage of \$700,000 in 35 counties. I believe this produced an insurance premium of about \$48,000. It is anticipated that insurance will be available for this coming year on oats and barley and I am not sure what else—spring grains and forage crops, perhaps. Now, that forage crops item is a major one and I believe, had it not been for the working out of the policy on forage crops, we might have been able to cover some of the crops that the hon. member for Essex South mentioned.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Would the hon. Minister tell us what percentage that 400 would be to the actual number of wheat growers in the province? What percentage are taking advantage of this crop insurance?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, it is assumed that there could be 15,000 growers and this would look like about 3.5 per cent, which is a very low percentage. I think it pretty well proves the point that most farmers intend to carry their own crop insurance in this particular instance. It may grow as time goes on.

Vote 106 agreed to.

On vote 107:

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I have some comments in connection with 107. They pertain to the 4-H programme across the province of Ontario. I have a very high regard, of course, for the 4-H programme. I was involved myself for eight years and I know the interest that is shown on the part of the

extension branch through their agricultural representative service. I also know the dedication and the work that comes forth from the volunteer 4-H club leaders across the province to really make the programme effective, because they are the people who have to deal at the local level with the actual programme itself. So I am certainly very complimentary to the 4-H programme as it has applied across the province for many, many years.

However, I do have a number of suggestions concerning it. First of all, when we were out in Alberta this summer, on the youth committee, I could not help but notice the changes—or the different emphasis would be the correct way to put it—that was placed on the 4-H programme there.

First of all, the Deputy Minister of the new Department of Youth was the former Deputy Minister who was in charge of the 4-H programme. He was very conversant and very knowledgeable about the 4-H programme and he told me that in programming the 4-H programme, they realized that they had to place different emphasis on the programme, at different levels.

That is to say, there was a different emphasis on the programme when it was dealing with young people aged from 16 to 21, than there was when dealing with young people from 16 to 12, or, in some cases, even below.

I wonder if we would not be wise to perhaps review our situation here in that connection, because it seems to me that we have a rather high fallout, if I can put it that way. Young people come into the 4-H programme; they are very active; they are very interested for the first two, three, perhaps four years; and then, when you have a conglomeration of young people around the age of 12, 13 or 14, mixing with young people around 18, 19 or 20, it just does not seem to work as well as it should.

First of all, the programme is geared for the young people around 12, 13 and 14. Once you have gone through that phase, the next year is pretty well a repetition of the previous year. It has a tendency, therefore, to become repetitive and the longer one is in the programme, the less interest one has in the total overall programme. I know, in certain cases, that there are young people who stay in the programme throughout its entire duration, from the age of 12 right until the age of 21. Those people, by and large, I have noted by observation, are people whose parents are involved with purebred cattle, either beef or dairy or purebred livestock of one type or

another. So, they have an incentive, from a prize-winning standpoint, as far as their actual project is concerned, to stay with the programme and continue to enrol year after year.

But when you get an ordinary youngster, who is interested in 4-H, and who comes from a family whose father perhaps is engaged in mixed farming and not involved in purebred livestock as such, then I think there is a different complexion upon this whole programme.

The 4-H programme really is a citizenship-building programme. That is really its first emphasis and its first impact. We have tended to note that over the year there has been a real agricultural emphasis given to the 4-H programme, as there should be. This should be the case.

All I am saying is that in the changing society that we have; where we are getting a lot of young people leaving the farm; where we are getting a lot of young people who stay at home until they have their education and then they go into some other vocation; the agricultural emphasis does not take on the same import that it would in the normal course had those young people decided to stay on the farm.

So they tend to lose a little interest and they tend to drop out. I think it would be a good thing in this province if we actually undertook a study to find out exactly what the fallout rate is. They have done this in Alberta and this is one of the reasons why they can place a little different emphasis on the programme as they go along because they know that they have to do this in order to retain their young people in the programme.

It is a lot of work, I admit it. I would not underestimate that for a moment—to compile all of these figures and to review them and see how many of these young people actually stay in the programme. But I think it is important if we are going to give this programme to young people in rural Ontario and perhaps even other young people.

It has been suggested, out west, for instance in Alberta, that they extend this programme to urban young people. I do not know how applicable that would be in the province of Ontario; but in any case, I am suggesting that we take a good look at this because I think that in terms of course material, or in terms of the actual programme, I think we could place an emphasis on citizenship building programme to a greater extent; for instance, the building of proper

attitudes in young people. I think that this is vitally important, and I think that with the changing complexion of rural Ontario as we have it today, there will be even larger numbers of young people leaving the farm in the future.

I think we have to gear for them as well as for those who intend to stay on the farm and make farming their life's occupation. I throw that out to the Minister because I think it has merit.

Over the years, young people from the farm have had a very high reputation when they go into industry and into other occupations, simply because they have had responsibility. They have had responsibility to carry on some phase of the operation, whether feeding the hens when they come from school or something of this type. I think it is vitally important that, as we have done in the past, we support this type of attitude-building in our young people, presuming of course the large percentage of them will leave the farm in the future.

I throw those suggestions out to the Minister because I think that the 4-H programme performs a very vital service. I stress that attitude-building is not given in the schools. It sometimes is not given in the homes. I think that this is a real area in which the 4-H programme could perform a very great service.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate my friend for this suggestion. I believe it is worthy of consideration. I would like to say that in this programme of broadening and training of youth, there are already a junior programme and senior programme in the 4-H clubs now. It is up to age 16 and then from 16 to 18 and on after. No, I believe the senior programme is over 16 to 20. I am sorry, 16 to 20.

Now, if there are enough junior members in a given club, they have a junior club. If there are enough senior members, there is a senior club. The two inter-relate to some degree, but there are the two programmes. This has some application now, but I do not think we should overlook the importance of giving the opportunity to every young person. We know of the countless thousands of young people who participate in 4-H club activities today.

For instance, there were almost 9,000 individual members taking part in the agricultural clubs this year. That is a lot of young people, and I believe that when we come to the home economic section we will find that there are a great many more 4-H club girls taking part in home economics training.

We know very well that not all those young people are going to stay on the farm. But even if they leave the farms, as I have said many times, they will be the better for the training in citizenship that they have had in 4-H club development. These young people stand out wherever they go, and they will always carry with them an appreciation of rural life and the agricultural industry that a good many other people do not have, whether they stay on the farm or not.

I can see my hon. friend's point. I would suggest, and I know he would be the first to agree, that this programme, even for those who leave the farm, is not wasted by any means. It carries with them right through life, they are the better for it. I can say this to him that we will study carefully what he has said in *Hansard*, to see if there are points that we can involve and envelop in our 4-H club programme.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, Mr. Chairman, I must admit that within the last three or four years I have not studied the course content of the 4-H programme. My father happens to be a club leader, but I just have not spoken to him about this particular matter. I am thinking in terms of perhaps taking one night out or perhaps two nights out of the programme and dealing with citizenship and the building of attitudes rather than say, judging a class of beef cattle or judging a class of dairy cattle, having a course on feed and feeding and so on.

I am thinking in terms of setting aside one or two nights in which this type of thing may be given exclusively. In that way, you place a greater emphasis on it. That is what I had in mind.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, the latter portion of item 5 in vote 107, has to do with the grants and such other expenses necessary for the development of agriculture in northern Ontario. I was very interested, and I think the *Rural Cooperator* is to be commended for a series of articles that have appeared in the last year—the last six months perhaps more accurately—with regard to problems faced by agriculture and farmers in northern Ontario.

I wanted to raise a number of the issues that are highlighted in these articles and invite the Minister's comment as to what the government is doing. I do not know what proportion of that \$212,000 is going for grants and such other expenses necessary for the development of agriculture, but that is a fair amount of money.

It is pointed out, for example, that incredible as it may seem, there has never been a comprehensive study of the northern market potential. Now, that rather stopped me, quite frankly. I would have thought that the market potential of the north would be something that would have been examined both in terms of what could be met locally and, therefore, what would have to be imported. But this is contained in an article in the *Rural Cooperator* of July 19:

The area is deficient in milk, eggs, meat and potato production, yet these products could be produced locally.

A second point—the milk production is a major headache because there is a woeful shortage of processing plants to handle fluid surpluses. Now, one does not have to be in northern Ontario very long to know the problems related to milk and the distances sometimes that they have to be brought in. But is the main obstacle the woeful shortage of processing plants to handle fluid surpluses?

Thirdly, as cow-calf beef farmers ship 400-pound animals to the Toronto market their path is crossed by refrigerated transport bringing processed and finished meats to the area. There is only one **small abattoir in the central northern district.**

This is rather a familiar topic—I think almost year after year we talk about the shortage of abattoirs in the north. I wonder if the Minister could give us some indication of what developments there have been in that line, or what developments are in prospect?

A fourth point. There is no major—and they emphasize the word “major”—federal or provincial government programmes to obtain grain varieties that would flourish in the region. In the experimental work that is going on in the Timiskaming area, up in Kapuskasing, are we not reaching or attempting to come up with varieties?

Indeed there are other aspects in the story here that tell of attempts at the growth of crops such as corn.

A fifth point. The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food acknowledges that one of its problems is to get bilingual extension personnel for the department. This was a point that was noted in the Throne Speech.

A later article in the *Rural Cooperator* on October 11, is headlined: The North's Problem is That They are 20 Years Behind the Times in Technology. One of the reasons why they are behind the times and the difficulty of getting the ideas around is that in many of our outlets from the provincial Department

of Agriculture and Food, there is simply nothing in French in the communities where the majority of the people are French. And therefore a very major deterrent in getting the ideas across.

Well, I could cite others that are highlighted here but I wonder if I could invite the Minister's comment on agricultural development in the north on some of these specific problems?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, let us say, Mr. Chairman, there are vast potentials in the north. There is no question about this at all but I think we have to recognize at once that there are also tremendous opportunities for employment in the north in other than farm industries. The articles that have appeared in the *Rural Cooperator*—are good articles, I have read them all—however they are concentrated largely on northeastern Ontario.

I point out the area the hon. member for Rainy River comes from—I am familiar with both these areas because like the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party I have travelled through them extensively—is an area that does not have the same opportunities for off-the-farm employment. These people—now the pulp wood, the lumbering industry has passed them by—are turning to farming and they are grasping every opportunity to develop good agriculture. I have seldom met a group of farmers—and I have met, I think, most of them personally in that area—who are as keen to grasp the opportunities that are available to them to help themselves. And I point out some of these things to you.

For instance, regarding beef cow-calf operations to which my friend referred, unless this opportunity is developed in northern Ontario, we are going to miss the chance to really expand beef cattle production in Ontario.

But what happened out in the Rainy River district? These people formed a cooperative, they came to us and got us to back a guarantee to their beef cattle cooperative so that they could go and buy good beef cows to start with. They did this for a number of years but they did not have as good quality bulls as they should have available to them in that particular area.

I suggested to them that if they would send a delegation down here to southern Ontario to visit some of the purebred breeders of beef cattle here in southern Ontario, to attend the Ontario beef bull sale, we would pay their expenses down. If they bought any bulls in the sale, we would pay the full subsidy of the performance testing—

available under performance testing—and pay the freight on the bulls back to Rainy River. They came down and bought 27 bulls at the first sale; last spring they came down and bought 26 more.

I went back to the sale last fall at Stratton in the Rainy River district. It was a beautiful autumn afternoon and that auction ring was jammed full of people. The first crop of calves from those first 27 bulls were in that sale. It was just as evident as day and night that the quality stamp was right there on those calves. We fellows from southern Ontario really paid for those cattle.

Now, we do not object to doing this and I pointed out to these people that I would like to see the opportunity to produce more high quality beef calves expanded in this particular area. I said so and the member will bear me witness at the sale opening, that I felt that the opportunity was there for 5,000 beef cows in the Rainy River area. The surveys that we have done there indicate that area will carry that many cows, easily.

If they could put up a sale every year where they could run 3,000 high quality beef calves through that sale, that area will develop the reputation that is now enjoyed by some of the areas in Alberta where all you have to do is send an order in to that particular community sale and you know you are going to get quality cattle out because that is all that is there.

Mr. Whicher: Wiarton.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Wiarton is a typical illustration; it is happening there too. So I maintain this is the thing we want to do and it is happening—the idea caught on out there and they are going ahead. I am tremendously impressed with the potential and the way they are grasping that opportunity.

I will venture to say that we will live to see the day quite easily when the Stratton sale will enjoy a reputation for quality cattle for the feed lots of southern Ontario that will compare favourably with the best in western Canada.

I think the same potential can happen in northern Ontario but we have to recognize basic economic facts. There are so many opportunities there for people to be employed in many other fields that it is extremely difficult for a great deal of interest in actual agriculture to develop.

As far as the point the leader of the New Democratic Party mentioned: First of all he mentioned surplus milk, he spoke of the

shortage, and spoke of a surplus. I believe that at certain times of the year there is a surplus from the fluid market. We offered through ARDA to transport that milk to another factory and you mentioned great distances. This is a major problem. We offered as well under ARDA to help the Verner cooperative change over from a cream and butter operation to a processing plant for cheese, preferably, or for powder, whatever they decided to do. I am not sure what status that is in.

I do not know whether Mr. Crown is still here or not, or just what has happened in that regard. But anyway we hope that something will come of that so that they can process that surplus milk right there on a seasonal basis. In the meantime, they have ARDA funds to move it when necessary. Quite frankly, I do not think there is a great deal of surplus milk.

As far as cow-calf herds are concerned, I referred to that—the potential is there and we would like to see it develop, but I quite frankly think that it is going to have to be developed on a basis much larger than the concept that we have in Ontario of whatever number of cows you can have on a small piece of land. I think it has to be a fairly large operation that will create a sufficient turnover that will make it an economic unit.

There have been several market potential studies made in the last five years of northern Ontario, and while I do not have them right at my finger tips we would be more than pleased to provide them for the hon. member, if he should so wish to have them. They have been done, and there are opportunities indicated.

With regard to grain varieties—a great deal has been accomplished at our New Liskeard experimental farm and a great deal more can, and will, be accomplished there. I have been impressed with the test plots that I have seen there and with the introduction of the possibilities of barley, for instance, in that area—and why in the world more barley is not grown, I do not know. But it is something, as was said earlier this afternoon, that has to evolve, that has to catch on at the local level, and go on from there.

Now we have placed a crop scientist specialist at the New Liskeard farm to do just these things. The Kapuskasing farm, which is operated by the federal government under the research programmes of the federal government, I believe, has brought in two crop specialists to work there in an attempt to develop a type of cropping pro-

gramme that will be of some value in that particular area.

The crop improvement associations in that particular area of northern Ontario—and incidentally, the immediate past president of the Ontario soil and crop improvement association came from Thessalon—are constantly trying out these new varieties and encouraging other farmers to use them. But here again it is a process that is not as quick as we would like to see it.

With regard to bilingual extension people, we recognize that this is a major problem. We introduced this programme in the Budget this year whereby we may encourage bilingual secondary school graduates who have an aptitude for agriculture, to enter an agricultural course in a French language university. That will equip them for the opportunities that are so available in our department, not only as agricultural representatives, but as extension specialists and as home economists. The more of them we can get, the better we are going to like it. We hope that this programme will fill a need.

We have a working arrangement with the government of Quebec whereby we provide them with English pamphlets and brochures from our department and they supply us with material from their department in French. This has worked reasonably well. I must confess it is not 100 per cent, but I think it is a move in the right direction and I do not think there is too great a problem in this particular area.

Fortunately, many people who are quite fluent in French, which is their mother tongue, are also conversant in English, which is a lot more than can be said for many of us who are only conversant in one language, and I pay tribute to them. I wish I were bilingual. But we hope the introduction of this new programme will prove very beneficial.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to focus briefly on one aspect of what the Minister has said with regard to the difficulty of getting people to, in effect go into agriculture in the north. No doubt this is part of our problem, the competition from other industry and I think it was the hon. member for Algoma-Manitoulin who elicited from the Minister a year or so ago that there was not a single high school in northern Ontario in which there had been enough interest to develop a course that would, in effect, provide the skills and the knowledge for those who wanted to continue in agriculture.

In other words, even if they are on the farm, they will take carpentry as a supplement to their farming in the hope that they may bolster their incomes and make it possible for them to survive.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That happens in southern Ontario.

Mr. MacDonald: I agree, but I think maybe even more in the north. I refuse to believe that if adequate research were done on it, we would not be able to find ways and means for encouraging small but productive and worthwhile development of agriculture in the pockets to be found all across northern Ontario. Now the Minister seized on what is undoubtedly the major agricultural area in northern Ontario. I have even had people up in that area of my hon. friend, between Fort Frances and Rainy River, contending that it was the largest piece of agricultural land outside of southern Ontario, or something like this.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: That is right.

Mr. Noden: That is right.

Mr. MacDonald: It certainly is a good piece of agricultural land with a well developed cooperative movement and allied industry, so with the decline of forestry in the area it is encouraging to hear that we are getting into agriculture in a more substantive way.

But you go to the area between Dryden and Kenora, you go to the outskirts of the Lakehead, you get into the Atikokan area, get into Pass Lake, east of the Lakehead, the northeast at Cochrane and Timiskaming, and Verner of the Manitoulin area. I just cannot believe that if we were to sit down and figure out the amount of produce that is deficient in that area, that is required, and ways and means for encouraging its local production, that it would not result in a diversification of the industry locally or of the economy locally; that you could not bring attractive enough returns to encourage a limited number of people—we have to face it, it would be a limited number of people. The result would be that you would be producing a much greater proportion of the food for the people of the north in the north, rather than importing it to the extent that is done.

I think sometimes those of use who live down in these so-called banana belt areas do not realize the potential. I will never forget one occasion during the war briefly being for a weekend out on the Northwest

River, which, believe it or not, is across Hamilton Inlet from Goose Bay—there has been a port there since the 1740's, and it has gone through Dutch, English and French hands—and talking to people who lived there all the time, the United Church minister and the Anglican Church minister. They would show on coloured slides the crops they grew in the limited season they had, and this is away up in the north and out beyond Northwest River.

Admittedly, this is small, but it underlined forever and a day with me the fact that if one experiments and one can go beyond the experiment for one's personal use, into commercial use, that there is a far greater potential in northern Ontario. It strikes me as a little bit absurd we should be hauling food which in many instances could be grown up in northern Ontario, either from the south or even worse, from the United States, at costs which are much, much higher I suspect, than could be realized for a good income for people in those areas. But it needs a detailed analysis of each of these pockets and the development of it as the surrounding industry and urban development takes place.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister to clarify his remarks in regards to the Verner co-op. He said that the department had offered help to provide a cheese factory. As I understand it, the co-op has applied for ARDA assistance and it has not yet come through, and the province has not offered the help but rather that the co-op is waiting for the assistance to establish the cheese factory.

And I would like to ask him also secondary to that, in regard to the movement of the milk. I think it is up to the creamery or cheese factory in Earleton. Has the ARDA programme provided funds for the transportation of the milk up there? Up to Earleton from the Verner area?

Mr. Chairman: I think we have passed the vote on 105 on both these questions.

Mr. Smith: Well, the Minister mentioned—

Mr. Chairman: Yes, well, I would not want to open up the ARDA vote, 105, at this time. We have already passed it.

Mr. Smith: But the Minister mentioned in his remarks under this vote the offer that the province had made to the Verner co-op, and I was questioning about that. He brought it up under this vote.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, in the first place, I guess perhaps I was talking hopefully. The Verner co-op has not made a request to ARDA for assistance yet. We made the offer to the people who are moving surplus milk to pay for it under ARDA funds. How much has actually been paid or whether it has been taken up or not, I do not know, but I understand the application has not been made. I thought it had, because I thought it was such a good idea, that I did not know why they did not take it up, but it apparently has not been done.

Mr. Noden: Mr. Chairman, I want to refer to some of the statements in connection with northern Ontario and more especially with northwestern Ontario. I might say that our people have shown their initiative by doing things or by helping themselves, which I feel is good for our area. Now, our northwestern Ontario development association has appointed a consultant. This gentleman is now developing a thoroughly documented presentation to the federal authorities seeking inclusion of the northwest in a programme of feed grain subsidies to aid regional cattlemen. This is under study and I am sure that the man they have appointed to this position is a very capable man and is familiar with our problems, and will give it the attention that it requires, and then will come up with some kind of an answer.

I might say that production in the Rainy River district as far as milk is concerned and farm products during the summer months, whatever we are able to produce has been taken care of by the tourist industry, both in the Kenora and the Rainy River districts. There is not any surplus in the summertime and I do not think there is a surplus at any time. We are able to sell our produce. Mind you, it costs us a little more to do it, but at the same time, we have not got any definite surplus that we can speak of—because there is a market for it. It is a distant market, yes, there is no surplus at the present time.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, last year, and I believe the year before, we talked, during the estimates, about the agricultural representatives across the province engaging themselves to a greater extent in actual marketing, in terms of providing a service.

Now I believe that the agricultural representative service can do this and do it very well. These are capable people. They are well versed in agricultural matters. I realize that they are overloaded now with details of programmes in one form or another. None-

theless, I feel that they can perform a very useful function in this regard.

I believe the department undertook to give the agricultural representative service a course in marketing and I am wondering to what extent that has been pursued. It goes without saying that the emphasis has been on production over the years. The Department of Agriculture and Food stressed, although it was an inarticulated stress, that the whole emphasis should be on production and the agricultural representative service, of course, has carried out and promoted this idea.

Having said that, I have also said, over the years, that they should engage themselves in marketing to a greater extent, because it is one thing to produce it, but it is another thing to market it. In the final analysis, marketing is just as important, if not more important, than producing the commodities. I think it is vitally important that the agricultural representative service performs a function in this regard. I just wonder what has been done in respect to this?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, there was a course in December, a provincial course for three days on marketing attended by our extension people. Now I just wonder what my hon. friend suggests that the agricultural representatives could be doing in relation to marketing, because in the province of Ontario, there are 19 plans covering 38 or 39 commodities outside of milk. We have milk covered through a marketing plan now and another plan was voted in just this week with a majority of 82 per cent. Now you wonder just what is left for the agricultural representative to do, as far as marketing is concerned. I wonder if my hon. friend would like to enlarge on it?

Mr. Gaunt: What I had in mind, Mr. Chairman, was the projection, in terms of cattle holdings, at certain times of the year. The same would hold true of pigs on farms at certain times of the year.

What I am trying to get at is that I think the agricultural representative could really perform a vital function in this area. I know that Mr. Ralph Bennett from The Department of Agriculture, in Ottawa—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Bennett?

Mr. Gaunt: Yes, Ralph Bennett. Mr. Bennett is, to my mind, a bit of an expert in this field. I know that his speeches are always well listened to, and they are always well received. He does a lot of work in this area and I think that this is one par-

ticular, and one specific area where the agricultural representative service could enter.

Now then, the Minister mentioned that the course was given in the fall. May I ask what that course included?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, it included everything, from the information on how best to be of advice to a farmer in helping him to develop his farm business.

The points you mentioned I think are well taken in developing courses of action that he might follow in expanding his own business into something else. This really has to do with production, but it is a part of marketing as well, because the product has to be produced before it can be marketed. I think that we have to look at the whole programme of just where they fit into the picture.

I am sure my hon. friend is not suggesting—or I wonder if he is—that the agricultural representative should go out and provide service to the marketing boards, and tell the members of the marketing boards what they should be doing.

Mr. Gaunt: No.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No. Well if he is not, then the advice is already in the hands of the agricultural representatives on a reporting basis from the statistical branch as to the numbers of cattle on feed, or hogs on feed, or the hatch of laying flocks, or whatever the potential is for broilers. This information is available and certainly, as a farmer myself, I was in touch all the time with the local agricultural representative, to know these very things. I think you will find that the really good farmers, the men who are really interested in doing something for themselves on their own farms, are constantly in touch with the agricultural representative and using him as a source of information along these various lines.

I would hesitate to suggest that our agricultural representatives should put themselves in the position of telling me when I should sell a bunch a cattle, or when I should fill the hen house with potential egg producers. I think that these are extremely dangerous tactics. I think that they should provide the information indicating trends that can happen and also show the cycle plus what is likely to take place ahead.

Believe me, there are a lot of people who think I have some particular information that is available, as to market trends, and when one should do things and when they should not. I do not think there is any magic in

this business at all. I think it would be very dangerous for agricultural representatives to put themselves in that position.

Mr. Gaunt: Well Mr. Chairman, I did not want to leave the impression that the agricultural representatives should be telling the farmers when they should fill their hen houses with hens, and when they should be filling up their hog pens with hogs. I do not want to leave that impression at all.

All I am saying is that they should provide the information—in the final analysis, of course, it is the farmer's decision as to whether he wants to do this or whether he does not. If the information is there, the agricultural representative can interpret the information for the farmers. I know that some of the agricultural representatives do this now. I know that it is done in a number of areas, but I just wonder if it is done on a broad basis—that is all.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Chairman, I think the record should note the interest of the Opposition in this subject. There are only eight of them here at the present time.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask—

Mr. Whicher: Since this has been brought up, I want to say this—I am sure the hon. member for London South will appreciate the fact that the Prime Minister of Canada is in town tonight and that quite a number of the Liberal members are going to a dinner for him—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): What is more important, the dinner or the farm problems?

Mr. Whicher: —this is the reason why we have not got quite a number here.

Mr. MacDonald: I do not know what you are going to say, Mr. Chairman, but if it is going to be a suggestion to the hon. member that maybe he is wearing this game out, I think that would be very advisable. Yesterday, when the Minister was presenting his estimates, he had about three Cabinet Ministers in that whole block.

Mr. Chairman: I was going to suggest—

Mr. White: Oh, no. On that point, sir, we have always had good attendance.

An hon. member: No, you have not.

Mr. White: Oh yes, we have.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to rule everything out of order in that connection. There should be no comment in connection with it. We are now dealing with the estimates of The Department of Agriculture and Food. The member for Scarborough East, please.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson (Scarborough East): Mr. Chairman, I believe we are still on vote 107, the extension services. I would like to go back, for a moment, to the comments of the hon. member for Huron-Bruce as he opened the discussion on this vote.

From those comments, I understand that The Department of Agriculture and Food sets out the programme and the activities of the 4-H clubs. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I was making a note here and I was not listening to what the hon. member is saying; I apologize.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: I just wished to ask, does The Department of Agriculture and Food set down the guidelines for the programme and projects for the 4-H clubs?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Provincial guidelines are established for 4-H club activities and then they are worked down through to the county and local level. They form a part of the national 4-H club activities across Canada.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: Thank you very much. One thing I would like to suggest and that is I think there is a problem in our society at the moment, whereby we in the cities have a tendency to become an insland unto ourselves. There is a great leap across a gap and then we have the agricultural or rural citizen who seem to be more or less living in an island unto themselves and there is not sufficient exchange between these two important parts of our society.

I noticed that the member for Huron-Bruce asked that there would be a specific programme on citizenship included in the 4-H programme. We have been concerned about the different types of people in Canada, and developed the interprovincial exchange of students. I was wondering if the 4-H clubs could initiate a programme whereby young people involved in the agricultural community could exchange with city people so that there would be a better understanding of the two separate ways of life. I think this would be a great lesson in citizenship for them and would have a great deal of benefit. I think that the rural people probably have

a greater opportunity to learn the ways of life of the city more quickly than the city person has in the rural area, because they have the habit of coming in, and they do come to our institutions. There is not the same opportunity for a city person.

I think if we could get a number of our young people in their teens from the city going out to the agricultural areas and learning of some of the problems that the farmers have, I think there would be a greater understanding when the agricultural community asks for certain assistance from government. I think there would be greater tolerance from the urban people than there is today. This could probably also take away some of the glamour for the young rural people wanting to come to the city. Probably if they mixed with us more often down here they might be more inclined to stay on the farm and this seems to be of concern to the agricultural people.

I think probably this programme could even be carried out on a larger scale, probably the exchange of classes, whole classes of school students sponsored under 4-H. We are doing this in a very limited way in the cities. We are taking classes up to the Albion Hills conservation school and trying to give them some exposure to rural life and to the agricultural industry and conservation and so on.

But I think if our city people could spend one week on a farm, riding on the same school bus to the district high school that the farm student rides on; if they could work in the stables for a week; learn something about animals and become more involved in farming, I think it would be of great benefit to them.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): It might be tough on the animals.

Mr. L. M. Hodgson: I do not think so. I have boys come up to my farm. They work with the animals and they enjoy it and have a good time.

But I think also I would like to have the opportunity to bring rural people into the city, and probably we could give them a glimpse of our institutions and society that would be of benefit to them and build toward a stronger citizenship. That is the suggestion I wish to make, sir.

Votes 107 and 108 agreed to.

On vote 109:

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, on this particular vote, I have noted in the press this past few

months that the farmers union and the Ontario federation of agriculture have joined hands in an effort to promote a beef marketing plan. I noticed that the beef people, the beef association, is not too sympathetic at the moment to the cause. They have indicated that at this point they do not really want an agency-type marketing plan for beef cattle, and that is where the whole matter rests at the moment, as I understand it. However, I did think that it would be a good idea to raise one of the problems that has been brought to my attention on a number of occasions.

I suppose in this particular case we get into a position of comparing what they do in the United States with what they do in Canada in the way of marketing beef cattle.

I understand that in the United States when one markets beef on a dressed weight basis, the carcasses are weighed before any defatting takes place. I have had a number of beef producers make representation to me and suggest that the same should hold true here. Sometimes the people in the plants become a little vicious with those knives. They have a barrel there for the fat and sometimes one wonders if they have a little barrel for some of the lean as well. In any case they do take a lot of the fat off in some cases. This of course means a difference in the dressed weight. It means that the farmer is not getting as much for the product as he would otherwise get, and I just wonder if there is any opportunity, or if there has been any thought on the part of the Minister to have this changed?

I realize that it is perhaps a little difficult. It would have to be done on a national basis, I presume, but I wonder if the Minister has given this any consideration?

The other point is that in Chicago, I believe, at their marketing yards they have facilities there for watering and feeding their cattle in the event that they will be held over until the next day. I think that is also a good idea. I know that we do run into a lot of shrink. If the cattle have to stay down at the Toronto stockyards, for instance, a day or so, they are in most cases, I understand, without water and without feed. I believe that they do get water in some instances, but for the most part they are without water and feed. I just wonder if we could take a look at those two matters.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: First of all, answering the last part of the observation first, the matter of water and feed at the stockyards. This is generally the prerogative of the person who ships the cattle in there, and having had

this experience myself I know something about it. Because cattle are sold on condition, generally speaking, condition is a major factor in the price paid for the animal in the auction ring. If an animal comes in full it is quite often passed until the next day when it comes in in much better shape and the price is usually substantially higher. This does happen.

If my hon. friend is suggesting that there should be water and feed in front of those cattle all the time, you just never get proper condition. I think the day is long since past, and it was proven by his first observation on grading or at least on dressing — sale by dressed weights—that beef is bought today on what beef will be produced in a carcass or in an animal. Packers or processors are not paying for hay and water.

The marketing committee of the beef improvement association are working with the packing industry and I think they have made considerable progress in establishing uniform standards of trimming and weighing procedures. I think this is a major point, and I believe it is one that should be accomplished as quickly as possible. Indeed, I raised the point with the federal Minister of Agriculture in discussions some months ago. I believe implicitly that there should be uniform standards of trimming and weighing and grading right across this country.

There are uniform standards of grading but I believe that it is just as important for a farmer to ship cattle to any processing plant in the province of Ontario, or in any other province in Canada, and know that the same trimming procedure is going to take place in that plant, as in any other plant, and the same method of weighing that carcass, is going to take place in that plant as in any other plant. I think until those standards are uniform, there can always be the bargaining between a processor and the farmer that does take place and sometimes a farmer may ship to one packing plant, and believe that the same trimming procedure will take place as in another packing plant. That is not always the case, so that there are varying standards.

As my hon. friend mentioned, the United States does have various ways of trimming that we do not have here in this country. These are matters that I think are something like the procedures that were engaged in when the method was adopted to sell hogs on the rail. There had to be uniform procedures adopted at that time, and I believe now with so many cattle being sold on the

rail today, that is rail basis of payment, the same thing should apply in the beef industry as well.

Vote 109 agreed to.

On vote 110:

Mr. Paterson: Mr. Chairman, on vote 110, I would like to ask the Minister concerning the position of Essex county in the junior farmer loan branch. Statistics were published recently where, under the federal farm credit there were some 66 loans made to the value of slightly less than \$2 million. What is the position of the junior farmer branch in Essex county?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, according to my figures and this is up to, I believe the end of the year, or very close to the end of the year, there were 36 loans made in Essex county to the value of \$934,000.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister about the item for \$327,000. Is this a loss that the Ontario junior farmers loan branch had last year?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The write-off of loss and interest for last year.

Mr. Whicher: What percentage does this work out to in the overall picture? Would it be one per cent?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, the loan is made at five per cent.

Mr. Whicher: But what percentage of capital loss do you have of the loans given to junior farmers?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, very, very low. I am not sure whether I have that figure or not here.

The hon. member asks how many loans are not paid, losses on loans. The percentage is so low, in fact, I do not know whether there are any. The director of the branch tells me there just are not any.

Mr. Whicher: There is \$327,000.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh yes, but this is in interest payments. There is \$20 million out on mortgages. This is where the loss comes in.

Vote 110 agreed to.

On vote 111:

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, my curiosity is aroused by the fact that by far the largest item in this estimate is some \$200,000.

for common barberry eradication programme. Now I can think of a lot of things I would like to see eradicated. I will not proceed any further.

Mr. Chairman: I was going to ask the member to stay with the vote.

Mr. MacDonald: I am. You read my mind, Mr. Chairman. \$200,000, seriously, is a very great deal of money. What exactly is going on and how extensive is the programme? Is it all over the province? What is the nature of the programme that you are spending \$200,000 to get rid of one weed?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, that is a very good question. This is a project that has been underway. I believe it is a five year project.

Common barberry—and this is not the Japanese ornamental barberry that we see on the hedges around the city here and in other places of Ontario—this is common barberry that is the host plant to rust spores that affect cereal grains. The result has been that in areas where there is great concentration of common barberry there is so much rust on the cereal grain that it is virtually—well, I believe at the time I introduced this programme in the House, two years ago, I said it was a loss of \$6 million a year to farmers of the province of Ontario.

Now with the introduction of the programme, and it is shared on a 50-50 basis with the government of Canada, gradually starting in eastern Ontario and moving westward across the province, we have been able through an intensive spray programme carried out by the local crop improvement associations, to virtually wipe that plant out.

The result has been that already we see a noticeable reduction in rust on grains—quite noticeable. In fact, there is very little rust damage in those areas where the plant has been thoroughly eliminated.

Now I must confess that there are a few people who have planted common barberry as an ornamental shrub. Most of these people have been very cooperative and understanding in having these plants removed from a hedge, or in a landscaping project. The objections have been practically negligible.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister in this connection whether this programme is carried on within the cities? I know down in the valleys of the rivers here within Metro Toronto I have seen barberry bushes. Does the Minister consider these to be part of the project, are they dangerous?

Are they too far away from the cereal grains so that they are not dangerous? Is this programme carried right through the whole province in this way, right into the cities too?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, the programme will be extended right into the cities. Wherever the plant is, it will be destroyed.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, under this vote, I want to ask some questions about the control of pesticides and herbicides. I am not going into the whole subject here this afternoon. This House has dealt with this fairly adequately in years gone by and we have had a great deal of debate about it.

Last fall I noticed, I think it was a Simcoe court where—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, may I call to the attention of the hon. member that I think this would more appropriately come under the research vote and I would be pleased to deal with it there.

Vote 111 agreed to.

On vote 112:

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I have some comments on vote 112. I mentioned in my opening remarks that I felt rather strongly about the matter of negotiable quotas as it applies to the new milk marketing board decision to adopt this method in undertaking the new programme that they are presently engaged in.

First of all, I want to refer to a comment made by the Minister when he said that surely I was not suggesting the government should come in and tell the marketing board or the commission what it should do in this regard. I am not for a moment suggesting that, sir, and I do want to make that quite emphatic.

However, I did note that in taking this position the marketing board apparently were inviting criticism and alternative proposals. If this had not been their intention, they would have simply put the matter into effect, or into action. I think the marketing board realizes that this is a very serious matter. I think it realizes that it has far reaching implications and I think they have taken the position that they suggest—or at least I took this from the newspaper article that appeared in the *Rural Cooperator*.

They suggested that this was the best plan, perhaps, to handle the quota issue. However, I want to say that in doing this, it was my thought that they would appreciate a little dialogue and a little exchange on various

ideas relative to this, because I think it is a very important matter and I think that it could affect not only the milk industry but it could have repercussions into other phases of agriculture.

We have a number of areas of agriculture that are involved in the quota system. We have the chicken broilers, we have the tobacco people and it is now proposed that we have the milk industry. The milk industry really, as far as the fluid shippers are concerned, has been involved in the quota system, but it is proposed that these quotas be negotiable.

As I said before, Mr. Chairman, I am opposed to that particular system. I think it is inherently wrong. I think that it leads to many abuses. Milk, you know, is not an entirely unique product, although it has some unique features. I think that we should consider for a moment the alternative avenues open to the marketing board and the commission in dealing with this very thorny problem.

In September, I believe, the milk marketing board undertook to pool milk in northern Ontario. I understand that it was a pilot project. I understand also that it has been relatively successful.

I have undertaken to make a little survey of what the attitudes of some of these farmers are in relationship to the quotas, and I understand that initially farmers felt, in that area, that quotas should be negotiable for cash—that they should be transferable.

I am now led to believe that they recognize that that should not be the case.

One of the farmers in the area has indicated to me that he now feels that the only way to handle this issue is to let the marketing board take control of all the quotas.

In my mind this is the reasonable thing to do. I realize there are many implications, but I think it should be said that we must not get ourselves into the position, into the state of confusion, they have in the state of California, for instance, where they are paying, I understand, \$1,000 a can, which is just simply out of the question. It is just utterly ridiculous.

This can happen. It has happened in chicken broilers, for instance, where the big companies have indicated they want to move in. They have the money to do that.

It is very, very attractive, you know, when someone drives in your lane and says: "O.K. we will offer you \$70,000, \$80,000, \$90,000 for your quota, of course depending on the

size of the operation." It is very attractive to the farmer, particularly if he is getting on in years. I know that a number of companies have engaged themselves in this activity. They have been buying up quotas in the chicken broiler industry.

I have the information on rather good authority that one of the large chains in this province is very interested in getting into the milk industry, and they very well could get into the milk industry if this system persists. That is to say, if transferable quotas were a firm policy on the part of the marketing board, the chain to which I made reference could simply drive in and negotiate with a number of farmers who have quotas at the present time and say to them, we will give you so much money. Of course they would make it very attractive and, of course, they would in all likelihood get a lot of quotas. First thing we would know, the milk industry—as is going to be the case if something does not reverse the trend—the milk industry will be in the hands of a very few large operations, and not necessarily bonafide farm operations. So I think that the point I make is that there are very grave dangers in the transferable quota system.

I think there are two alternatives. I think the marketing board can call in all the quotas. In other words, the quotas become the possession of the marketing board. They can allocate them and they would, in the final analysis, be responsible for granting a quota in the event of a sale or in the event of a death and so on.

Perhaps it would become a little automatic. Perhaps in the event that a farmer died and someone came along and wanted to purchase that farm, and of course he would be very interested in the farm no doubt from the quota standpoint, perhaps it would be automatic that the buyer in the case that I have cited would be granted the quota but the danger in that particular situation is that the marketing board views this in a sort of a routine manner and does not really view it with any serious intent of watching the type of situation that I previously explained.

I think that is one way. The other way is where the marketing board takes control of the quotas, but it is done in a little different manner. It is done in respect to calling in the quotas and to paying the people for the quotas in the initial stages on a similar plan to what the Hennessey report indicated it should be done on.

This is where the quotas are all called in and where the people are paid for those

quotas. They are paid on a certain percentage basis—I think it was indicated at one point, if I recall correctly, that a discount could be allowed on those quotas, if, in fact, the people had those quotas over a certain period of years. It is assumed that that being the case, those people have made a considerable amount of money out of shipping fluid milk and so the quota would be discounted.

Hennessey had a formula for working this out so that the farmer who has been in the milk business and who has had a thoroughly lucrative trade in that respect, would not be left holding the bag, so to speak, if his quota were withdrawn and became the possession of the marketing board.

Perhaps quotas could be depreciated over a period of time to the extent of five per cent, 6 per cent. I do not know. I am only suggesting that these are two avenues in which it could be done.

In the event that all the quotas were called in and the people were paid according to some sort of discount system for the quotas, then the milk marketing board would have absolute control and could say, in effect, we will give you a quota. They could have absolute control over the balancing of supply and demand.

When the supply became too great for the demand and it was evident that we were going to have a surplus, then the marketing board under those conditions could say we will have to cut back our quotas across the board until we get some type of orderly system going again so that we will not have this burden of surpluses.

What I am saying is that they would have, in that case, absolute control.

Frankly I do not know which is the better system. I am just discussing these alternatives because I think that the milk marketing board should view very seriously either one or the other.

I think perhaps the first alternative has an advantage in that it is not what one might term absolute state control. But I think there is a very real danger in the first alternative, particularly if the board assumes a sort of lackadaisical attitude in giving approval to these quotas, if in fact the farmer dies, or if in fact the farmer quits and wants to get out of the milk business or any of the other possibilities that might arise in the normal course.

If the board took a firm position and judged each case on its merits, then I think perhaps the first alternative is the better. But if the board assumed a sort of routine

manner in the approval of these quotas, then I think there is real danger, and perhaps the only true alternative would be the second one that I mentioned, where all the quotas were called in and the people paid according to the length of time they have had the quota and so on.

The quotas then become the absolute possession of the board, and they have absolute control over where they should go and to what extent they should be given to each farmer who is engaged in the milk producing industry.

I throw these suggestions out because I feel rather strongly about this. I think the course of action that we pursue in this case could have a real effect, not only in the milk industry, but on other phases of agriculture as well. I think that we should very seriously consider the alternatives, the implications of all of these things, with a view to coming up with the best possible plan that relates to the quota system.

Certainly the old system had many injustices. There are many disadvantages in the old system. I think we should have in view in any system the objectives; to produce maximum returns for all milk producers; to produce the amount of milk that will satisfy all requirements; to pay an equal price for an equal quality product, providing delivery fits the needs of the market, and to help producers achieve maximum efficiency through adequate economic sides.

It seems to me that these are worthwhile objectives and I think the milk marketing board is going to have to engage itself in this type of action. I wonder if we could not seriously consider some of these proposals because I think that we should learn from other jurisdictions where this type of thing has been operated for some years. I know that in the state of California, the cost of producing a pound of milk, as I understand it, is certainly much higher than it is here.

I think that we all recognize that the dairy industry, while it is efficient, there are always opportunities for making it more efficient. I do not think that we should build in cost factors which are going to lend themselves to additional increases in cost production.

I throw these suggestions out to the Minister and here again, I stress that I am not saying that the government should come in and lay down a policy to the milk marketing board. I am simply trying to create a little exchange of ideas in the hope that we can come up with the best possible system in this regard.

Mr. Chairman: Before asking the Minister to respond, are there any other members who wished to speak on quotas on this vote, and then we could ask the Minister to respond.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): I wanted to make a point that is not quite on the milk question. The Whip has a tendency to get on his feet and talk about the percentages. Here right now, if you will, you have 17, nine and three. The percentages figure out to 40 per cent of Liberals, 37 NDP and only 19 per cent of the Conservatives. I wanted to be—

Mr. Chairman: I have already declared it out of order.

Mr. Bukator: I think the member very unjust when he does this at an opportune moment.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, under this vote, I might bring to the attention of the Minister, note—

Mr. Chairman: On quotas?

Mr. Spence: On this vote, yes. Well, not on quotas on the dairy farmers in southwestern Ontario who are going out of business. Maybe the Minister could answer this, when he answers the hon. member for Huron-Bruce. It is alarming to a large number of farmers, that so many dairymen are going out of business.

On account of high cost of labour, high cost of what is necessary to operate dairies in that part of Ontario—and these are the feelings of many agriculture men—in the very near future we will have to import dairy products in this part of Ontario. I do not think this is only in Kent, but it is happening in Essex as well and maybe the Minister could enlighten us along this line when he—

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. member for Huron-Bruce has put forth a very reasoned case for at least some dialogue on the proposition of quotas.

The Minister yesterday missed what I thought was a very valid explanation for my contention that this government tends to intrude unnecessarily on the established marketing boards. Then there is the instance of a board which has not yet been established; it is in the process of being established; it is still in its appointee stage and, therefore, responsible to this government, not really to the growers, it is only in a transition to that of full representation to the growers, there was some obligation on the government to see that the objectives of the whole re-shaping and

re-building of the dairy industry would be fulfilled.

What puzzles me, and this is really in keeping with some things that the hon. member for Huron-Bruce has said, is that the question of the transfer of quotas and the sale of quotas was frowned upon very vigorously by Hennessey. It was also frowned upon, I thought by the Minister, by his Deputy, by spokesmen on behalf of this government.

I have not taken the time to go back and dig through the files, but I think one could have no difficulty at all in coming up with many, many documentations of that.

It seems to me that at a stage when the machinery is the government's machinery, you have appointed people who are not yet wholly responsible to the producers and it has not yet been handed back to them that there is some obligation on you to see that the original objectives are being fulfilled.

So my questions of the Minister, really boil down to this: why is it that a year ago he agreed with the Hennessey report that a price tag on quotas was a bad thing and that it would be, in the terms of our hon. friend from Huron-Bruce, just a built-in cost that is ultimately going to have to be paid for by the consumer. How is it that now you are standing silent, so to speak. You are saying that it is not your responsibility, it is going to be worked out by the board, or that you are, in effect accepting a change in policy. I emphasize it as a change in policy at a time when the machinery is under your direction, indeed it is of your creation. That is the one point I wanted to raise on quotas.

The second point I wanted to raise is one that I detailed in my introductory comments. Whether by design or accidentally I do not know, the Minister did not reply to it. It is the fact that after the unfreezing of quotas in April of 1966, there was, for a time, a transfer of quotas. The chairman of the milk marketing board has said that he was willing to make public the list of all those who did benefit from those transfers of quotas at that time. The figure is variously estimated at 100 to 250. I put the question to the Minister and I will come back and put it to him until I get an answer. How many quotas were exchanged in that period? To whom were they exchanged? And most important of all, how many members of the Ontario milk marketing board were among those who shared in the benefit of the exchange of quotas?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I certainly did not avoid answering the hon. member's question yesterday out of purpose—

Mr. Chairman: Are there any other members who want to speak on quotas before the Minister answers?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would reply to that question first because it seems to me I do remember you mentioning it yesterday, sir. This is purely a milk marketing board decision, and I was not even aware that the chairman of the milk marketing board had said that he would make them public. If he has said this I assume that he must have done it. If he has not done it, there is no reason why it should not be done.

I would suggest that we would be perfectly happy to advise him that he should publish the list if this is what you want done. Do you want it sent to you? We have no reservations about this whatever. I could not tell you for the life of me how many quotas were transferred, nor who got them. I have not any idea. It is purely a marketing board decision.

This whole matter of quotas is something that is of great public concern. I said yesterday, that there was a matter that has been under study for a great many years. The basis of quotas was established well over 30 years ago and they have been a very great asset down through the years, both to the producer and to the processor and, I would say, to the consumer.

Now having received the Hennessey report, there were proposals made in that. One of the proposals was that the milk commission of Ontario, if my memory serves me correctly, should pay \$20 a pound for all the quotas that were out at that time. I believe this was the recommendation. We looked with some skepticism upon that suggestion.

I do not recall ever having taken a stand or described a policy of this government on the purchase or exchange of quotas. I may have expressed an opinion—I do not recall that—concerning the sale of quotas or the exchange by contract of quotas. But it was a matter of concern to the milk marketing board as to how they should deal with this very thorny question.

They established a committee of the milk marketing board and they have spent literally endless days in exploring all of the various avenues that have been referred to by members here this afternoon. I would say that at the present stage, I believe there is a proposal that was made in an exploratory

way to the first annual meeting of the county milk committees early in January. I believe the proposal—if I may put it in layman's language, I simply jotted this down from memory—the proposal to increase quotas. A fluid producer who has a small quota—say 200 to 250 pounds or a 300-pound quota—may purchase a quota from another fluid producer who wants to go out of the business. There are many fluid producers who have 150-pound quotas and I think you would agree that is a pretty small quota. Now he has to decide whether or not he is going to get into the milk business in a big way or whether it would be better for him to sell that quota to somebody else, get rid of it, and get out of the business.

It is of some value to him and I think this is a fairly logical conclusion that this committee has come to in this particular matter. But an industrial milk producer can be allocated a quota from the milk marketing board as the market requirements indicate, that is, if a market indicates that there is more fluid milk needed than is already there, industrial producers who make the standards of fluid milk production, may be taken in to that market without having to buy a quota. This is the tentative proposal that the committee has recommended and which was discussed at that annual meeting.

Since the annual meeting that was held in January 4 and 5, of this year, there have been more than 25 county or district meetings held throughout Ontario. I have been assured by the chairman of the milk commission and certainly reading the press reports, the few that I have read—the subject of quotas was on the agenda of all of them and was a matter of very great interest and discussion. There was general approval of this proposal.

I refer to an article that has appeared in the *Country Guide*, February issue, that reached me not five minutes ago, someone handed it to me. There is an article here written by Peter Lewington, the eastern Canadian farm editor for *Country Guide*. The title of the article is "Order Out of Chaos" and on this matter of quotas, I think it is important that I should read Peter Lewington's opinion of the annual meeting's discussion of quotas:

Long-term quota policy: No area of milk marketing is more fraught with disagreement than the setting of quotas or even the very existence of quotas. The board has come out flat-footed for quotas and it will use them for an orderly transition of industrial producers who qualify for the

fluid market and who wish to participate in it.

Qualified producers may enter the higher price bracket either by being allocated the quota by the board or by purchasing one from another farmer. The latter method would be subject to board approval while in the former case the board could use its power to manipulate the monetary value of quotas. If quotas change hands at foolish prices—up to some \$25 per pound for daily quotas have already been paid—then the board can effectively reduce the value merely by a more liberal allocation of new quotas.

Two groups are considered at the head of the line for quota allocations, industrial shippers of quality milk and those fluid producers who have too small a quota to sustain a viable farm enterprise. One key argument which influenced the board in making quotas negotiable was the realization that this could influence the decision of smaller and older producers who do not wish to expand or to sell out.

Now, I think that pretty well sums up the general feeling of a great many farmers who have expressed themselves publicly on this issue. It may not be in accord with many. I know there are diverse views of opinion and they have been eloquently expressed by many people.

Mr. MacDonald: Would the Minister permit a question?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, of course.

Mr. MacDonald: There seems to be a contradiction which is a source of a good deal of the argument in what the Minister has said already. The Minister's explanation in what he described himself as layman's language, was a decision on the part of the annual meeting that the transfer of existing quotas would be for the most part—indeed I got the impression he said "exclusively" at least in the first instance—aimed at bringing up to a viable production unit the existing quota holders. Also that the industrial producers would be brought in only as the market expanded.

Now, interestingly enough, Lewington's explanation puts it in the reverse order, that the distribution of quotas is going to be (a) to those industrial producers who are today producing grade A milk and secondly (b), to bringing up the viable units. Now, this may seem like a bit of semantics and a bit of doubletalk, but Mr. Chairman, you are right

down to the core of what we believe, many people believe, was the recommendation of the Hennessey report.

The Hennessey report was to open the door to a sharing equitably of the benefits with privileges to no one among all those who were producing grade A milk. Now, the Minister's interpretation of what happened in January is that you shared and maintained among those who have now got the quotas to bring them up to the best possible position, each one having a viable production unit. And only after you have done that do you begin to let these second-class citizens, so to speak, get into the picture.

It seems to me that here is part of your problem and it is going to generate a lot more heat.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I think this is an exercise in semantics, Mr. Chairman, with great respect. I have simply stated that in my opinion the interpretation I put on the report that the quota committee presented to the annual meeting was simply in order to increase the quota a fluid producer may purchase, a quota from another fluid producer.

Mr. Whicher: Or an industrial man could buy it, too.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, this may be the case, an industrial man might buy it. Now that is something that I did not know, this could well be.

Mr. MacDonald: Who is going to have the priority?

Mr. Whicher: Whoever has the money.

Mr. MacDonald:—before you let any of the industrial producers in. Now this is for X number of years.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is not the proposal, not the proposal at all. The proposal is that wherever a market requirement indicates that there should be an increase in milk, that an industrial producer be taken into that market. You see, the transfer of a quota from one man to another does not produce more milk on quota in the market, this is elementary, so that when a market requires more milk then an industrial producer is going to be brought in.

Now this was the proposal, but there is nothing fixed on this at all, because the quota committee is to report to the milk marketing board who will be meeting, I believe, within a week or so, to discuss further this whole

quota policy. I really believe that there is no easy answer to this thing.

The best of brains have worked on this for a long time and the quota committee is made up, I believe, of industrial producers as well as fluid producers.

Mr. MacDonald: What is the proportion of industrial and fluid?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Well, Mr. McCague hands me a note here and I think this is interesting. I think it bears out what a lot of people are considering after a lot of thought. In it he says that the milk marketing board when they were first appointed I think would agree with the assumption that we have made here today, that has been advanced here, that there should be negotiable quotas. But it appears that certainly those on the quota committee today are very much of the opinion that with the study that they have given, other alternatives are much less satisfactory than the one they have proposed.

Mr. McCague has given me the names of the members of the quota committee: The chairman, Mr. McLaughlin, and Mr. Alvin Stewart of the Ottawa market—these are both fluid producers; Mr. Orville Guy from Winchester, an industrial producer and Mr. Ken McKinnon from Port Elgin in western Ontario, both of whom are industrial producers—so it is made up of equal numbers of industrial and fluid producers. They will be reporting to the milk marketing board. But, as I say, there is nothing final in this.

I would like, Mr. Chairman, to refer as well to a statement that was made at the annual meeting by Dr. S. C. Barry, who is the new chairman of the national dairy commission. He states, and I quote:

I think that you would agree that we simply cannot ensure a satisfactory price for any volume of milk which may be produced. It might be wise for the commission to put into operation guidelines which would act as a deterrent to an undesirable increase in the production of industrial milk.

If we are to have a system which exercises some control over prices, it is almost inevitable that it must be associated with some degree of control over the production which can be accommodated at those prices.

Dr. Barry is talking about industrial milk. We are talking about fluid milk here in this debate this afternoon, but I believe there is a basic principle that is inherent and applic-

able in both cases. I know the milk marketing board will be anxious to have the reports of these debates that have gone on here in this House, we will see that they get them. But I think we have to recognize that there are two sides to the issue—

Mr. Whicher: I wonder if I might—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —and that we should let the milk marketing board and the farmers who make up the county milk committees make this decision. It is their decision to make. My hon. friend can suggest that because this board is an appointed board it does not really represent the producers. I think this is a statement that bears some challenge. Is he suggesting that we disband this board, and let a producer board be elected? Is this what he is suggesting? Surely not, at this time.

Mr. MacDonald: When are you planning?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It will be done in the fullness of time, but I challenge you to give me one illustration where this board has not acted in the interests of the producers. They are dedicated beyond words to the job they have to do.

Several hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And I think it is unfair, it is grossly unfair to say of those men that they are not acting in the interests of producers.

I made a mistake, Mr. Chairman, a moment ago. I said Hennessy's report suggested \$20 a pound for quotas, it was actually \$5 a pound for quotas. I am sorry I made that mistake.

Mr. Whicher: I wonder if there is going to be further discussion on this vote? Maybe this is a good time to—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I do not think we can finish it; however, we can if there is not much more debate.

Mr. Whicher: There may be quite a bit. I think that I am one of those who know a little bit about this matter. The board we are talking about now has done an excellent job under most adverse circumstances. I wonder if it is fair to the chairman that he should be a fluid milk producer? I certainly do not want to cast any aspersions about Mr. McLaughlin, as I say, he has a most difficult job. But as a fluid milk producer, surely as

chairman of a commission, of a board such as this, at least there will be some industrial milk producers who feel that the fluid milk people might get a few advantages that they might not otherwise get if another man were chairman.

I think you are putting the chairman in a most difficult spot and I do not want to appear to be criticising harshly because that is not my object. No one knows more than I do the difficulties that there are as far as these quota systems are concerned.

I might ask the hon. Minister, too, this question. I wonder if he can tell the House how many industrial shippers have been given a fluid quota since the milk board came into being last year? Indeed if there are any that have been made fluid shippers?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. McCague tells me that we can get those figures. We have not got them here.

Mr. Whicher: The reason I ask, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There have been many. I do not know how many.

Mr. Whicher: —because I know there are industrial shippers, there are many hundreds of them in the province of Ontario, who give grade A milk. In our own area, for example, I think last summer there were 42 who qualified and were taken on as summer fluid milk shippers but they were not given a quota. And that is why I asked, are there any industrial shippers who have been given a quota, free of charge, by the milk board of the province of Ontario?

I would have to, if somebody told me that there had been I would certainly believe him. Why may I ask are these industrial shippers being given fluid quotas when other people are forced to pay for them? Either one thing is right or the other is. And the fact is that today many quotas have been bought; whereas I am given to understand that your advice there tells you that some industrial shippers are being given the quotas for nothing and I do not think these two things add up. Either one is right or the other is.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: First of all I would say this, that as far as the chairman of the board being a fluid shipper is concerned and having anything to do with the quota committee, it is the board who appoint the quota committee and apparently they appointed him to that

committee because of his very wide knowledge of the milk industry. The board itself, the milk marketing board, is made up of a majority of industrial producers on the board.

Mr. Whicher: Can you tell me the number in comparison?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I can, but I think it would be better—we want to adjourn the

House, probably there is more debate on this, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, there is more debate.

Mr. Chairman: It being 6 of the clock I do now leave the chair. We will resume at 8.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, February 23, 1967

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

(Continued)

Mr. Chairman: At the time we recessed, I think there were some questions on vote 112.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): I wanted to say something on the changes on the milk board and the milk commission. I do not know—I am sure the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) and the Deputy and members of the staff realize the tremendous strain that the milk commission in this province has been under in the last few weeks.

Now sir, for the knowledge of some of the members who perhaps do not know about it, the dairies in the province of Ontario had what we call territorial boundaries for many years. Because of the events that have taken place, and many many things, these boundaries are now going to have to be changed. Many of the dairy operators in the province of course, naturally, are worried about this because they feel that large dairies will move in on their territories and that they will quickly, some time or other in the near future, be eliminated. I just wanted to say, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister, that he can be very thankful that he has a commission who, in my opinion, have treated this most intelligently and certainly with a show of desire to be very fair in a most difficult situation.

I am sure that the Minister understands that there are many small dairies in the province, many of the hon. members will have small dairies in various towns in their constituencies. Naturally these people who have invested many thousands of dollars are worried about a situation where they feel that four, five or half a dozen large dairies in southern Ontario will move in and take away their livelihood.

As one of these owners, I have been vitally interested in it and I just wanted to pass on, for the information of the House, that I do

feel that the milk commission have worked most intelligently. They have a sincere and firm desire to do a most difficult job to the best of their ability. I hope that the Minister, on the other hand, when the commission makes their report to him, will look it over most carefully because, as I said, this means possibly the elimination of a couple of hundred small businesses in southern Ontario. Actually I do not think it affects me so much as an owner because I am right at the end of the line, so to speak. Therefore I think that I can look at it with somewhat of an unbiased attitude. Nevertheless it is a problem and I hope that the Minister will back up the commission when the regulations are presented to him—back up the commission in their desire to protect the smaller dairy businesses in the province of Ontario. These people have made a great contribution in the smaller towns and in the smaller cities, and they give a service that is needed. If it were not for smaller dairy operators in the province of Ontario I would suggest that very shortly there would be no home delivery in this province. This, of course, would mean that there would not be as much fluid milk drunk, and therefore I could not let the opportunity pass without bringing to the Minister's attention a fact that I am sure he knows—a difficult situation but being handled, it is my belief, by men who are quite capable of a difficult job.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Chairman, there are two points raised, one in reference to the milk marketing board and one in reference to the commission. Let me say by way of preface to my comments on the question of marketing board and quotas, that anybody who knew of the chaos in the milk industry in the province of Ontario in the last few years and the many abortive efforts to bring order out of that chaos, would acknowledge most emphatically the problems faced by those who were given the job. I for one, on one hand have a very great respect for the job that they have done. I think if they were Solomon they perhaps could not have done it without some serious difficulties.

But, Mr. Chairman, the thing that disturbs me about it is that in some instances they have made their own difficulties worse.

The Minister challenged me this afternoon to say, "When has this board not operated in the interests of the shippers?" Here, of course, it is a matter of opinion, and I am back to the basic point I was trying to make this afternoon, that as far as the industrial milk producers are concerned, they are persuaded, many of them, that the board has not acted in their interests. They feel that the promise, the commitment, involved in the recommendations of the Hennessey report, which they assumed was adopted by the government as their own personal opinion—the Minister was making a distinction this afternoon between personal opinions he expressed and policy. Now, I do not know which they were, but certainly he expressed an acceptance of the Hennessey committee report—that you were going to move towards ensuring the same price with no privileges to one group for all those who were producing grade A milk. But, if I may quote as I did yesterday, the comment of Tom Aitkin who was the chairman of the Glengarry milk committee, he stated quite bluntly in a letter which is to be found in the *Glengarry News* of January 5:

During the period when the OMMB was being set up, it was pointed out very clearly by the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, the hon. W. A. Stewart and Deputy Minister E. Biggs, that they did not believe in placing a price tag on quotas, and considered quotas a privilege, not an asset, and rightly so because the quota was built with government protection.

I think he was accurate in stating that that was the view of the Minister and the Deputy Minister, but now there is a price tag, and the Minister is accepting it. In fact, he is making excuses to justify it and saying that it is the decision of the rank and file of the producers who came to the meeting.

However, I said a minute ago, Mr. Chairman, that one of the reasons why I am convinced that this very difficult task has been made more difficult by the people who were involved in solving it, is because the Minister is being coy on this, so I will throw it on the table. Members of the milk marketing board, when the quotas were unfrozen, were themselves the benefactors.

The Minister looks at me as though he does not know what I am talking about. I

have it in a letter which I will give to him if he does not believe me.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Read it out.

Mr. MacDonald: Okay, do not get excited.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am not excited.

Mr. MacDonald: From Tom Aitkin—

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Who is Tom Aitkin?

Mr. MacDonald: Tom Aitkin was the chairman. If the Minister had listened he would have heard it a moment ago. That is why we have to repeat for people who are not tuned in—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): You do not have to repeat very much for me around here.

Mr. MacDonald: Tom Aitkin is the chairman of the Glengarry—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The defeated NDP candidate.

Mr. MacDonald: Never mind that he is the defeated NDP candidate, Gordon Greer is a defeated Tory candidate—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Why should I not mind?

Mr. MacDonald: Gordon Greer is the defeated Tory candidate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: So what?

Mr. MacDonald: Okay, let us leave the politics out of it, we are dealing with the substance. The Minister always has to bring politics into these matters.

Mr. Chairman: Right now we are dealing with the estimates of The Department of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Aitkin has informed me that he was told personally by the chairman of the Ontario milk marketing board that he was one of the people who bought a quota when they were unfrozen in the period from April 6 to May 20.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Have you got that in writing?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes I have it in writing and I said I would give it to the Minister; it is up on my desk.

I have asked the Minister to publish the names because McLaughlin assured the Alexandria meeting when they finally re-organized the Glengarry committee in the early part of December—and I quote once again from his letter. It is on the record—

When at Alexandria the chairman of the OMMB promised the writer (Mr. Aitkin) he would make public all transfers of quotas and also the conditions, this would make very interesting reading and I am sure there will be some red faces in high places. It would be enlightening to know how many members of the OMMB or friends were privileged by their own policy.

Now, Mr. Aitkin assures me that, in Mr. McLaughlin's own words, he was one who bought a quota. Mr. Chairman, I go back to the comment of my friend from Bruce. I do not know whether he had this in mind or not this afternoon, but the fact that there are many industrial shippers who feel that they are being left out until as late in the day as possible; that they are not going to be able to share the benefits of the higher-priced grade A milk, even though they are producing it, until the market expands; and that those who are already "in the club" are going to have the right to buy these quotas and bring their quota up to what is described as a viable production unit, that would be all very fine except that the people who were able to use the information—which was not broadcast to everybody because Mr. Aitkin, as chairman of the Glengarry committee, did not know about it—the people who were able to use that information were not members of a committee.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I say this more in sorrow than in anger, because quite frankly, I think Mr. McLaughlin has added to his difficulties. He has bolstered the suspicions that the privileged group are going to add to their privilege before those who are on the outside are going to be given a chance to share in the price of grade A milk. I repeat to the Minister, and he can comment on this if he wants, or at least I ask him now to make available without any further delay, a list of the people who were given quotas when the quotas were unfrozen, so that everybody will know who they were and there will not be any more guessing and a lot of ugly rumours and scuttlebutt from the back concessions. That is the first point I wanted to deal with.

The second one, if I may switch to the commission, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): You must live in the back concessions.

Mr. MacDonald: Pardon?

Yesterday, Mr. Chairman, when I was talking about the handling of the application by the Carleton transportation cooperative for milk in the Ottawa milk shed, the Minister stated that some of the statements that were in the editorial of the *Rural Cooperator* have produced a lawyer's letter from the milk commission to the paper as a result of which they had put in a note of apology in the next issue. I was aware of the note of apology. I read the *Rural Cooperator*.

However, Mr. Chairman, it does not remove the basic point that I was drawing to the attention of the Minister. Once again people are puzzled as to why a government that professes to be in favour of co-ops, or agencies acting on behalf of that government, are going to be so stubborn in granting a right to a group of farmers to extend their business off the farm into the transportation of their own milk, particularly when that group of farmers have become persuaded that the price structure for the transportation of milk is excessively high.

A number of decisions have been made, Mr. Chairman, with regard to this issue, and each time the commission required another excuse to refuse it, they have come up with another excuse. Now the excuse is that the co-op charter cannot be considered until there is a whole reassessment and renegotiation of the transportation contract this fall.

Well, Mr. Chairman, let me read once again the pertinent paragraph in the editorial of the *Rural Cooperator*, which is not altered at all by the fact that the commission was unhappy and wrote to them, and as a result of it, perhaps to avoid legal complications the paper had an apology in the next issue. The paragraph I want to read is this, Mr. Chairman:

In any case how can there be any accurate analysis of Ottawa milk trucking prices until a cooperative has been formed. Experience has shown that only cooperatives will open their books for public scrutiny. With no co-op in eastern Ontario no comparisons can be made since truckers involved in the dispute have refused point blank to produce their books. So 20 cents, 25 cents or even 30 cents a hundredweight can be a fair pick-up price. Only the truckers know, and the milk commission must have been aware of it when it mentioned a complete market review.

In other words, Mr. Chairman, if the milk commission is not going to permit the co-op to get into operation before they open up the re-negotiation on the transportation contracts this fall, it will be impossible to have a yardstick for the farmers to judge whether or not they are being charged too much. The farmers are convinced they are being charged too much. They are persuaded they can haul their own milk more cheaply and I say to this government, that if it really believes in co-ops, it will not deny these farmers the opportunity—if they really believe in competition—to establish their cooperative transportation company and to get out there and prove to themselves that they can do their own business more cheaply instead of being forced by this government, or its agency, to contribute unnecessarily to the private transportation company.

Mr. Whitney: You cannot prove it.

Mr. R. G. Hodgson: Bill 2—

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Bill 2 maybe.

Mr. Whitney: You cannot prove it.

Mr. MacDonald: I made this point yesterday but I make it again because the Minister tried to give the impression to the House that because some of the statements made in the *Rural Cooperator* editorial were pretty strong and they got into difficulties with the commission, that the basic point was met. The basic point had not been met and I reiterate it now for the Minister's action, comment, or whatever he wants to do with it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, in reply to the charges that have been made against the commission and this government, in regard to the Carleton milk cooperators, I think I made it abundantly clear yesterday that the commission on their initiative requested the clarification of section 17 of The Milk Act, 1965.

Mr. MacDonald: When will the co-op have the right to get into operation?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Just let the Minister answer the question.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I will get around to answering that. You ranted and raved and roared and tried to make out that this government was directing the milk commission to block the way of that group of farmers to set up a cooperative—

Mr. MacDonald: When?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: —and nothing could have been further from the truth.

Mr. MacDonald: When?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Just this very night and yesterday as well. You cannot avoid taking the opportunity to swing into politics every chance you get.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: We introduced the legislation on the second day of the opening of this House, Bill 2.

Mr. MacDonald: Why did you not pass it?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It was introduced and had its second reading the other day, it will go to the agriculture committee. The Carleton farmers have the right to apply for reconstitution of their cooperative under the legislation as it is drafted in that Act. Now it will go before the agriculture committee. It will come back here to the House, in the normal course of events it will be dealt with in committee of the whole House and I see no reason why it should not pass. To my knowledge there is none.

Mr. MacDonald: Why did you not put it through with the deposit insurance?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, sure. You are trying to build a case up that we are trying to block the farmers.

Mr. MacDonald: You have, too.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: We certainly have not. Nothing of the kind. The new members of the milk commission were not aware of the policy that every cooperator who has ever made an application under the old Milk Industry Act has been granted a licence. Every one of them. You cannot name a case where they have not been granted a cooperative licence for trucking milk. Not one. This is the one that came up, and the commission thought, quite rightly, that it was in the best interests of the milk marketing board not to grant this licence until they had a chance to deal with the whole affair of trucking right across the province.

Mr. MacDonald: Are you saying they will not get it until this fall?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, they have got it as soon as they make re-application. It is just as simple as that, and I am sure that this is

the understanding because some of the men of the group in the cooperative have already indicated that this Act will meet their requirements.

Mr. MacDonald: You blocked them for eight months.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You mislead the public in everything you say.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, well, if you want to throw those kinds of things out—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): He does not mislead them but he tries.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I was requested—and I appreciate very much the comments of the hon. member for Bruce. He is definitely involved in this matter and I appreciate what he has said tonight. The solution of distribution areas, like quotas, is one of the most difficult of many difficult problems that have to be dealt with in this whole matter.

I would say as well that the Ontario milk distributors association are to be congratulated, in my opinion, for the realistic approach that that organization has taken to this very difficult situation.

In proposing the distribution areas that they have proposed, as an executive and a board of directors—and they now have called, I understand, a general meeting of all milk distributors of the province to go over this whole proposal, and I would hope that the organization itself would accept the executive's recommendations for the simple reason that the executive must have given a great deal of thought to those recommendations.

However, I think this is a most democratic way of going about it, and I commend them for doing it that way.

Now, someone asked me before the dinner hour, Mr. Chairman, for the names of the members of the milk marketing board. There are six fluid shippers and seven industrial milk producers on the board. Do you want the names read into the record?

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East): Yes.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes? Well, Mr. Maurice Beatty of Milton, a fluid shipper; Mr. Lucien Cazabonn, R.R. 1, Cache Bay; northern Ontario, a fluid shipper; Mr. Glen Cole of Bewdley, an industrial shipper; Mr. W. O. Coon of Elgin, an industrial shipper; Mr. Elphege Lefevre of St. Eugene, an industrial shipper; Mr. LaVerne Dymont of Dundas,

a fluid shipper; Mr. Orvil Guy of Winchester, an industrial shipper; Mr. Allan Ketcheson of Madoc, an industrial shipper; Mr. Ken McKinnon of Port Elgin, an industrial shipper; Mr. G. R. McLaughlin of Beaverton, a fluid shipper; Mr. A. S. Pearson of Embro, an industrial shipper; Mr. Alvin Stewart of Ottawa, a fluid shipper; Mr. Frank Todd of Churchill, a fluid shipper, making six fluid and seven industrial shippers.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, before we pass this vote, the leader of the New Democratic Party made some rather serious charges here tonight that the chairman of the milk board had taken advantage of knowledge that he would have, perhaps, that the ordinary farmer in the province might not have. Perhaps the Minister does not want to do it tonight, but at some time, I feel these charges should be answered.

You see, last year, when the milk board was set up, the Minister, I believe, probably in his own wisdom, gave the impression that the milk industry in the province of Ontario was going to be in a much better state almost immediately. The fact is, Mr. Chairman, in my opinion, that very few industrial shippers have been taken on as fluid shippers for the very simple reason that we have too much milk in the province of Ontario to be consumed by the fluid trade. Nevertheless, many of these fluid shippers are getting \$5.75 in southern Ontario for their milk today as opposed to \$4-plus in the industrial trade. Many of these fluid shippers are becoming larger and fewer in number. So we have little empires being created by—granted, they are very little empires, but nevertheless, they are. These people are making money, in my opinion, whereas the people who are engaged in the industrial trade are not. For this reason, we have subsidies which are granted by both the federal Department of Agriculture and this department. But even with the subsidy, the difference in the price of that milk is substantial.

I have said in the past and I believe this to be true that in the last 500 years of this old world, civil wars have been fought on smaller issues than the difference in the price of milk in the province of Ontario. It is simply not right that milk of the same quality should have two separate prices, and it is not right that approximately 15 per cent or 20 per cent of the farmers should have this lucrative trade bottled up in this province and let the other 80 per cent come along with a much lower price.

I would agree, that, as somebody mentioned, the commission would have to have the wisdom of Solomon to settle this matter. It is a most difficult situation, but it must be faced and it is not right, Mr. Chairman, that some people can buy these quotas because there is a price tag attached to them, whether anyone here will admit it or not. It is not right that some people have the opportunity to buy these quotas and some people have the opportunity, of course, of selling them. At the same time, this afternoon it was said by the Minister that some of the industrial trade—he did not say how many—but some of the industrial trade were becoming fluid shippers with no price tag attached.

Now, either a price tag is good or it is bad. It is not right that some people should have to pay for quotas and others not have to pay for them. Therefore, I would like the Minister, if he would, just to answer that one question. In his belief, is it fair that some people should have to pay for quotas and others get them for nothing?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, these are matters that are before the milk board for decisions that have to be reached. I do not think any member of this House is in any better position than I am in to express an opinion over a proposal that has been arrived at by a group of men who have constantly studied this thing for months and who have discussed it with both industrial shippers and fluid shippers. Of course, we will never be able to satisfy everybody in the matter, whatever decision is finally arrived at.

Let me say this. The decision has not been made. It is still in the matter of discussion and negotiation and I do not know what they will come up with, but I was interested, very interested when you mentioned that in days long since past there has been this trouble over milk prices. Someone handed me, just as tonight's session started, a piece of paper or a note here and it refers to a £25 reward. This is dated July 28, 1847. I think it interesting to read this:

The above reward is offered to anyone who will give such information as will lead to the conviction of a person or persons who posted the following threatening notice on the gate of the subscriber on the night of July 22.

This is located in the great Nepean area of the Ottawa valley and it reads as follows:

Notice have given to you, Mr. Williams, if you don't live on their produce of your farm, as others does, without coming into

Bytown to sell milk that the cost will overcome the profit. There was a meeting held on you last week by 20 men and your place was to be burned but it was considered by an old man to give you notice first and if you don't quit, you may lock out for yourself from the many by and Bytown that you will have no way of living.

So the record does not reveal whether the reward was ever claimed nor whether the regulation of the milk business in those days was more successful than it is today. But I think it does point out something that has been of great significance and a matter of real concern. I can assure you the matters which have been brought to our attention today will be forwarded to the milk marketing board for their very careful and very thorough consideration.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. Minister would give an approximate percentage of the number of industrial shippers in Ontario, in southern Ontario or maybe the whole, if he wishes to, compared to the fluid shippers.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Oh, I used to know. About 14,500 industrial and 9,500 fluid. There will be cheese shippers in addition to that. About two to one, really.

Mr. Whicher: Two to one. Then my question is this: Does the hon. Minister not feel that in the commission, instead of having seven fluid milk—was it 13 altogether, I forgot—instead of having the majority as fluid shippers that we should have the majority as industrial shippers? Are they in majority?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The majority are industrial shippers.

Mr. Whicher: Majority are industrial.

Mr. MacDonald: Seven to six.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 112 carried?

Mr. Whicher: Pardon me just a minute. One more question: The \$200,000 as administration expenses of a subsidy programme. What does the hon. Minister estimate the subsidy programme will cost?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is estimated it will cost in the neighbourhood of \$5 million. To date, we have paid \$3,131,000.

Vote 112 agreed to.

On vote 113:

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Chairman, under this heading I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister the lack of experienced labour force for agriculture. Those general farmers find it very difficult to have inexperienced labour which means a loss to them—a hardship. I know that immigration is the duty of the federal government but last year with inexperienced labour a hardship was imposed on agriculture which I hope this year can be overcome. I think the Minister of Agriculture and Food should bring to the attention of the immigration authorities in the federal government this year that there are countries with experienced farm labour available. I would like to see the Minister bring to the attention of the federal government the need of an experienced farm labour force in Ontario.

Mr. Whitney: What about the income tax?

Mr. Spence: Do you want the job?

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the hon. member that labour is a very great problem. The chairman of the federal-provincial farm labour committee is Mr. Bennett, our assistant Deputy Minister. I know that several meetings have already been held. I have attended some of them myself with the federal-provincial authorities to determine, first of all, the number of men that will be required, and negotiations are proceeding with the federal government to get their admission through immigration for this purpose. I believe that these negotiations are proceeding very well, that they have agreed to allow several to come in. We are sending the farm labour specialist of our department to the United Kingdom, I believe, next week. We were successful in placing several farm families—that is, married help—both last year and the year before, whom we brought over on this programme. We hope to bring another group of families this spring. There is quite a bit of interest.

Votes 113 to 115, inclusive, agreed to.

On vote 116:

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I want to rise on a point of information here. I know that last year there were several indications made during the estimates, that the food council in the normal course of their duties had uncovered some cases where—I think it was—The Edible Oils Act had been contravened. The action taken under that

Act was against some restaurants and some producers of margarine and allied products. I wonder what the situation has been this year?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid that there is nothing to this story; we have never heard of this. I do not know what it is the member is referring to.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, last year we talked about it in the estimates, I recall, and I know it was pointed out at that time that there were several cases. I just wondered if the hon. Minister had any additional information this year.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, if there was anything to do with edible oils, it must have been under the dairy vote because The Edible Oils Act is administered, sir, under the dairy branch of our department, that is, the inspection service. I do not recall any problem. I must confess I do not know what my hon. friend is referring to. I do not recall the debate; if it can be found in *Hansard*, I would be pleased to discuss it with him later. It should have been under the dairy vote, but that is beside the point. I just do not know what it is you are referring to. We have no instance of it that I know of, if there is any problem at all in this particular regard.

Mr. Gaunt: I will look it up in *Hansard*.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 116 carry?

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, under this heading, I wonder if the hon. Minister can tell us if the Ontario food council has made any studies in regard to the spread of food prices between the producer and the consumer in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, there have been considerable studies made and the food council has published this little booklet, "Your Food Costs". There have been about 20,000 of these booklets published already; the second edition of 25,000 has been run off and I believe it is available or if it is not, it will be. It is available now. This has proven extremely popular—"Your Food Costs"—and it is available to consumers, producers—in-deed, anyone.

If I might just outline the headings: Perspective on Food Costs; the next page, Canadian Consumers in Favoured Position; Your Food Dollar Goes Many Ways; Look What One Hour's Work Will Buy; Convenience Costs Money; Grocery Stores Sell More Than

Food; Other Consumer Prices Rise Faster Than Food; Consumer Prices Outrun Farm Prices; Prices of Farm Products Fail to Keep Up with Prices of Farm Inputs; Producers Share of the Food Dollar Shrinks; Farmers Are Efficient; How to Stretch Your Food Dollar in 13 Different Ways.

This is an extremely valuable little booklet. It can be read in a matter of just a few minutes and is proving very popular with consumers and with the farm people as well. The farm organizations are using these as well as consumer groups, to illustrate what really can be done by shoppers if they go about it in their own best interests.

Mr. Spence: Are these booklets going to be mailed out, Mr. Chairman, to the public, or to organizations?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, they are not mailed out; they are available on request.

Mr. Whicher: Does it show in that book how much a farmer gets for a pound of meat as compared with what the consumer has to pay for it at the store? I feel that this is one thing where we, as rural members of the society of Ontario, have failed. Many people in Toronto, for example, feel that the farmer is making a killing out of the price of food when in reality, you and I know that this is not true.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I think the consensus of the consuming public today—that is the people who really understand food prices—know that this is not the case and I quite agree with the hon. member.

Vote 116 agreed to.

On vote 117:

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, before we pass 117, would the hon. Minister tell us how many telephone lines or services there are left under this commission in the province? I recognize that they are shrinking most rapidly. Would he suggest that in the next 20 years, perhaps, there would not be any small telephone services left, that perhaps Bell may control them all? Would he let us know how we stand in this matter?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, there are, as of January 1 this year, 108 independent systems left operating in the province.

Mr. Whicher: How many were there last year?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There were 126.

Mr. Whicher: It has gone down.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Many of these have amalgamated and some have sold out to the Bell Telephone Company and some have sold out to independent companies which are enlarging their holdings, but there are 108 and some of them are extremely good systems. There are a few very small systems and I think we all realize that they are having difficulties in the economic squeeze in which they find themselves as a result of providing services at the going rates. They just do not have a big enough business base on which to finance their operations.

Vote 117 agreed to.

On vote 118:

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I did not want to intervene in these estimates but I cannot let this vote go by without expressing my personal delight about the achievement that has been gleaned in the announcement from the Speech from the Throne about the assistance that is going to be given to veterinarians to persuade them to stay in the large animal field, or in that part of veterinary science it appertains to in the care of animals on the farm.

I just want to recall—if you will permit me, sir, to drop the shades of modesty that usually attend me—I just want to recall that in one of the interstices when I was not bent on the fixation of trying to get money out of the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner)—in one of those pauses, several years ago I drew the attention of the House and the then Minister of Agriculture—I am not sure that it was this Minister of Agriculture and Food but perhaps it was his predecessor—to the great lack of veterinary services in the province.

At that time I used as an illustration the very fine herd of cattle, that splendid herd of cattle under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Reform Institutions. His head comes up, you see, as soon as I say that; he was absorbed in his book, but did you see his head pull up? That splendid herd at Burwash. I pointed out that from my personal knowledge a veterinarian had to come from well over 100 miles to tend a sick herd. The Minister of Municipal Affairs will be able to assist me because he came from his home town; he came from Massey to Burwash, which must be well over 100 miles.

As far as I could tell, the veterinary used to come about twice a month to see the herd at Burwash which, after all, numbers several hundreds—perhaps there are more than 2,000 animals there. He would come twice a month

to see that herd and if there was an emergency that required assistance, this man in private practice would be summoned and he would have to drive 100 miles there and back to give them assistance at Burwash.

Then I drew attention to the situation in the eastern side at Sturgeon Falls where there was one veterinarian. He was so busy that the best he could do to assist the farmers, as far as I could tell from my conversations with him—and he told me this himself—the best he could do was go to the auction sales there and give the young animals, the calves that were sold, injections before they were sold and taken away by the farmers. He could not possibly get around the area; he could just try to exercise some preventive scientific technology with the animals as they passed through the auction.

And then—I do not know whether I said it at that time, but I relate it now—to the end of trying to get some assistance, because it was impossible to get hold of the veterinarian to assist on the farm, I wrote to the dean of the Ontario veterinary college at Guelph, and asked him if he would be so kind as to supply me with the names of some veterinary books, that were reliable, were available and were fairly inexpensive so that, like in the olden day of the home where mother had the doctor book, when confronted with a set of symptoms in animals, one could look in these books and try to determine what sort of curative measures were called for.

I pointed out to the dean at that time that so far as I could tell, the graduates of his school had profound inhibitions about practising large animal veterinary science and found it much more lucrative to stay in the urban areas and treat budgie birds for laryngitis; and as far as I can see that is what they occupy their time with.

He wrote back and told me—I have the letter on file; it is not in my desk, though, it is in Sudbury—that he knew what I said was true, and it was a great sorrow to him that that was the case, that his graduates went into the small animal hospital business.

Really, some of these structures they build throughout the province for the care of dogs and cats and other pets, men's best friends, are really elaborate to behold, costing many thousands of dollars. At that time several years ago, I said to the Minister of Agriculture and Food—and I think he sat over there then—I looked him in the eye and I said, "Look, you have to do something to persuade people to stay in the proper field of

assisting people on the farm with diseases of large animals." Now, I have not bothered to look back but my senses tell me that the time lag here between the time the suggestion was made until it is fulfilled is about five years.

Mr. Whitney: Bring in more wolves.

Mr. Sopha: There is about a five-year time lag. It is one of the things, of course—I do not want to be political, I would avoid that—but it is one of the things that we will see in the hustings, about that time lag.

I could not resist the opportunity. You know how modest a man I am, Mr. Chairman. I made the suggestion about five years ago, and it has found its fruition in the Speech from the Throne. We have not seen any legislation—is that right?—about this yet. But I commend the Minister of Agriculture and Food and I want to give credit where it is due, for this great advancement toward helping farmers in the far reaches, at least above the north of the French River. I hope it works out that assistance is given to the Minister of Reform Institutions, that he will be able to get constant attendance to his hogs and his turkeys and chickens and beef cattle, and that fine herd of Charolais cattle that he has at Burwash.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the hon. Minister, in the assistance to veterinarians or prospective veterinarians, is there anything, any obligation that you ask these prospective veterinarians to take when you are helping them through the veterinary college at Guelph? Do they have to say they will stay in the province of Ontario for a certain length of time?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, I thought I made this clear the day before yesterday when I spoke about this, but I am very happy to mention it again. The obligation is that they get \$500 per semester for the four years of the vet. course—that is, the specific four years of the vet. course. The first two years are considered general; they may wish to go into some other line at college — which really amounts to \$1,000 a year. They have to pass their examinations each semester to qualify for the \$1,000 per year. If they stay in large animal practice in the province of Ontario for four years that \$4,000 is forgiven. If they decide to leave the large animal practice, say, at the end of three years, they have to return the \$1,000 to the government of Ontario.

They have to do this. These candidates for the veterinary subsidy will be selected by a committee of the veterinary services branch

to interview them and to approve their application.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I would like to commend the Minister of Agriculture and Food for what he has done in this matter and to commend the government, and to suggest to the Minister, who unfortunately is not here tonight, who is not responsible for this particular department, that he do the same thing for medical doctors and dentists in the province of Ontario, because medical doctors and dentists are needed just as much as veterinarians in this province. With the education they are getting through the taxpayers of this province, they have an obligation to this province and should stay here and give us some service.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Chairman, I have before me a livestock inventory of all my five farms. I am just wondering whether the hon. member for Sudbury can tell me what a Charolais herd is, I do not have it listed here.

Mr. Sopha: Several years ago The Department of Reform Institutions purchased five or six—maybe not that many, two or three at least—bulls of the Charolais breed, which is a hybrid, developed in France, and the Minister's department, as far as I remember the facts, purchased two or three in Texas. They wound up in Texas and paid a fantastic sum of money for these two or three—I think, something like \$30,000 or \$35,000, to bring these Charolais bulls to the Minister's farms. Then they bred. They cross-bred Charolais with the Herefords and they achieved characteristics in the offspring that were very, very desirable. They found that much of the excess—I am going to be very brief—was bred out in the hybrid, and they are very satisfied with the experiment.

Now, they had some difficulty in calving, many of the cows went into the woods at Burwash and had the calf and died in the process. They did not understand at first why there should be such a high rate of death among the cows in the calving process, so they experimented at Guelph—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: So what is a Charolais herd?

Mr. Sopha: And they determined the reason. I do not pretend to know what it was, but they eradicated that. So the experiment has been a great success in the cross-breeding of the Charolais and the Hereford, and if you drive along the road past the farm where the road bisects it, in the summer

time you frequently see large numbers of this herd in the fields on either side. Of an evening there is not a more serene and happy sight in the whole of the district of Sudbury than that bucolic, pastoral cluster of those contented animals eating the grass at the Burwash industrial farm. Does that help the Minister out?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: I cannot help but point out that now you know who our Minister of Agriculture and Food will be.

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister of Reform Institutions has been paying too much attention to hogs.

Mr. Gaunt: Well, Mr. Chairman, I understand that The Meat Inspection Act is administered under this branch, and I just want to say a few words about it. The Meat Inspection Act, of course, was an Act that was welcomed by all of us, I am sure. The job has been a rather difficult one and there is a certain period of adjustment involved here. I know that several of the smaller butchers and abattoirs in my riding happen to be still concerned with the implications of The Meat Inspection Act and how it is going to affect their operation. They, at the moment, cannot afford large expenditures and they feel as though, if they do not, they will be forced out of business, which perhaps will be true, I do not know.

But the point that I have made in the past and make again is that when it comes down to the final straw, I think the one criterion that should be used in all this business, is the fact that if quality meat is produced then surely we do not have to have all of these stipulations with regard to types of buildings and facilities, and so on. I think the important thing is that the highest quality meat be sold to the consumer. And I think that that being so, surely we do not have to have ten-foot ceilings and all of the rest of this business that goes along with it, similar to what the federal people have. Because their restrictions and their regulations are intended for interprovincial trade and international trade and so on, and I think that we should bear these things in mind.

The other point that I wanted to make about the inspectors: I wonder how many inspectors we intend to have across the province in order to really implement this Act in its entirety?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: If I may answer the last question first, there are 86 lay inspectors

now working in Ontario; 20 of these men are still receiving training in the federally inspected plants, so there are really only 66 in operation. There will be a few more taken on the staff as it is expanded across the province. I doubt if the staff will grow a great deal more than it is now. Perhaps it will go up to 100, something like that. That is, lay inspectors.

With regard to the regulations, I trust my friend is not suggesting that these regulations are so stringent that there are many people not able to comply with them. We tried to be as reasonable as possible in the drafting of the regulations for various plant standards. They are not quite as severe nor quite as stringent as the standards that are implemented for federal meat inspection, which of course is involved in interprovincial or export trade. We have not heard too much complaint about this, frankly. I thought the programme was working extremely well. I hope this is the case. The reality, the purpose of the whole project is to provide a wholesome, healthy meat product for the consuming public and I think this is being done.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, may I ask my friend at what stage is this expansion programme? How far do we have to go before we get to the point where it covers the whole province?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There are 19 counties now under inspection and Simcoe, Dufferin and Wellington will be brought in almost immediately. That will mean 22 counties. But this really means all of southwestern Ontario, when they come in. I would say that will cover about two thirds, I am told, of all the slaughtering places in Ontario that will be provided with inspection when that is done. Then the rest of the province will be covered very rapidly, because obviously there will only be comparatively very few plants to cover, so it will spread right across. We hope we will have that done in a matter of just a few months.

Mr. Whicher: May I ask my hon. friend, what salary range do you pay these inspectors?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: The range is \$4,200 to \$5,000, for lay inspectors.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, may I ask my friend just one more question in this respect? There are lay inspectors and then there are veterinarians. Now there are so many lay inspectors per veterinarian. I am told there

are 50 on call. A lay inspector works under supervision from the meat inspector. However if there is a problem where there is a reject in a plant, the lay inspector calls the veterinarian who is qualified under the public health authorities to condemn that carcass.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, a couple of weeks or so ago, there was a letter in Action Line in the *Toronto Telegram* with regard to a woman who had bought some poultry in the market downtown. She took it home and when she was dressing it, it was obvious that this bird was diseased. It was reported and came into the public health department, I think, in the city.

In markets of that nature, whether in Toronto or elsewhere, under whose jurisdiction does the inspection or any follow-through come? Is it the local public department or to what extent if any does it come under the direction of this department?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if I could ask the hon. member was this a New York dressed bird, or uneviscerated bird? Do you know?

Mr. MacDonald: Are you using the term New York dressed—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is the same thing as uneviscerated.

Mr. MacDonald: Right, uneviscerated.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There is no inspection on those birds from a health standpoint. You cannot possibly inspect them unless the bird is cleaned, in other words, drawn. Then you can see the intestinal tract to know whether disease is there.

But those New York dressed—and this is a term of the trade, it is the same thing as uneviscerated—they are not inspected by either federal or provincial. They are exempt; and a person who buys that kind of a bird, buys it with that understanding. Mind you, there are many women who will not buy a bird other than that way. They just will not buy an eviscerated bird, because they want to be sure; when they dress the bird they know what is there.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes. My first point is, I wonder if people know that this is not the fault of the Minister or anybody else, perhaps. I do not suppose you can get this word around. But I wonder if the general public knows that kind of a bird is not inspected.

More important, if they find such a bird, coming from a certain dealer who is presumably regularly back at the market, is there any follow-through then to check back on the farm and find out whether this is a general condition, or happened to be confined to the one bird? I mean, what is the follow-up once you get some sign that there is a disease?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Frankly, I do not think this has ever been brought to our attention, that I know of. I would think that if it was a reputable dealer he would like to try and make it right because these men usually depend on customer-repeat buyers and I would feel that likely this would be the case. I cannot offer any other explanation than that, I am sorry.

Vote 118 agreed to.

On vote 119:

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, on vote 119—a point of information—may I ask my friend what the terms of the extension of the loan to Copaco are? He indicated yesterday, I believe, that that loan had been extended for another year. Is it under the same terms?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Votes 119 to 122, inclusive, agreed to.

On vote 123:

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, under this vote I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister that I was somewhat disappointed with the new additions to the men's residences, and that the dining room facilities were not enlarged this year. The students say there are not enough men's residences, as the Minister knows, at the agricultural school in Ridgetown. This school is doing an excellent job. These students are receiving an excellent training, and I must say, Mr. Minister, quite a number of the students have to be put out into homes on account of shortages of space. As we know this new addition, and increasing the size of dining room facilities, was in the work book for, I believe, the last two years, Mr. Chairman, we hope this year that these facilities will be improved and also the addition to the men's residence.

I know quite a number of those students who room out in homes have said that it is just not as good as in the men's residence—and even the fathers and mothers brought this to my attention. No doubt, Mr. Chairman you are well aware of this and I would

hope you will give this first consideration in the year of 1967.

Vote 123 agreed to.

On vote 124:

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, on vote 124, earlier this afternoon I stated that I wanted to make a remark or two on the subject of pesticides and herbicides. I am not going to make an extended speech because this has been talked about in this House a great deal over the last few years, and I think it is pretty thoroughly established that there is a great danger here that must be met.

Last October I noticed in the news that a Simcoe court had fined a company for spraying pesticides from an aircraft without a permit. Evidently the aircraft had been spraying and there was considerable drifting. Some of the chemicals went out over the lake and many fish were killed. This was a sort of automatic conviction because the aircraft was spraying without a permit and I understand that in Ontario any aircraft indulging in this activity has to have a permit.

But one of the problems is that people who operate on the ground may have to have permits if they are licensed operators, but their employees do not have to have permits; that is, they may not be qualified people. The permit may be issued to the owner of a firm but he may have a lot of machinery out with men who have not been sufficiently trained, and so drifting occurs and much damage may be done. The question sometimes is asked whether these men are applying the right solution and in the right way.

As far as I know, Mr. Chairman, we have no real regulations in Ontario as far as the use of these pesticides is concerned, and it does present a problem. Even in our cities as the standard of living goes up and as more and more people hire gardening firms to do the work for them, more and more entrepreneurs are going into this business. They spray for all sorts of things and the spray drifts in the wind to the neighbours. I try to keep my own lot fairly free of pesticides, using only quality low-volatile kinds and yet from all around very often the air is full of the smell of pretty high concentrates of these pesticides.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister can give us any information as to whether any action is now being taken in Ontario to control the sale and use of pesticides so that it does not build up into the kind of danger

which is already being recognized in other countries. I understand that in countries like England, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, they have banned, in some cases through persuasion, in some cases through legislation, the manufacture even, of some of the chlorinated hydrocarbons, even those that are manufactured are under pretty strict surveillance. And in California today, application has to be made by registered people. At least registered outlets sell the hydrocarbons and when the purchase is made, the purchaser must designate where these are going to be put and the concentration that will be used.

Now, I find, in the *Rural Cooperator* in October, 1966, that there has been some difficulty encountered in Canada in exporting food products as a result of pesticide residues; and the problem has not been confined to Canada, the *Rural Cooperator* says, it is world-wide. Yet there is so little information available on this vital topic, a blanket of silence accompanied a report that of 14 cereal pesticides investigated by the food and agricultural organization, FAO, ten were rejected.

I wonder if the Minister has information about that survey and the results of that survey and if so, if he could make it available. I think this is a question which has been discussed a great deal across the world, a question of very great import to agriculture in this province and also to the consumers in this province, and to the people who may be affected by the increase in concentration of the application of pesticides and herbicides. I would like to hear the Minister comment on what thinking has been done in connection with the whole field, and whether there is, in effect, any intention that stricter controls be exercised in the sale and the use of these products.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, first of all, the debate should really come under The Department of Health, which administers The Pesticides Act. However, it is of urgent importance and concern to the farm community, and as such we have an interdepartmental pesticides committee which is chaired by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food. This committee is responsible for the testing, or the operation of the pesticides laboratory which carries out testing on forages, fruit and vegetables, produce, on milk and now on meat. This laboratory was opened last September 1. It is now staffed by qualified experts in their field and is in operation.

Mr. Young: Where is it?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: At Guelph, in connection with the university.

The commercial sprayers of the province—these are the people to whom I believe you referred earlier in your remarks, are licensed and controlled by The Department of Health under The Pesticides Act. Courses are held annually for these people to educate them to the dangers inherent in this and to the uses which must be made of pesticides, if they are to have the right effect and not the adverse effect, with which we are all concerned.

We have also published—and there are 30,000 of these in distribution today—the 1967 field crop recommendations. On page 53 there is a special item on the use of pesticides, bringing to the attention of all farmers the proper use of pesticides, referring to the safety of the operator and to the dangers that are inherent in the unwise or indiscreet use of such pesticides.

So it is a problem with which we are concerned. But I believe that at the same time, recognizing the concern we have we must also recognize that without these pesticides we could hardly carry on the food production that we have today. That does not for a moment suggest that we should not be aware of the inherent dangers and do everything we can to control the use of pesticides to the place where there could be residual effect in various types of cereals or produce.

I would point out as well, Mr. Chairman, that the food and drug directorate of the federal government have the national responsibility for tolerances in various pesticides that may be found. They do this on a spot-check basis all the time and our department is also doing the same thing since the laboratory has been opened.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, I wonder, in connection with the commercial spraying outfits across the province, which the Minister has mentioned—I can appreciate the information that is being spread around. I can appreciate the courses that are being taken. Is there any check on the actual operator of the equipment? The owners are licensed but they hire individuals to do the job. Is there any standard being set for the knowledge and the competence of these people who do the actual spraying?

I have heard some concern expressed in various parts of the province about the quality of the people who may be doing this spraying job.

Mr. Chairman: Does this properly come under your department?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest that this comes under The Department of Health.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, would it be proper, since this subject has been brought up at this time, for me to make just a few observations? I realize that it does come under The Department of Health—

Mr. Chairman: Does the member not feel that it might be better to bring it up when we are on the estimates of The Department of Health?

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, I am willing to abide by your ruling, but I just want to make a brief point in connection with my Throne Speech reply, in which I suggested a possibility whereby The Department of Health and The Department of Agriculture and Food get together on a new idea. I want to suggest it to the Minister, if it would be proper at this time, since the subject has been brought up.

I did make a speech on the Throne Debate in relation to this.

Mr. Chairman: I suggest that you make it brief, if you are going to include it in The Department of Health as well.

Mr. Gaunt: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I indicated to the House—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, since this will be included in the estimates of The Department of Health, I do not think—

Mr. Chairman: I think the member was pointing out that the matter to which he wishes to refer concerns both The Department of Health and The Department of Agriculture and Food and he was making a joint suggestion that he really wanted to bring to the attention of the Minister at this time.

Mr. Gaunt: That is right, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your ruling. I indicated at that time that in California they had a system, as it relates to this particular subject, in which the outlets are licensed; that is, the outlets that deal in pesticides are licensed. When a farmer—or anyone, for that matter—purchased a pesticide, he had to sign for that pesticide and give the location and amount of application at the time of purchase. This in no way limits the availability of the pesticide, but it does allow the inspectors to keep a very accurate account of where these various pesticides are used. Therefore they can inspect on a much more convenient and efficient basis.

I just throw that suggestion out to the Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you very much.

Mr. Young: Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister if the answer to the other question I asked regarding the FAO report would come from the Minister of Health or from this Minister?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I do not know whether there is any particular definition here. We are certainly both interested in The Pesticides Act as it is The Department of Health that provides the inspectors for the equipment you mentioned, and sets down the regulations and administers the Act in general, but we are interested, as I explained through the interdepartmental committee, in the results of the use of pesticides.

I have not seen the report that the hon. member referred to. I would be interested in seeing it and learning where those various samples came from that did show some indications of pesticides. It is possible that there could be some indication of pesticides in food that would not cause any problem at all, depending on the kind of pesticide that showed up. There are others for which there is a zero tolerance for human food, and those are the ones which are the most dangerous. Certainly they are the ones in which Food and Drug, and our own department, are most interested in controlling.

Mr. Young: I will make a copy of this item from the *Rural Cooperator* available to the Minister.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Chairman, if I might make a comment here. I do not want to prolong this, but bacterial cancer is a problem to the greenhouse industry. I wonder what is being done at the present time in the way of personnel and technology in order to fight this particular disease.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There is a committee operating under the research institute on this very matter. That committee was set up in Essex county, at a series of meetings that were held there. I believe Professor Hilton of the University of Guelph is the chairman of that committee. He is the professor in charge of the horticultural department at the Ontario Agricultural College at the University of Guelph.

We are trying to determine how to deal with this, but it is a very vexatious problem. A great deal of time and effort is going into it,

but they have not come up with an answer as yet.

Votes 124 and 125 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: This concludes the estimates of The Department of Agriculture and Food.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee rise and report that it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, I beg to report that the committee of supply has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ACT

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves second reading of Bill 3, an Act to amend The Department of Agriculture and Food Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE COMMUTER SERVICES ACT, 1965

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways) moves second reading of Bill 25, An Act to amend The Commuter Services Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE FORESTRY ACT

Hon. Mr. Gomme, in the absence of Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests), moves second reading of Bill 27, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, are they serious, in the absence of the Minister, that they really want to move second reading—in case there is some discussion of one of these bills standing in his name?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): If there is any debate involved we will hold the bill over.

THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961-1962

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves second reading of Bill 31, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE CORPORATIONS TAX ACT

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves second reading of Bill 32, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE PARKS ASSISTANCE ACT

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management) moves second reading of Bill 35, An Act to amend The Parks Assistance Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

CITY OF WOODSTOCK

Mr. N. L. Olde (Middlesex South), in the absence of Mr. G. W. Pittock (Oxford), moves second reading of Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East), in the absence of Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William), moves second reading of Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

CITY OF LONDON

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves second reading of Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the city of London.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF ETOBICOKE

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East), in the absence of Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lake-shore), moves second reading of Bill Pr23,

An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

NAPANEE AND DISTRICT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE BOARD

Mr. R. J. Harris (Beaches), in the absence of **Mr. S. Apps** (Kingston), moves second reading of Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Clerk of the House: The 32nd order, committee of the whole House; **Mr. L. M. Reilly** in the chair.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO

House in committee on Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr2 reported.

COLLEGE OF THE DOMINICAN OR FRIAR PREACHERS OF OTTAWA

House in committee on Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr8 reported.

PROVINCIAL BUTCHERS MACHINERY COMPANY LIMITED

House in committee on Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers Machinery Company Limited.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr9 reported.

UNITED COOPERATIVES OF ONTARIO

House in committee on Bill Pr11, An Act respecting united cooperatives of Ontario.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr11 reported.

CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

House in committee on Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr13 reported.

WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

House in committee on Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr15 reported.

TOWN OF CALEDONIA

House in committee on Bill Pr19, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Sections 1 to 9, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr19 reported.

TOWNSHIP OF MURRAY

House in committee on Bill Pr20, An Act respecting the township of Murray.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr20 reported.

KITCHENER AND DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

House in committee on Bill Pr21, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Sections 1 to 9, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 10:

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Yes, I for one cannot vote for the inclusion of this section, and I want to repeat to some extent the objections that I made to this section at the private bills committee hearing. A rather curious thing happened at that hearing. I think it is fair to say, to report, that the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (**Mr. Spooner**), who is the senior advisor to that committee in my view, and his officials, were there, and legislative counsel in the person of **Mr. Stone**. I pointed out that there was something of a presumptuous nature in the inclusion of a section such as this. As it reads, the provision of The Public Schools Act and The Schools Administration Act that are not inconsistent with this Act, apply to the board. And, of course, they do. We do not need **Mr. Kelly** of Kitchener, whom the Minister of Municipal Affairs knows got much of his training in Sudbury before he went to

Kitchener; we do not need him to come to this Legislature, or any emanation of the Legislature, and tell us that public statutes of this province apply to this board, constituted under this Act.

Of course they apply. They are statutes of a public and general nature, and The Interpretation Act indeed says that all judges in the exercise of their duties shall be deemed to have judicial notice of all the public statutes of Ontario. I suggested at that hearing that the duty of a draftsman was to winnow through those statutes, The Public Schools Act and The Schools Administration Act, to see if there were any sections that were inconsistent with this bill, then refer to them specifically—instead of trying to do it in the lefthanded and indirect and cumbersome omnibus way that this section seeks to do.

I direct your attention, Mr. Chairman, to section 3 of the bill that has just passed the committee stage, Pr19, in order to show the difference in treatment, the difference in approach, that has been used by the draftsman. That one, to paraphrase, says: Except as otherwise provided in this Act, The Department of Education Act, The Community Centres Act, The Public Parks Act, all public statutes of the province apply to the board as if it had been established in accordance with such Acts and regulations.

There is a specific purpose to remove ambiguity, by telling those who read the Act that they may treat the body created by Pr19 as if it had been established in accordance with three public statutes of the province. Another device frequently used is to say: Notwithstanding certain provisions or parts of a public statute, the matters set out in this Act shall apply to the body created and giving it special powers.

But this way I object to strenuously because it borders on impudence for people to come to the private bills committee with a statute already drafted, which they ask this Legislature—sovereign body within the framework of its jurisdiction under the constitution—and to say to them, gratuitously, that the public statutes of the province apply where they are not inconsistent with the private bill that they want passed. Indeed, as soon as I raised that objection, legislative counsel immediately announced that he agreed with that proposition and he said he would just as soon see it removed—see section 10 removed.

Well, the Minister—I forget the attitude he took, whether he sat silent about it or whether he intervened, I just do not recall—he certainly did not raise any objection to it.

Sometimes in that committee his objections are overruled. As I have said before, sometimes in that committee I am the only friend he has there to vote with him. We are a minority of two, and I have stood by him through thick and thin, let me tell you.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): On many an occasion.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): He needed your help this morning and you were not present.

Mr. Sopha: Is that right? I was in the public domain. I was in Cobourg, with another branch of government.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Well I know, I feel quite certain, that you had a good reason for being absent. I am not complaining, but this morning was the morning I really needed you.

Mr. Sopha: Well let me tell you I was at Cobourg, defending a Beltone salesman—and my friend from Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) did not help me. It continues tomorrow. The accused may get six months, and I am sure I will get three.

In the result the vote went six to five in the committee—five persons wanted to remove this section 10 and six, of the other political persuasion, wanted to retain it. I just want to record my objection to bad draftsmanship and I invite my friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, to join me now; perhaps at this stage we can have that section removed.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Well, Mr. Chairman, what the hon. member has said is quite right. He did raise proper objections. The Legislative council was of the opinion that this section was not required. I made the same statement, based on the advice which I received from the chief legal counsel of The Department of Municipal Affairs. When it came to a vote in the committee, as the hon. member has said, we lost by one vote. I do not have a vote in the committee, or it would have been negative, you see, had I been able to vote.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of section 10 being carried, please say "aye". All those opposed, will please say "nay". It would appear that the "ayes" have it.

Section 10 agreed to.

Sections 11 to 14, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr21 reported.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of the whole rise and report certain

bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole begs leave to report certain bills without amendment and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The 14th order, committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND CITIZENSHIP

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship): Mr. Chairman I am very pleased to present the estimates of The Department of the Provincial Secretary and Citizenship in my capacity as the 32nd Provincial Secretary and the second Minister of Citizenship for the province of Ontario. It is indeed an honour to follow in the footsteps of those illustrious and public minded people who have presided over this historic department of government over the years. It is timely that in this Centennial year of Confederation, a historical summary of this department will be tabled in the House. This report, while not lengthy, will highlight many interesting and notable facts gleaned from old records of the provincial archivist and the legislative library.

There are three broad areas in which the department operates and I simply want to underline them. These are the secretariat, the office of the registrar-general, and that vital and living field of citizenship. I thought that, although it would be a departure from usual custom, it might be best if, having simply made this introduction with respect to some of the general areas, I would now proceed to have the estimates of the department considered by the House in detail—and perhaps restrict any further comments in connection with the operation of our department until such time as we consider its work, vote by vote. I am very happy to table these now, ready for discussion.

One vote 1701:

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, with regard to vote 1701, I would like to ask the Minister why it is that the government

hospitality fund is shown as being \$40,000 when we know that more than \$40,000 is spent every year. In the last year for which public accounts are available, the government got a Treasury board order for another \$20,000 and spent most of it. Now why does he come asking for \$40,000 when he wants \$60,000?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think that is a reasonable question, Mr. Chairman. The item of \$40,000 is a Budget item. It is difficult to anticipate in advance what the overall needs will be in any one fiscal year, so the amount is set perhaps somewhat arbitrarily at that in order that we then might attempt to live within the Budget as far as this type of hospitality fund is concerned. As you point out, in other years it appears, as I have studied the public accounts, that it has been necessary to take specific requests to the Treasury board in order to have them reviewed. I think the only answer is that there has been some difficulty, with any accuracy, to pinpoint exactly what the overall amount for this figure—

Mr. Bryden: But you know that \$40,000 is not enough. I mean, you have been spending more than \$40,000 year after year.

Hon. Mr. Welch: It would appear, as we review the public accounts, that this has not been a realistic amount.

Mr. Bryden: Well, why do you bring it?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I have no further reason than this: that we have to have some item, and this is how it is now presented.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister of course still has had only a very limited time to become familiarized with his duties, so perhaps I will make a suggestion to him as to why this is so and then he can comment on it.

If an organization which the Tory government does not happen to like comes before it, it is told that there is no money left in the appropriation. Then, if some other organization which is either innocuous or is approved of by the Tory administration—such as the Lions when they had Governor Wallace here and the government had a big entertainment for the Lionesses over on the University of Toronto campus while Governor Wallace, with his putrid racial hatred, was speaking to the Lions over in Maple Leaf Gardens—they can get it. But if an organization, as for example, the Voice of Women comes, they are told that the appropriation is all used up.

Now, is that the reason why?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): You are talking about many thousands of Ontario citizens.

Mr. Bryden: Some are refused on the ground that the appropriation is used up and then we find that there is a Treasury board order, or orders, adding up to another \$20,000 in the same year when people were turned down because the appropriation was used up. It is not good enough to say that the government has found that it needed more money than it has asked for, when it does not ask for as much as it knows it is going to need. I am suggesting that is the reason. If it is not, then perhaps the Minister can give me another reason.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Most of these items, Mr. Chairman, are of a non-recurring nature. The same items do not recur year after year and the question of—

Mr. Bryden: It is established, in fact, that \$40,000 is not enough. Some people, though, are turned down when the \$40,000 is used up, and others are not. I just want to know the basis.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Bryden: I got the ordinary mindless holler from over there, but I would like to get an answer that shows some evidence of ratiocination, some logic in it, and I have not been able to find any from anywhere yet.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): May I add two illustrations of the disingenuous way in which this money is used?

One happened several years ago—it has been referred to in this House before and perhaps this new Minister, this new fresh, young Minister, will bring a new approach to it to eliminate any suggestion of political finagling with this money.

A number of years ago, in the city of Kitchener, this fund was used to entertain people competing in a large curling bonspiel. At that time, at the time of the banquet that was tendered, those many hundreds who came there had no less a person than the present Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs—he was then the Minister of Labour—as the guest speaker. He did not even have the decency to invite to the head table at that time the then leader of the Opposition, John Wintermeyer, who indeed was at one and the same time the member for Waterloo North. That man, a very sensitive man, came back and reported this conduct of the then Minister of Labour.

In other words, if government money is going to be spent, the then Minister of Labour was going to milk it for everything political that he could get out of it; and he was not going to share the limelight of the head table, or the spotlight of attention, with the leader of the Opposition. That is one illustration.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): There is no milk in this fund.

Mr. Bryden: No, it is a milkless fund.

Mr. Sopha: Last winter—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: May I speak to that?

Mr. Sopha: No, no, when I am finished.

Mr. Bryden: There is a perfectly truthful Minister over there.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Do you want the truth?

Mr. Sopha: Last winter we had the privilege of having a very significant hockey tournament in the city of Sudbury. Teams came from the Maritime provinces, from Edmonton, the University of Alberta, Sir George Williams, the University of Montreal, the University of Ottawa, the University of Toronto, to name some of them, and there might have been more. Once again the government hospitality fund tendered a banquet to those visiting teams.

For some strange reason, which I did not comprehend and still do not, for some strange reason the chairman of that banquet—and I wish my friend from Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) was in the House to hear this—was one of the leading Tories in the community. I do not really know what connection he had with hockey, because I am sure this particular individual never had a pair of skates on in his life. He had no connection with the university either, no connection with the team, but he turned up as the chairman. An elaborate programme was tendered, with all the dignitaries who were present, and the teams; and, on the programme, it revealed that the hon. member for Nickel Belt was present.

This dinner was in my constituency. They had the good grace to ask me to come, then this leading Tory gets up and makes a very effusive—sort of Dale Carnegie, chamber of commerce—speech about the gracious hospitality of the government of the province of Ontario—

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): That figures.

Mr. Sopha:—which had paid for this feed-bag that everybody is going to put on. Then there is a place in the programme for the member for Nickel Belt to make a few remarks, where he expands upon the great beneficence of the government of Ontario in paying for all this wine and cheese that we are having, and other very helpful bills of fare.

At no time during the proceedings did anybody ever acknowledge that this was taking place in my constituency. Indeed, they made sure that the Liberal member for Sudbury did not get two cents' worth in to welcome our brethren from the far reaches of this country. I might have said a few things to our friends from Alberta, but it gave all the appearance of being a complete Tory clam-bake.

In other words, this is another \$40,000 that we are providing the Conservative Party for its nefarious political purposes in this province.

Mr. Bryden: Nothing but conversion of public funds.

Mr. Sopha: We are not so obtuse that we do not see it. What we do not like is when we see it and have rubbed into it the fact that we are hooted at and told that we are being unreasonable in complaining about it.

There are two illustrations. I merely plead with the hon. Provincial Secretary to give a fresh approach to this and to take this \$40,000 out of the political arena entirely, where it ought not to be. Get rid of the dissimulation! If you are going to welcome people into our province, or other worthy groups, give every appearance that it is done purely in the spirit of hospitality: we are glad to see you, we are glad you are here. We try to be good hosts. We are friendly people. But for heaven's sakes do not use it as another means for political advancement—as it has from those two illustrations, been used in the past.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, I remember that occasion in Kitchener-Waterloo, at the arena.

Mr. Reaume: Do you remember what happened?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Oh, yes, I remember very well. Part of what the hon. member for Sudbury has said is correct—but only part.

Mr. Reaume: Everything he said was correct.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Only part. I will tell you wherein it was not right. The government hospitality fund did provide funds for a bonspiel reception which drew players and teams—rinks as they are called—from all prov-

inces and parts of Canada. It was indeed a unique occasion to have that bonspiel in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. I had nothing to do with the funds whatever, but I was invited, not to be the speaker but to be the master of ceremonies, without having any knowledge of the situation or the source of the dinner. I was invited by the committee in charge.

I went to the arena that night and I would have to agree that, as the leader of the Opposition lived in that area and also was present, the committee should have had him at the head table. I am quite pleased to say so tonight.

You are quite right. He was not at the head table, and it was my view and that of a number of other people that he should have been. But it was beyond my power, beyond the control of the master of ceremonies, which position I had been asked to discharge.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, with reference to the comments of the hon. members for Sudbury and Woodbine, I appreciate very much the fact that they have raised these points. May I simply, in reply to the hon. member for Woodbine, without boring the House with all the details, go through the type of association or organization which has in fact benefited from the hospitality fund—or, to put it another way, to which the province through its hospitality fund has extended provincial hospitality.

We have such organizations as the Canadian association for adult education, the Canadian folk arts council conference, the Grand Orange lodge of British America, also the Canadian tuberculosis association, the hockey association diamond jubilee—

Mr. Bryden: Are these you are now reading from in the current fiscal year?

Hon. Mr. Welch: No. I am reading from the public accounts for 1965-1966. Have you got something?

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Would you mind reading about the Canadian bar association party?

Mr. Bryden: There is a lot of bar work there.

Hon. Mr. Welch:—and the reception for the Prime Minister of India, the Salvation Army, and so on.

I really have nothing more to say except that I have noted the comments of the member for Sudbury and I have noted the comments of the member for Woodbine. As I launch out to interpret the terms of refer-

ence for this particular fund, I can assure them that we will carry on in the spirit for which the fund was intended.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the hon. Minister: In looking over the public accounts for the year ending March 31, 1966, in the hospitality fund there is one item that was conveniently not mentioned. This was the Canadian bar association, \$14,006.55. I wonder, before I say anything more about this, if the Minister would explain that amount, please.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The explanation I have, Mr. Chairman, is that, in order for the province to extend hospitality to those who were here in Toronto—as I understand it, for the annual meeting of the Canadian bar association—it cost \$14,006.55.

Mr. Bryden: Not for nothing are they called the “bar” association.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I want to go on record as saying that I think this is completely ridiculous. When the hon. Minister read off some of the items—I see here, for example, alcoholics anonymous conference, \$195.75, and the Canadian federation of university women, \$749.84; Canadian folk arts council conference, \$550.

Perhaps we in the Opposition could swallow some of these hospitality grants given to worthy organizations such as those mentioned; but look, Mr. Chairman, when \$14,000 is given to the Canadian bar association, professional men who can well afford their own whisky, I want to tell you that the people in the province of Ontario simply cannot afford this kind of nonsense. I would hope that this young new Minister would cut that item out, if he does not cut out any other.

There is simply no excuse for a provincial government to entertain the lawyers of Canada. They can afford their own hospitality fund.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister just what comprised this sum. It is not an even figure, so I guess it was not a flat rate grant. It must have been for some specific purpose or purposes—\$14,006.55. I would like to ask the Minister how that figure was arrived at. What was it for?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think that is a fair question. The hospitality extended, I understand, was in the form of a banquet. Perhaps the odd amounts can be explained by the fact that there would be tax and gratuities. I

certainly am not in a position to give the breakdown in connection with this, but may I point out that it is the custom, as this convention moves across Canada, for the host province to tender such a dinner as part of the hospitality.

With respect to the comments just made by the previous speaker, the principle is one of hospitality. Certainly we are not hearing a plea that we apply a means test insofar as the hospitality fund of the province is concerned. The point is that we are entertaining certain visitors to Ontario. When our delegates go to Alberta or British Columbia or Nova Scotia, they are entertained by those provincial governments. I would assume that this is the principle that we follow as far as most of these organizations are concerned.

I really am not in the position to give the actual breakdown—

Mr. Bryden: I can understand that if it is for a banquet it would not come to an even figure.

Mr. Sopha: Well, look here; my very good friend—

Mr. Chairman: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. Sopha: On the same subject?

Mr. Chairman: On the same subject?

Mr. Young: On the same subject. I want to know from the Provincial Secretary how an organization applies for this kind of hospitality—the Canadian labour congress, for example. It might meet in Toronto at some future date. Would it be possible for them to apply for and receive this kind of hospitality?

Hon. Mr. Welch: There is no question about that. The procedure, as I have found it so far, is that an organization which is to—that is, the Ontario counterpart of the organization having the conference would write to the department indicating the plans with respect to their conference and raise the question as to the province acting as host at some function during the course of that particular conference. This is considered in the context of the Budget, and so on.

With respect to the Canadian labour congress, I really hope that the hon. member does not feel discriminated against because the international labour organization—the ILO, if I have the right initials—was in Toronto in September. That meeting was in Toronto this past fall and the government hospitality fund entertained the delegates to the international labour organization when they were here.

The point is that these matters come—

Mr. Bryden: That is not a trade union.

Hon. Mr. Welch: If the Canadian labour congress or any other organization of trade unionists wanted this sort of hospitality, they would simply write, as the girl guides recently have—I have a letter on my desk today from the girl guides of Canada—and all these groups. They just write to advise that they are going to be here, in the hope that the province would in fact be quite anxious to extend hospitality.

Mr. Bryden: What about the Tory convention this fall?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I do not see that in any of my mail at the moment.

Mr. Sopha: Look here! We have to keep these things in their proper perspective. My warm, affectionate friend, the member for Bruce, has a thing for lawyers. I think, sometimes, a long time ago his father was bitten by a lawyer.

What the hon. Minister says is perfectly correct. Last August—I hope he will permit me to say so—the Deputy Provincial Secretary and myself, and the Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko), were the guests at a banquet tendered to the Canadian bar association by the province of Manitoba at the Fort Garry hotel in Winnipeg. A very tasteful and very warm and cordial affair it was. We had the privilege at that time, as the Minister of Public Welfare will recall, of hearing the Premier of Manitoba himself, who was the guest speaker. He is a very charming man. I made up my mind there, having heard him, that if he wants to be leader of the Conservative Party it is all right with me because he will get nowhere. I had the chance to size him up.

So if the Provincial Secretary says that it is done all across the country—I can only testify for Manitoba—then it is all right with me if it is done in Ontario. I ask the member for Bruce to be fair about this, that the legal profession is no less abstemious than any other profession.

Mr. Bryden: That is not saying much.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, it is not just a question of them paying for their own whisky. I would only point out that 25 per cent of the hospitality fund went to our lawyer friends. I think that is too much money and most respectfully, I would ask the Minister to cut that item out. That would be one form of economy that this government could help with.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, as everyone knows, I do not want to sow any seeds of discord in the Liberal Party; there is plenty there already. I do not really hold the department, or the Minister in any case, responsible, because he was not there. I do not hold the department responsible for this incredible item. If every province in Canada does this, then it is pretty difficult for Ontario to say no; in fact it is almost impossible. What I do protest, and consider most deplorable, is that the legal profession of Canada should be a bunch of freeloaders at the public trough, in one province after another, for their conventions—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: He just wanted to keep the gravy train going from coast to coast—that was the purpose of his speech—so he would never be off it.

Mr. Bryden: I am very proud to say that, according to my observation, and I have studied these hospitality accounts over the years, no trade union has ever cashed in. I could be wrong on that, there may have been the odd one; but certainly, by and large, they have never cashed in. Yet the people who attend those trade union conventions are a lot less well-heeled than the legal profession; in fact I think the legal profession usually comes second, only after the doctors, as the best heeled people in Canada—according to the income tax reports.

These working people hold conventions, and I have known them to knock a few back too, but they pay for them themselves.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: They have never applied.

Mr. Bryden: That is fine, and I hope they will never apply. I am sure you would grant it to them; it would be political suicide if you did not. What I am saying is: I am happy to see that these people have enough self-respect and independence that they do not apply. They do not ask to be fed at the public trough. When they have banquets, they pay for them themselves. I certainly think the Canadian bar association ought to take another look at itself. With the well-to-do people it has attending these conventions, when it comes into a province and soaks the people of that province—\$14,000 to put on a banquet which they do not need—most of them would be a lot better off if they did not eat all the rich food at the banquet anyway—as well as the drink.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask, now that I am on my feet, what organizations if any were refused hospitality from the hospi-

tality fund, in the year to which these public accounts apply, 1965-66?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): What has that got to do with this vote?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes, the hospitality fund refusals for this fiscal year total 18. I would be glad to read them all if the member would like. The alumni association of the Niagara parks commission school of horticulture, the Canadian ladies' open golf tournament, the Canadian open lightning championships—

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Is that the fast movers?

Hon. Mr. Welch: —the Canadian society for education, the Canadian vocational association, the Canadian library association, the Canadian corps of commissioners, the Canadian society of forensic science, the international teach-in conference, the Niagara Falls police department conference, the convention of the Ontario parks association, the Ontario hotel and motel association—

Mr. Sopha: They have their own.

Mr. Bryden: That would be like taking coals to Newcastle.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The national council of the Canadian daughters league, the police association of Ontario convention—

Mr. Bryden: What do you have against policemen?

Hon. Mr. Welch: —the Royal Canadian legion provincial command convention—

Mr. Whicher: What is wrong with that?

Hon. Mr. Welch: —the swimming awards dinner, the voice of women, the association of Ontario counties—18 in number.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the hon. Minister why these were people turned down when others were granted this. I cannot see any difference unless there is discrimination on the basis of sex, for example, in the case of the Canadian ladies' golf association. When various other athletic associations were given grants, why was this organization refused?

I know the voice of women was refused for political grounds, as were some others, because they happen to have ideas of which the Tory government does not approve. They approve more of Governor Wallace of Alabama, but I would like to know why a strictly non-political organization, like a ladies' golf

association, should not have qualified just as other organizations.

Mr. Whicher: You have to have a Tory Cabinet Minister to sponsor it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, no!

Hon. Mr. Welch: I trust in all fairness that the member will certainly understand that I may not be able to give a complete answer to his question insofar as the reason for each refusal is concerned. I assume, on the basis of my experience thus far in the fund, so far as I have had any connection with it, that there is always the difficulty of weighing the extent of the membership, or the participants in the particular event—the fact that they are coming from out of the province—the extent of the organization, the extent of their request, and the limitations with respect to budget.

I would have to see the year before as to whether or not these same associations perhaps did receive some benefit from the hospitality fund the year before. Maybe it was felt this year that we would skip them and perhaps do somebody else who had been refused the year before. It could be these, or a number of reasons. I would have to really take each one of these letters out and find the notations that were marked on them as to the reasons for the refusal.

Mr. Bryden: Why was the Ontario command of the Canadian legion refused?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Here again you have me in the position of really only surmising why. The title on my sheet here is the Royal Canadian legion provincial command convention. It may have been, in view of the fact that it was the provincial command rather than the national command, if this is the proper word, that this was an intraprovincial type of convention. I do not know.

Mr. Bryden: Then there is the Canadian library association; that is a national organization, why was it refused? You see, it appears this is purely arbitrary and discriminatory. Whatever happens to please the Minister gets the money; and what does not happen to please him, does not get it. There is no apparent rhyme or reason to it at all.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think, in fairness to the questioner, the difficulty does show up in the type of questions he has asked with respect to those who have received it and those who have been refused. I can assure you that with the money which is allocated for this, or which is proposed, there are these obvious

limitations. I can assure him, as I have already assured the member for Sudbury, that in the course of attempting to interpret some type of policy or finding some guidelines as is to be interpreted under my Ministry I will certainly take into account the comments that have been made here by both members.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the statement the Minister has just made but could I ask him now how much money has been expended under this fund to date in the current fiscal year—

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): This sounds like an undercurrent.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I am advised that the amount is approximately \$57,000.

Mr. Bryden: Well now, that would involve a Treasury board order, would it? You asked for \$40,000 again last year and so far you have spent \$57,000. The year before you asked for \$40,000 and spent just under \$60,000.

Hon. Mr. Welch: To answer the question of the member, I am advised that there was a Treasury board order, in order to provide for this additional amount some time in the late fall of last year.

Mr. Bryden: And how much was the Treasury board order for?

Hon. Mr. Welch: \$20,000.

Mr. Bryden: In other words, the department comes into this House and asks for \$40,000. Then, as regularly as clockwork every fall, it goes and gets a Treasury board order for another \$20,000. What are you trying to conceal? Who are you trying to kid? Why do you not come into the House honestly and ask for the amount of money you want?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He hopes he can keep it down. It is a good way to try and keep it down.

Mr. Bryden: Well that is exactly what I object to, Mr. Chairman. Some people are told no, on the grounds that there is no money left in the fund. Other people, who appear to have no greater entitlement, get the money. I do not know on what basis they get it, but something should be done to put this on a more rational basis.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, the Niagara Falls police national—or international—police conference—what is that title?

Hon. Mr. Welch: In answer to the question of the member for Niagara Falls, the association is referred to as Niagara Falls police department conference.

Mr. Bukator: May I touch on that subject? I know that the Niagara Falls police department, Mr. Chairman, is thinking of an international police conference this summer. They are talking about bringing many thousands of policemen from all over the world into that area in Centennial year. Have they approached you again this year, on this very subject?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Not to our knowledge. But I can assure you that if they do—let me put it this way—if they have any plans in that connection they should be encouraged to get their letter in soon, because there is some consideration being given now to programmes for the balance of this year for that particular locality.

Mr. Bukator: I know that they have sent a delegation to the United States, and to England and to Paris. They are bringing police in from all over the world to help us in this Centennial year. I will see to it that they approach you.

Mr. Sopha: If we have finished with that, I would like to turn to this marriage office and make an inquiry of the Minister. A few years ago, when Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor were put up in sin, down at the King Edward hotel—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is an old chestnut.

Mr. Sopha: —two of the most outstanding actors of our generation, I dare say. I am no authority, but a lot of people would support that thesis. This city was privileged to have them, and they approached this office and asked for a licence to get married. This government, very self-righteously, and in an affected puritanical fashion, said, “no”.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): In accordance with the law.

Mr. Sopha: Well, let us just determine that.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The puritan was presiding that day.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, In a very self-righteous fashion it said, “No, we will not issue you a licence in Ontario.” So they hied down to the city of Montreal where, you would expect, in the province of Quebec with its background, that they would be much more sensitive to the propriety of marriage between two citizens. Yet one observed that they got

a licence and indeed got married by a clergyman in that posh hotel—I forget the name of it—the Ritz-Carleton hotel down in Montreal.

An hon. member: It is not very special—respectable though.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Worse than that, they put the rates up.

Mr. Sopha: Did they? Well, that is fine. You would know about that because one would expect you at the Ritz-Carleton. I would be staying at the YMCA.

Mr. Whicher: But you are not on an expense account. You are not on the hospitality expense account.

Mr. Sopha: On the government hospitality—yes.

I know of no law. The Minister of Public Welfare put his oar in and said, “in accordance with the law.” I would like to hear what law that is because I know of no statutory authority in this province, certainly not in The Marriage Act, that prohibits the issue of a licence in these circumstances. It is a discretionary matter.

I want you to observe what has happened since. So far as I am aware, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burton are still living together as husband and wife; and, so far as I am aware, they have never been prosecuted for bigamy—that is to say by any jurisdiction that ever asserted that they were theretofore married before they got married in Quebec.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is a puritanical approach.

Mr. Sopha: Ah, not at all. Not at all.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is “middle class morality”.

Mr. Sopha: And they came into Ontario and they said, “We have a valid divorce.” I do not know that Burton was ever married before, maybe he was. But certainly Miss Taylor was.

An hon. member: Oh yes.

Mr. Sopha: And she had heard that she had a valid divorce in Mexico from her ex-husband. That was Eddie Fisher, was it not?

Mr. Bryden: That was the immediately preceding one.

Mr. Sopha: The immediate preceding one—Eddie Fisher. I think she had divorced him in Mexico, and Fisher has never laid any charge that she is a bigamist for having married Burton.

Mr. Bryden: He might be too, because he has married again.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed he has. I direct attention to the rigid, self-righteous attitude of this government in saying to these distinguished people, these two distinguished people, “You are not going to get married in Ontario,” as if to give the atmosphere of purity and rectitude—

Mr. MacDonald: Toronto the good.

Mr. Sopha: —that we must not soil our marriage laws by permitting you to marry in the province.

I would like to hear what the law is that prohibits the issue of a licence, in the discretion of the Provincial Secretary, in these circumstances.

Mr. Bryden: Well, the previous Provincial Secretary was jealous.

Mr. Sopha: Now let me add this. As I understand the practice—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We are really talking about the vote, not the law.

Mr. Sopha: As I understand the practice, if Miss Taylor and Mr. Burton could have persuaded a lawyer, and I do not know that they asked, but if they could have persuaded a lawyer to write an opinion that their previous divorces were valid in the jurisdictions where they were granted, and had tendered that opinion of legal counsel to the Provincial Secretary, then the Provincial Secretary would have issued a licence on the strength of that opinion.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: You messed that up.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes.

Mr. MacDonald: He would have disputed it.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: You had better go back to law school.

Mr. Sopha: I will not go to Osgoode.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, Mr. Chairman, the two sections of The Marriage Act to which the hon. member would refer of course, would be subsection 2 of section 5, which has to do with a period of residence in the province immediately preceding the application for the licence.

Mr. Sopha: What is required?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Fifteen days.

Mr. Sopha: They played for about three months at O’Keefe Centre.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Now the other matter—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The other matter would be subsection 2 of section 12, Mr. Chairman, which the hon. member I think has interpreted quite correctly. May I read it?

No issuer shall issue a licence to a person whose previous marriage has been dissolved or annulled elsewhere than in Canada unless the authorization in writing of the Provincial Secretary is obtained upon the deposit of such material as he may require.

The departmental practice in this regard, as the hon. member will know, is to satisfy the Provincial Secretary that the divorce is one which in fact would be recognized by the jurisdiction of the husband's domicile. I assume, if what you say was correct, and this evidence in fact could have been produced, then in accordance with the policy it may well have been that this was the sort of thing—

Mr. Sopha: Let me tell you. They never had a chance to do that. They never had a chance to do it because the former Provincial Secretary got into that great state of righteousness, and the moment they murmured that they were going to get married within the hallowed precincts of Ontario, he announced that they would not issue them a licence.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: What an opportunity we lost.

Mr. Sopha: He shieked, shrieked!

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 1701 agreed to?

Mr. Whicher: No, Mr. Chairman. In vote 1701 there is a statutory amount, quite a large sum, dealing with Ministers without Portfolio—\$7,500. I wonder if the hon. Minister could tell me the exact duties of Ministers without Portfolio? The reason I ask is because the only time I read their names in the paper is when they have been attending some Tory meeting somewhere in the province of Ontario. I want to know what they do for the people, besides Tories.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, Mr. Chairman, the \$7,500 amount is three times \$2,500—which is the per-Cabinet-Minister allowance for a Minister without Portfolio.

Mr. Whicher: Would the hon. Minister suggest that they are overpaid or underpaid, or is that the right amount?

Vote 1701 agreed to.

On vote 1702:

Mr. Sopha: I would like to ask, on this 1702, when this department is going to start insisting that the law be complied with in respect of the filing of those returns that are required by law. Just a week or so ago, and I hesitate, I have great trepidation in raising this, because I have not said a thing about Prudential in this House—or York Trust, or anything else. But, a week or two ago, the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) drew attention to the fact that one of the companies had not, within the time prescribed, filed its returns with this department. I know as a matter of personal—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: He was talking about the filing of another matter under another Act.

Mr. Sopha: Under another Act? Oh yes, not in this department but that of the Provincial Secretary. I know that many hundreds of companies do not comply with the time limits and do not file their annual returns within the time. Form letters go out to them at regular intervals threatening them with dire consequences, and nothing is done. Perhaps, in view of the collapse of the institutions in this province, can we not put some teeth into the matter and bring a few of these companies to the courts—to make an example of them so that the habit will be cultivated that they must comply with the statutes? Would that not be the better part of good sense?

One other thing under the companies branch, that I want to refer to, is the matter of this statute, The Corporations Information Act. It seems to me that, in the whole sorry mess of the collapse of Prudential, this statute—section 1 I believe it is—no it might not be section 1, it is a very short Act. Well, one of the sections provides that the Provincial Secretary should require a corporation to supply information about any of its affairs—any aspect of its affairs at all. Researches and investigations, in the select committee on corporation law, reveal that not only has this section had a very limited use but its application has been very haphazard.

Indeed, a startling revelation came to us when the Deputy Attorney General came before the committee and was asked whether he might not find this to be a useful tool in conducting investigation where he suspected that there was a serious breach of the law. I can well recall that the Deputy Attorney General gave every indication that he was an Etonian by loyalty—he was from the old school—and he thought that it would be terrible for one government department to use

a statute for the purpose of collecting information that might lead to a prosecution. But for the life of me I cannot see any violation of principle there.

Honest people, when asked to supply information, need have no fear about the supply. It is the dishonest ones who ought to be in fear of consequences, and it is the dishonest ones we want to reach. To give an illustration, there was no compunction—I do not say this with any ulterior motive at all—there was no compunction on the part of the securities commission to examine Mr. Justice Landreville within the framework of their terms of reference and then use the information that they gleaned to help them in a criminal prosecution in the courts. I do not see anything wrong with that. I do not see anything wrong with that at all—exercising power under one statute for the purpose of proceeding under another. I am utterly unable to comprehend the objection of the Deputy Attorney General in the brief that he presented to us. To get back, and get the thing into focus, it seems to me that to maximize the use of this statute whenever the suggestion occurs to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs that there is something improper, all he need do is to send a memorandum down to the Provincial Secretary and say: "Requisition the following information from that institution and make it as lengthy and as detailed and as inquisitive as you wish to make it." If the reply to that information discloses something that is illegal, or against the public interest, the purposes of the public of Ontario will have been served.

Of course, I would add a word of caution: In no circumstances should that section be used to advance the interests of private persons. Indeed, in the corporation of our committee, we were made acquainted with some illustrations a generation ago—a long time ago—when they were used just for that purpose. But that has been inhibited now, and one would not expect a recurrence of that type of inquiry.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, just to come in briefly. Insofar as the filing of the annual returns are concerned, the hon. member will know that—starting last year with the revised new annual return form, where the date of processing equipment or the punch card was used to impose on these new forms much of this information and also to provide copies for office files—we have in fact experienced a far better return so far as annual returns are concerned. It has facilitated, and improved the quantity and the speed with

which these returns are received by the department. I should also point out that, as you know, there is this one-year business. We have in fact cancelled 2,500 charters for failure to file the annual returns in keeping with the regulations.

Your comments with respect to section 4 of The Corporations Information Act have been noted; and, as the hon. member will know, the select committee on company law asked The Department of the Provincial Secretary to produce some evidence with respect to the utilization of this section. I think the list was a considerable one and I have noted your comments and observations in that regard as well.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, with respect to vote 1702, does the branch now cancel any charters for non-filing of returns? They certainly never did before. I understand that they were tightening up on this. How many did they cancel last year?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Twenty-five hundred.

Mr. Bryden: There is another phase of this, Mr. Chairman, that I think has to be raised at this time. I do not want to go over all of the Prudential affair again but I do want again to call attention to one aspect of it which relates specifically to this branch. In Prudential we saw a company which, within its own framework, was a perfectly legitimate company doing a particular type of business, and in a small way performing a service. I say in a small way because it was carrying on business in a small way. Then a bunch of quick-buck artists came in, took this company over, changed its character entirely; but as far as its legal status is concerned it is exactly the same company.

As a matter of fact this is what, I think, embarrassed the Prudential Life Insurance people. When they began to complain about this high-flying promotional company using a name similar to theirs, the company, or its president, calmly advised them that they had sold insurance to Prudential Finance for its officers, and how could they complain about a company to which they had sold insurance? Of course, Prudential Life Insurance was caught in exactly the same trap as the public.

This is by no means an isolated example of this sort of thing—of a company that is just barely operating or operating in a small way and has a good reputation being taken over by people whose purposes and objectives are totally different from those for which the company was set up. When is the

department going to start doing something about this sort of thing?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Before I attempt to answer that, if you could suggest what you mean—what would you like the department to do in that connection?

Mr. Bryden: I do not know what its statutory authority may be, but if it is lacking in statutory authority then I think it should ask for an amendment to the law. But I think it should cancel a charter in a case like that, where the purpose of a company, its objects and its operations, have been totally changed.

That outfit of—what is his name, Brien, should have had to come in and get a new charter. I think, if they had had to come in and get a new charter, they would not have—I will give the department this much credit—gotten the name of Prudential, or any other name that could be so easily associated with well-established and highly respectable financial institutions.

I have no doubt that he was attracted to this company in London just because it had the name Prudential. If there had been one with a name like Metropolitan, or any of these names that are well-known in the financial world and well-known to the public, then that is what he was looking for.

Frankly, I think that when companies are incorporated they ought to have to state their objects in reasonably precise terms, and they should have to stay within those objects, sir. If they are going to depart significantly from them they should have to either get an amendment to their charter or be reincorporated. It is not only in regard to Prudential that it happened; it is happening all over the place. You will find that mining companies are suddenly in the construction business, and the shareholders who put their money in, thinking that they were investing in a mining company, do not know anything about this. They have nothing to do with it.

This kind of thing goes on all the time, while a few would-be Napoleons use other people's money to make big fellows of themselves. It is true that some of them succeed and become pillars of the community—senators and various other things—but then others of them fail. They do not lose anything, but a lot of individuals who are quite innocent lose quite a bit of money in these deals. I think there has to be a great deal of tightening up in the company law of this province.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, may I approach the question in three different ways? In the first place, as you know, the Legislature has a select committee on company law—the all-party committee which has been going into the whole structure and all related fields insofar as company law in the province is concerned, in a very careful and meticulous way.

The second point is this: I want to divide the other part between the company itself, which is a creation by statute by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and the grant of letters patent—or the procedure in which you actually create, as far as the law is concerned, some type of corporate identity to do business, as you point out.

As you know, part of the enabling document which gives life to this entity is its “objects” clause. In other words, you must, before you get the grant of letters patent, specify the objects of the corporation, and they are spelled out in generalities. I think we should keep that in mind from the standpoint—

Mr. Bryden: Except that that means nothing, or appears to mean nothing.

Hon. Mr. Welch: There is a great body of law in it with respect to companies operating outside of their objects. There is the whole question of *ultra vires*, and it is quite a detailed branch of the law with respect to companies operating outside their objects. It is sufficient to say that if a company wants to actually change its objects, it must do what you suggest. It must apply for supplementary letters patent, at which time it makes application to have these other powers or other objects, as the case may be.

The other aspect of your point, and your question, is one to really impute the motive, or question the integrity, of those who would take over these legitimately incorporated companies and attempt to, in their own ways, manipulate—or whatever the word is that you used—from the standpoint of a less-than-honest dealing with the public.

Mr. Bryden: That is precisely what happened with Prudential.

Hon. Mr. Welch: In this connection, I have been very interested in your comments, because here we are getting into the field of morality and away from the standpoint of our criminal law. I suppose, if you look at it quite objectively, the law does not say that

you cannot murder; but it says that if you do murder the penalty is such and and such.

What I am trying to say in an awkward way is: How can we—and I would be interested in your comments—indicate in some way how we are going to try to get into the mind of or to understand the motive of a person who buys legitimately into one of these businesses—whose objects of the company are to do this, which he performs, but dishonestly.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to concede that one cannot legislate honesty or morality, but on the other hand I do not think that we have to make laws to facilitate dishonesty and immorality. A corporation is a personality and it is a person under the law. This, as we all know, is pure fiction. A corporation does nothing. The people who run it do everything; and if those people change, the corporation can change drastically.

I certainly will not pretend to be an expert, or even a person with a good nodding acquaintanceship with corporation law, but my observation leads me to the conclusion that there is something wrong somewhere. I suspect that what is wrong in the first instance is that the objects of the corporation when it incorporates are not defined nearly clearly and specifically enough. The lawyer who comes in copies the objects from some other charter that gives them a very wide range of action. I think this should be tightened up. They should come in and say precisely what it is that they want to do, then their charter should be issued on that basis. They should not have the leeway to go off in several different directions.

I do not have any idea what the objects are of the Argus Corporation, but I guess it is in—

Mr. Whicher: To make money!

Mr. Bryden: Well, its object is to make money, but it is in the farm machinery business. It has a very strong position in the food business and it has an even stronger position in the alcoholic beverage business. It is in everything under the sun.

This, of course, is one way that corporate control keeps extending. These fellows do not invest their own money. They buy a company and use the profits of that to buy another company, and so they go on building their empires. I am saying that there should be much closer public control. We should get over this nonsensical notion that because a corporation is a person under the law it does anything. It is the people who are in

it who do something; and if they change and then start trying to change the purposes of that company—and surely that is what happened to Prudential.

I have never looked at their charter, and I do not know what the original charter said, but the Prudential that Brien had was a totally different outfit from the Prudential that had been operating in a modest and quiet useful way in London for 30 years before that. I just do not see that these birds should be allowed to get away with it. If our laws are not good enough to catch them, then we should change the laws.

Mr. Sopha: Every lawyer in the House recognizes the futility of this contribution. If the hon. member for Riverdale were here, he would not be saying these things.

Mr. Bryden: Let him speak for himself.

Mr. Sopha: Every lawyer in the House knows that the objects of a company—a letters patent company—really have had no restrictive influence since the Bonanza Creek case. The company incorporated by letters patent—and I am no corporation lawyer—may do almost anything. It is statutory companies that are circumscribed to the objects in the statute. The classic example always cited to us in law school—I say to the Attorney General—is the T. Eaton Company, whose objects recite: “. . . may deal in merchandise of every nature and kind.” That is all it says in the objects—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: “Buy, sell and otherwise deal—”

Mr. Sopha: Yes, goods and merchandise.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, are there many more observations?

Mr. Chairman: On this vote?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, I want to make one on the business of names.

Mr. Bryden: Before you do, I want to just say—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Might we then close the debate and continue at another time?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of supply rise and report one resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply has come to a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning we should be ready for esti-

mates and possibly some second readings and House in committee.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.50 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, February 24, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1967

The House met at 10.30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have as visitors to the Legislature today students from the following schools: In the west gallery, Sacred Heart separate school, Toronto, St. Michael's separate school, Toronto; and in both the east and west galleries, Glenview senior public school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Motions.

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves that Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth) be substituted for Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland) on the standing committee on agriculture and food, that Mr. I. W. Thrasher (Windsor-Sandwich) be substituted for Mr. L. M. Reilly (Eglington) on the standing committee on private bills.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) asked me a question, of which I took notice and I am pleased to be able to respond to his question today.

It was concerning the legal aid plan for Ontario which I might say in passing will possibly be the most workable and generous one in the western hemisphere and we in The Department of Public Welfare have been pleased to participate with The Attorney General's Department in bringing this plan to fruition. The department has planned an addition to staff complement of 38 persons who will be available to assist to obtain the essential information for the area directors of the legal aid plan.

The director of welfare allowances will have the general authority over our part of the operation and under him the 19 regional administrators will have the responsibility for directing the field workers in local areas throughout the province. Certain field workers

will be designated to specialize in obtaining information on each application for legal aid. In order to meet this additional work load, we shall have, as I have mentioned, 38 more persons added to the staff.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister accept a supplementary question?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Renwick: Have any meetings taken place between the director of the welfare branch and the law society of Upper Canada or any of the officials of the legal aid plan in order to work out these schemes?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the chief executive director in our department has been a part of the committee from its very inception and I may say that for a non-lawyer he has made a tremendous contribution to this, because he has brought to bear not only his knowledge in the welfare scheme but his general administrative knowledge. And I think he will have been acknowledged to have made quite a contribution.

He has been the liaison between the department and the law society as part of the Attorney General's committee, so that he has had one foot in each camp and stimulated ideas in one sector and then passed on the decisions and the procedures to the department. This has worked out very satisfactorily and I think will be one of the very strengths of the plan.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health. Does the government intend to insist that Ontario Hydro do something immediately about the large contribution to air pollution generated by Ontario Hydro's two generating plants, namely the Richard L. Hearn plant and the Lakeview plant?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, could I have the other question, which is almost similar—

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a similar question: What steps have been taken to control the pollutants being emitted into the air by the Ontario Hydro generating

plant at Lakeview, and are plans under way to minimize the contribution of this plant to the air pollution of the area in which it is located?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the hon. member for Bruce and the first part of the question of the hon. member for Yorkview, is that this is presently a matter for municipal control since it is pollution arising from products of combustion. In answer to the second part of the question of the hon. member for Yorkview, plans are under way and will be presented during this session of the House to exercise more strict supervision and control over air pollutants of all kinds.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, in the meantime I might say people are choking to death over that pollution and that something should be done by this government.

I have a question now for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: Does the government agree with Mr. John R. Kimber, chairman of the Ontario securities commission, that improved disclosure standards and securities legislation should be implemented so that shareholders can more effectively know what is going on in their companies? And secondly, does the government intend to implement such legislation during this session?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen a copy of Mr. Kimber's address but in the spirit in which the question is put and as I understand it, the new Securities Act calls for greater disclosure not only to investors at the beginning, but to shareholders during the course of a company's operations. So that in answer to the question, the spirit of Mr. Kimber's remarks is consistent with government policy in this matter.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: In view of the Minister's answer to my question yesterday in respect to bulletin 7-A, issued on February 16, 1967, by the director of The Used Car Dealers Act, what action does he now intend to take to clear up the confusion caused by the bulletin?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, dealers are being advised that the provisions of The Used Car Dealers Act and regulations apply with respect to the registration of used car salesmen. As well, all sections of the bulletins that conform with the Act will continue in force.

May I say that there will be no delay whatever in presenting whatever amendments to which I made reference earlier this week, and probably by the middle of next week I will have the amendment to present to the House.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs: Is the securities commission of Ontario fully conversant with the discussions which took place between officials of the Toronto stock exchange and officials of the British International Finance group of companies yesterday, and is the government prepared to make any statement about these discussions and results of them?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I have directed inquiries to the securities commission to ascertain the information which the member seeks and as soon as I have it I will be in a position to answer the question.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) is temporarily detained elsewhere; I wonder if I might ask on his behalf a question which has been submitted to the Minister of Public Welfare. Since municipalities may pay up to \$20 supplementary allowance to old age pensioners to help out with the cost of rent and/or drugs, will the government direct the municipalities that these supplements must be continued when the additional \$30 becomes available?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, this matter of government policy, and several others, will be announced by me in due course.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport, notice of which has been given. In view of the OMA brief to the Ministers suggesting that doctors should be compelled to report patients whose medical condition might make it dangerous for them to drive, has the Minister given any consideration to this matter as well as the other recommendations contained in the brief?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, yes, indeed, the Minister has given very serious consideration to this matter. In fact, consultations have been held with the Ontario medical association both prior to, and since receiving the brief.

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister a supplementary question? Is the Minister in any position at this point to indi-

cate what action might be taken in that regard?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, that will be answered in the fullness of time.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked a question of the House leader, who passed it to the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton). I hoped to pass the question to the Provincial Treasurer but he has escaped me at the moment. I think both the House and the public would be interested in whether or not the Smith report is going to become available now that the Carter report's release is so imminent that those who are about to release it are conferring secretly in Ottawa at the moment?

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we will find an opportunity later in the morning.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I have the very proud privilege of presenting to you, and through you to the hon. members of this House, the Timmy for 1967. He is a fine young fellow as every one of you can see. He is the society's 21st Timmy and not only is he symbolic of all crippled children in Ontario but he is also looked upon as Canada's national Timmy. Not only is he symbolic of crippled children but he is symbolic of the hope which is now available to all those who suffer from any kind of crippling.

It is obvious that Timmy is handicapped in some measure but I can say to you on very good authority, that he is very much an all-round boy. He is a lover of music, drama, baseball, hockey and football. He is a good swimmer, an excellent participant in all activities enjoyed by young boys today. Timmy cannot make much time on the ice but he is not alone in that regard; he is, I am told, one of the best goal-tenders ever to appear in his area league, and this he does in spite of his apparent handicap in a special wheel chair. I hope they made it wide enough for you, Timmy, that the puck cannot get past it if you should miss it.

His selection, of course, comes about upon the recommendation of the nurses throughout the whole province so that there is fairly keen competition for this office. During his year and particularly condensed in this first part of it, he is a very busy young man. He appears at every event in connection with the Easter seals campaign. The day before yesterday when the Toronto campaign was set off, Timmy was telling me something about his schedule; it is a busy one indeed, and one

that might well put many of us here, who think we are so busy, to shame.

Timmy is 11 years old, his name is James Sanders, and he is a native of Toronto. His first appearance was at the 16th annual celebrities sports dinner at the Royal York hotel on January 26, at which event he was the guest of honour. This was the opener for a very busy schedule, and I am quite certain that Timmy has enjoyed this opportunity to come to see where the laws of our province are made. I think I can say, sir, for the membership of this House, that we are equally proud to welcome him.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to add my voice to the welcome of the 1967 Timmy. From the words of the Minister of Health he has obviously got a great job ahead and we wish him every success in the Easter seal campaign and in the years that lie ahead.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, perhaps there is nothing more that need, or can, be added, but I would like nonetheless to add my congratulations to Timmy for the responsibility that has been given to him. I am constantly amazed at the capacity of the younger generation and I hope sometime that those who tend to doubt their capacity to accept responsibilities in this world will take a second look at many of them, including Timmy, and get reassurance that the future is in good hands.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

THIRD READINGS

The following bills were given third readings upon motions:

Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers and Machinery Company Limited.

Bill Pr11, An Act respecting the united cooperatives of Ontario.

Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Bill Pr19, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Bill Pr20, An Act respecting the township of Murray.

Bill Pr21, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Clerk of the House: The 11th order: committee of the whole House; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

THE LAND TITLES ACT

House in committee on Bill 1, an Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Sections 1 and 2 agreed to.

Bill 1 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved:

That payments of interest made under subsection 1a of section 5b of The Department of Agriculture and Food Act in respect of loans referred to in clause d of subsection 1 of the said section 5b, as enacted by subsection 1 of section 1 of The Department of Agriculture and Food Amendment Act, 1967, during the fiscal year ending on the 31st day of March, 1967, shall be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund,

as provided in Bill 3, An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture and Food Act.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, before the vote is put on that resolution, could the Minister indicate his estimate of how much money will be required for the period concerned?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): \$10 million, Mr. Chairman. That is the estimate. Three-and-a-half—

Mr. Bryden: \$3.5 million?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I am not sure if I understand the member's question correctly.

Mr. Bryden: How much money will be required under the terms of this resolution?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Up until yesterday or the day before, there was \$11.5 million in round figures. I gave the figure yesterday, it is about \$11.5 million. I doubt that there will be many more applications.

Resolution concurred in.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ACT

House in committee on Bill 3, An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture and Food Act.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: There is an amendment, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves that clause D as contained in subsection 1 of section 1 of the bill be amended by striking out any year in the third line and inserting in lieu thereof 1966 and that the said clause D be further amended by striking out that year or the next year in the fifth and sixth lines and inserting in lieu thereof 1966 or 1967. I have copies here.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of the amendment?

Section 1 as amended agreed to.

Sections 2 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 3 reported.

THE COUNTY JUDGES ACT

House in committee on Bill 5, An Act to amend The County Judges Act.

On section 1.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, on section 1 of the bill, would the Attorney General give us some indication of the work load now borne by the county judges in the county of York and whether or not in his view the simple increase from eight to ten is adequate to meet the backlog of cases in those courts?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, the request here is for two additional judges. This is based upon the survey made by the chief judge, His Honour Judge Willmott. I cannot give the hon. member detailed figures as to the number of cases each judge carries, but the assessment is made and it is a continuing study through the years. It indicates that two more judges will adequately serve and keep the court in good order.

Actually, the situation with our county and district courts throughout the province is very satisfactory at this time. There is scarcely any carry-over or cases being deferred by reason of lack of judges to deal with them, except in the county of York and where the other judge is asked for, in the district of Cochrane.

This, I can assure the hon. member will take care of the situation in the opinion of the judges and in the opinion of the chief judge.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 5 reported.

THE COUNTY COURTS ACT

House in committee on Bill 6, An Act to amend The County Courts Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 6 reported.

THE RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ACT

House in committee on Bill 7, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

On section 1.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on section 1, Mr. Speaker very kindly allowed me to ask the Attorney General a question when this bill was up for second reading. I would ask him if he would clarify the explanatory note, because the explanatory note appears to carry the implication that this will in some way assist the defence against a foreign maintenance order. Whereas, if I gathered the full import of the Attorney General's remarks the other day, he was in fact saying that this will permit the foreign maintenance order part of any other composite court judgment in another jurisdiction which is brought into Ontario for enforcement to be separated from other more difficult questions, such as custody and related matters, so that the maintenance part of the foreign order can be enforced more speedily if, of course, the merits permit it to be so enforced.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member has expressed even better than I could—

Mr. Bryden: We could substitute him for you.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —the purport and the intention of this amendment. It is, sir, that the maintenance portion of the judgment in the foreign jurisdiction can be enforced. I think the explanatory note used the word defended, that it can be enforced. And I think the word provisional was used there somewhere in the amendment so that a court will not have to go into the background or merits of such questions as custody and other matters which may have been a part of the whole action. But that the maintenance, that portion may be separated, as it were, and enforced or defended, as the explanatory note says.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 7 reported.

THE COMMUTER SERVICES ACT, 1965

House in committee on Bill 25, An Act to amend The Commuter Services Act, 1965.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 25 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved that,

1. an income tax shall be paid for each taxation year by every individual, other than an individual who during the taxation year was a member of the Canadian forces to whom section 4 of The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962 applies.

(a) who was resident in Ontario on the last day of the taxation year; or

(b) who, not being resident in Ontario on the last day of the taxation year, had income earned in the taxation year in Ontario as defined in clause b of subsection 4 of section 3 of The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962;

2. an income tax shall be paid for each taxation year by every individual who, during the taxation year, was a member of the Canadian forces to whom section 4 of The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962 applies;

3. an income tax shall be paid by every individual who was resident in or had income earned in Ontario, being 28 per cent of the tax payable under The Income Tax Act (Canada) of the 1967 and 1968 taxation years,

as provided in Bill 31, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Resolution concurred in.

THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961-1962

House in committee on Bill 31, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 31 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved:

That every corporation as defined in The Corporations Tax Act shall pay to Her Majesty for the use of Ontario the taxes imposed by that Act in accordance with that Act,

as amended by the provisions of Bill 32, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Resolution concurred in.

THE CORPORATIONS TAX ACT

House in committee on Bill 32, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Sections 1 to 14, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 32 reported.

THE PARKS ASSISTANCE ACT

House in committee on Bill 35, An Act to amend The Parks Assistance Act.

On section 1:

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would explain just what the application of this is going to be. Is there some programme whereby funds from his department are going to be channelled into the assistance to schools for playgrounds, or what?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): No, this will be the same as any municipal park where they apply under The Parks Assistance Act for subsidy and they will have to come up to a certain standard. It will be playgrounds, some camping and picnic areas. Plans must be submitted to the parks assistance board and they will be ruled on there, but it must be an overall park, not just for day use.

Mr. Nixon: It is possible, then, that these facilities during the summer would be available for touring campers and that sort of thing?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Yes.

Mr. Nixon: And maintenance will be paid for during the summer months as well?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Yes.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 35 reported.

CITY OF WOODSTOCK

House in committee on Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Schedules A and B agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr5 reported.

MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

House in committee on Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr7 reported.

CITY OF LONDON

House in committee on Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the city of London.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr16 reported.

BOROUGH OF ETOBICOKE

House in committee on Bill Pr23, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr23 reported.

NAPANEE AND DISTRICT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE BOARD

House in committee on Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr32 reported.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves that the committee of the whole rise and report certain resolutions, one bill with amendments and other certain bills without amendments and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole begs to report certain resolutions, one bill with amendments and certain bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, may we revert to the question which was asked before the orders of the day?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, we will revert to the member's question that was being asked before the orders of the day.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): My question was, simply: In view of the imminence of the Carter report at Ottawa, is there a possibility that we can expect the Smith report for consideration at the same time?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, the answer is that we cannot expect the Smith report at the same time. Our last contact, which was not a direct one, was to advise us that Mr. Smith, chairman of the Ontario taxation committee, had—I believe I am correct—23 chapters completely edited and ready for printing. The editing process is continuing and if my memory serves me correctly, there are some 17 chapters yet to be completed. This process is going on. I think, without being completely committal about it, that the indications are that about May is the best he thinks he can do.

Mr. MacDonald: Will that be before the election?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Really, I am not in a position to answer that question, Mr. Speaker. I am trying to be as frank as I can with the hon. member about the report, but—

Mr. MacDonald: I am a little disappointed because the Prime Minister led us to believe that it is almost ready—that it would be ready ahead of the Carter report.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am bringing you up to date and this is the best information I can get.

Clerk of the House: The 18th order; House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND CITIZENSHIP

(Continued)

On vote 1702:

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, there was a matter that was hanging in the air when we left off last night. I wonder if I could complete what I had to say on that?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): I would not want to leave him hanging in the air, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Bryden: It is a pity that the hon. member always wants to horn in and take over. He was not here last night, so we had a useful discussion.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 1702 please.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I had been discussing with the hon. Provincial Secretary (Mr. MacNaughton), the problem of the charters of corporations with respect to their objects. Just before the committee rose and reported progress, the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha), stated that if I were a lawyer I would not have made the statements I had, and then he proceeded to outline the law. Having heard his interesting—and I have no doubt authoritative—interpretation of the state of the law, I would say that I would have made the comments that I previously made but I would have made them less diffidently and with greater force.

Essentially the law, as I understand it from his exposition, is that in effect the objects of a company as set forth in a charter mean absolutely nothing. In the first place, they are couched in very general terms and in the second place the thrust of judicial interpretation has been that a company can do pretty well what it wants regardless of what its objects state. I will concede to the lawyers in the House that that is not stating the matter in proper legal language, but it is stating it in plain English as I understood the matter to have been set forth last night. That being so, Mr. Chairman, I think it is high time that we did something about this situation.

I called the attention of the House last night to the fact that the Prudential Finance Company, or the new management that took it over a few years ago, could very likely have been restricted in its high-flying fast-buck promotional operations if we had had some means of restricting companies to the original purposes for which they were set up.

I will not go all over it again; it has been thrashed out many times in this House. But as we all know, this company took over quite a small, respectable and useful company and changed its whole character. This is a problem that I think we have to head into and it is not by any means confined to the Prudential Finance Corporation. That is merely one example. Companies all the time are moving into fields that no one certainly had any idea they had any business being in and the shareholders certainly know nothing about it. Another example I gave, with which we are all familiar, is a mining company going into the construction business.

Now, I think objects should be set forth in such a way that if a company wants to engage in mining, it should be clearly stated that that is what they are engaging in. And

then if later there is any valid reason why they should go into construction, they should have to have their charter amended by supplementary letters patent or whatever the technical procedure is.

But they should not be able to just move from one field to another without let or hindrance. Of course, what is happening is that a small management group are doing these things. In many corporations there are empire builders, men who are trying to build little empires for themselves. They think they are the Napoleons of the 20th century. They use other people's money for this purpose, so that a person who has invested money in a corporation for one purpose discovers it is being used for an entirely different purpose, something that he did not anticipate, merely for the self-aggrandizement of the management. Of course, if things go wrong the management gets out usually without any loss to themselves; in fact often with substantial gain. But other people are skinned and left with a loss of their investments.

Another evil is the way in which the concentration of corporate power is facilitated. I am not going to get into a lengthy discussion of that problem, Mr. Chairman, but I think the growing concentration of corporate power is one of the most serious problems that modern industrial communities have to face. Yet we have corporation laws that make that process very, very simple.

The Argus Corporation started 20 or 30 years ago, I think, with a capitalization of \$40,000 and it now controls assets worth billions not only in Canada but in other parts of the world. I do not know how many billions but certainly in the billion-dollar range. This is all being done with other people's money. A small group become the emperors of these empires, not really risking any of their own money or any significant amount, but using other people's money.

A corporation is taken over by a group, its undistributed profits and depreciation reserves and so on are then used to acquire control of another company, often in a totally different line of business, and so it goes, from one to another; a steady concentration of power within the community. And it might be noted, Mr. Chairman, power which as Adolph Berle, the great American authority on corporations stated, power with no acknowledged referent of responsibility.

The managers are accountable to nobody; they are not in any meaningful sense accountable to their shareholders. The shareholders

are scattered all over the world and this little group in the centre can very easily line up proxies from shareholders who are far from the centre of operations, especially when they can use all resources of the company for the purpose of promoting their own point of view to the shareholders. There is no true responsibility to any public authority, and of course there is nothing in the nature of the responsibility such as a government has to accept, which is a responsibility to the people at large.

So here we permit this growing concentration of power and I would say now reaching the extreme, which is totally irresponsible in the technical sense of being responsible to nobody. I know that our friends opposite, even our friends on the Liberal benches, frequently divert attention from this basic issue by talking about the power of trade unions.

Well, Mr. Chairman, trade unions' power, in relation to that of the huge corporate empires that have been built up over the years and are continuing to grow, is but a flea bite. The trade unions are very small potatoes in relation to the power structure of either this country or the United States or any advanced country. And I really think that it is time we looked at our corporation laws with a view to not only curbing this proliferating concentration of power, but also to producing some element of responsibility and accountability.

I realize that we in the province are probably not operating in the centre of the field. The largest corporations in most cases are not incorporated under our laws. Some of them are, but our laws in many cases deal with a large number of very small corporations. But still we have part of the answer to the problem in our hands, and I think we should start to exercise the authority which as a legislative assembly we have to deal with this problem.

One further aspect of the problem, Mr. Chairman, that I might as well mention while I am on my feet and save having to get up again, relates to the private corporation. It is absolutely ridiculous that a mammoth empire like the T. Eaton Company should be a private corporation which does not even have to make public its financial statements. This is surely a terrible anachronism in the law. The basic concept of the private company was that it would be a small concern, perhaps held within a family. But not a huge economic power unit such the Eaton empire, which is now ready to take over a good part of the downtown of Toronto, even to the

taking over of one of the fine old public buildings of Toronto.

A company like this should have to undertake at least as much disclosure as other huge corporations are required to do, and of course I believe that all corporations should have to undertake far more disclosure than they do. But we certainly should not allow the law to continue as it is with regard to either private companies, or to the objects of a company and the requirements of a company to state its objects reasonably precisely when it is incorporated, and live within those objects unless they are subsequently amended by proper authority.

These are problems that in my opinion have been neglected far too long, Mr. Chairman. I think it is time we started to do something about it. I have no doubt the Provincial Secretary will tell me that there is a select committee looking into the problem of corporation law. That is a valid answer. I am not saying it is an evasion to refer to that. All I am saying is that we can look forward to the report of the select committee with interest, but at the same time we should be giving consideration ourselves to areas where there appears to be a critical need for changes in the law.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am glad my friend from Woodbine has gotten down out of the clouds and disposed of what is worrying him. I cannot find myself in too much agreement with the remarks he makes about objects. I am sorry he did not take the trouble to talk to his colleague from Riverdale (Mr. Renwick). His colleague might then have enlightened him about some of the discussions that we have had on the select committee on company law about objects.

I do not think there is any panacea in putting down in a company charter that a company may do a, b, c, d, and then you get very clever lawyers who will invent five or 10 pages or paragraphs about objects which will go into a charter which in fact are meaningless almost to anyone. I have made a substantial argument, and I think it is a valid one, but I do not know that I have brought my colleagues on this committee along with me, that a limited company should have all of the objects and capacities of an individual. We could and should do away with all this nonsense about object clauses. When the report is before the House, perhaps we will consider that aspect a little further.

I think my friend, the hon. member for Woodbine, that a little knowledge is a

dangerous thing. Without being in possession of the information and the background that surrounds these subjects, he only glosses over what the problem really is while he is facing the big enemy, the dragon that challenges him, the huge corporation that is mulcting the public and taking advantage, the huge power structure.

Mr. Bryden: Making public—

Mr. Singer: I think that we have heard enough of this to recognize that there are bad big companies and good big companies and bad small ones and good small ones, and bad trade unions and good trade unions. I suppose we must get our annual socialist lecture saying anything big is a horrible thing and it must be controlled and there must be more laws and on and on. I wish we could put some of these things in proper context, Mr. Chairman, so that we could be spared, hopefully, from this annual lecture that everything big is automatically bad and it is all the fault of the people who write the laws.

Mr. Bryden: Of course, nobody said that but you.

Mr. Singer: I am sorry the hon. member for Woodbine got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning. We get him in the House on days like that, and, I guess, we have to put up with him.

The thing I wanted to deal with particularly was the allocation of the companies branch to the Provincial Secretary. It is an historical accident, I think, that today has no basis in fact whatsoever. I would think that the Provincial Secretary would be quite happy, sir, to give that responsibility to his colleague, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree). As the Cabinet is now set up, I do not think there is any longer any excuse for keeping the companies branch separate and with the Provincial Secretary.

The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has taken over the securities commission. He is responsible for it. He is the spokesman for the government in this House and to the people of Ontario insofar as all these matters are concerned. The compartmentalizing, the continued compartmentalizing of the responsibility for corporations in The Department of the Provincial Secretary is, to my mind, useless and meaningless.

In the Prudential matter, for instance, I spent a couple of hours in one of the offices of the Provincial Secretary, where you search the records, going through the files. It is a

great big thick file; it is an old company. I made note of several things that I thought were unusual and could perhaps be questioned further. Then I began to inquire from officials in The Provincial Secretary's Department as to whether inquiries had been made, because those returns did reveal certain matters that would have led me, at least, to ask additional questions.

I was told by the officials of The Provincial Secretary's Department. No, that is not our responsibility. All we do is get the returns and if the returns seem to be answered properly, they are kept on file and they are available for public examination.

That did not seem to get us very far. This is a great big file—there are thousands of great big files in The Provincial Secretary's Department. As long as all the blanks are filled in and the files are available for public inspection, that seems to be all that the Provincial Secretary does about it.

Then I came to the chairman of the Ontario securities commission and I said to him, "There are certain things that I have observed in going through the file in The Provincial Secretary's Department. Did you observe them, did they cause you to ask any questions? Did the Provincial Secretary bother to tell you?" Much to my surprise the chairman of the Ontario securities commission said, "No, that is not the way we do it. We know there are returns there; we do not get copies of them; we do not refer to them; we conduct our inquiries separate and apart."

It seems to me that the left hand does not know what the right hand is doing and it may be that the left hand, the hand of the Provincial Secretary, really is not accomplishing any useful purpose. If there is going to be a reasonable and proper method of controlling companies by legislation, by requiring greater public disclosure, by making sure that it is effective, by making sure that questions are not avoided, by making sure that misleading answers are not given, surely all the machinery to do it has to be in one place. To my mind, the \$711,000 that the companies branch is presently asking for really is not needed at all for the real good that this branch does as it now functions.

If we need a companies branch at all, it should be in the same place as the effective control over companies is going to be exercised.

I make as effective a plea as I can this morning to the government at long last to bring these things together. If we are going to make any use of the statutes that we pass,

if there is any validity in asking for returns, the same people have to have immediate access to the returns as the people who are concerned about enforcing the laws, as are concerned about securities and so on. I think that is something I would like to hear the Provincial Secretary and perhaps the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs address themselves to this morning.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship): Mr. Chairman, I doubt very much if the hon. member who has just spoken would expect that I would have a personal opinion on this particular subject. It is really a matter of government decision as to where these particular functions perform within the Ministries as they are set out.

Suffice it to say that there has been some discussion about this in the press, insofar as the relationship or the functioning of the companies branch in this, or some other department is concerned. I think it is fair to say that the companies branch as it now operates is a fairly complete unit that can function under the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart), or any Ministry which the government, in its wisdom, feels it should be allocated to.

I would point out that the cost of operating this branch, I assume, would be the same no matter where it was. To make some specific reference to the question of cost, not by way of giving any opinion as such but simply to underline one or two things which the hon. member himself will know, there is more than just the commercial type of incorporation here. We have the social club charters and other matters which still are functions of the companies branch. Once again, I suppose it would not much matter where it was actually performed.

When certain questions were posed for the select committee for its consideration, I think some of the matters to which the hon. member has already made reference, were in fact left with the select committee. We are looking forward to the opinion of that committee with respect to either the duplication or however you want to sum up the particular difficulties. If you are talking about either the right or left hand, I would like to be the right hand rather than the left.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): I would like to comment to the Minister and to the government about the setup of The Provincial Secretary's Department, particularly as it relates to this field of company law. I wel-

come the disassociation of a large number of the statutes into a new department and away from The Attorney General's Department because that department has been proved incapable of dealing adequately with those areas related to markets. It seems to me that having set up The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs and carefully left the companies branch in the department of the Provincial Secretary's portfolio, that this was the proper decision to make.

I think that it would be very confusing now if, having finally established a department which is called Financial and Commercial Affairs, but which in reality is charged with the responsibility finally in this province of seeing to the honesty of the market place—and if one looks at the various statutes which were transferred to the new Minister, you can see that each one of them relates to the market place, whether it is the used car dealer or whether it is the real estate and business brokers, or whether it is the securities market, or any of the other statutes which were specifically transferred to that department—which is now finally a Ministry charged with the integrity of markets in the province of Ontario. This is a very important aspect of the operation of the commercial world.

If on top of that we were to transfer in a purely administrative function such as the incorporation, organization and dissolution of companies, we would clutter up what is obviously both a new department and a much needed department in the province.

My comments were directly and simply urging the Minister that should this suggestion come up, as it has come up occasionally in the press, that should it be seriously canvassed by the government, that he would put in an urgent plea to keep within his portfolio the companies branch. It is, and it becomes more and more, and I am certain as time goes on will become more and more simply an administrative routine procedure for the incorporation and organization of companies as a method by which people carry on their businesses in the province of Ontario.

Its functions are entirely separate from, and distinct from, those of such a department as the new Minister's department. In saying that I want to enlarge a little bit more on the area of the companies branch, separate and distinct from the matters that are being dealt with by the select committee.

It seems to me first of all that the companies branch should be renamed and at least one part of the name should be corporations branch. We should eliminate the word "com-

panies" as such and substitute the broader term "corporations", because at the present time it gives an unnecessarily special significance to companies as such as distinct from all the other types of corporate organizations under which business or affairs of one kind or another are carried on in the province of Ontario.

If that enlargement were made we would begin to get the proper attention to the corporate form as such, of doing business and not simply to the share capital form of doing business. Because many of the problems related to the administrative details of corporate affairs are common to all types of corporations whether they be the members' clubs, such as the corporations without share capital; whether they be the insurers; whether they be the cooperatives; whether they be many of the other types of form of the corporation used in the province.

And as a result of this constant emphasis on companies we have lost sight of, to a great extent, the legislation of this assembly which deals with cooperatives, which deals with corporations without share capital, which deals with other types of the corporate form of doing business. Now, if the Minister would accept that proposition I would like to suggest to him that included amongst his portfolio very soon should be the professional bodies in the province of Ontario.

It has an overlapping effect into the citizenship branch of his department but that is not the point that I am concerned with at the moment. We have floating out without any real legislative control or direction, or obligation to report to this assembly, many professional bodies, including the body to which the Minister and I belong, the law society of Upper Canada.

Well, as I said last year, and I believe the year before, I think that it is now urgently important that a government department perform at least some kind of information-collecting function about such professional bodies. I think it is about time that some member of this government should be charged with the responsibility of reviewing all the statutes related to those professional bodies. Many of them are outworn; many of them have no relationship to the present day operations of professional bodies in a democratic society; many of them are totally illiberal in their constitution and by-laws and general organizational structure. And certainly the Acts setting up those bodies require a complete review.

I refer, of course, not only to the law society but to some of the more ancient bodies such as the medical society; such as the professional engineers' society; such as the institute of chartered accountants—many of those bodies, particularly as they are proliferated into other groups which have achieved a degree of self regulation which has enabled the Legislature to give them this autonomy.

Certainly, all those statutes should be reviewed and I would ask the Minister seriously to consider not only asserting this kind of authority through this particular branch, namely the corporations branch of the government, but to begin to do at least the basic research which is required in order to bring the functioning of such bodies up to date. It may very well be that it would be possible to draft and prepare a general statute governing how professional societies should conduct their affairs.

I am not at all certain that, bearing in mind the historic origins of some of the ancient professions, there is not a place for saying that whether they are doctors, lawyers, architects, professional engineers, ophthalmologists, or any particular group in our society, the general principles governing the organization and administration of their affairs could very well be the subject of a special governing statute.

There is no need to harp upon it at this particular point, but many of the members who belong to the legal profession in this assembly have pointed out that it is totally unheard of for the law society of Upper Canada ever to have an annual meeting at which the affairs of the society are discussed by the members who belong to it; that the law society of Upper Canada to the extent that it provides any public discussion of its affairs even to its members, preempts a portion of the Canadian bar association's meetings or the Ontario section of the Canadian bar for the purpose of presenting its financial statement.

It does not as a body hold an annual meeting and I think in a society such as ours that at least this is ridiculous and that it certainly should be a matter which some department of government should be responsible for investigating. I am not alleging that there is any wrongdoing or harm. I am simply saying that they are out of keeping with modern practice. One of the things I would urge the Minister to do is to institute a study of those professional societies' governing statutes to find out whether or not it is possible to have a general statute covering their

activities, the way they operate and how they perform their functions consistent with the theory of public disclosure of the affairs of such societies, particularly to their members.

Now rather than shrink this portfolio, I think it has a very important function to perform and I think there are certain areas that could be added to it, and quite properly added to it. Again I am thinking about the type of efficient administrative functioning which I am certain this Minister, above all Ministers, is capable of introducing into this kind of a department.

We have had rumours for some seven or eight years, and finally had produced in the Legislature the personal property security bill. Now without going into the merits of the bill, which of course can be discussed at the time when it is finally presented, if and when it is presented to this Legislature, the basic problem about the functioning of an adequate personal property security bill is the administrative job of providing the electronic system by which a person can go into any office of the county—go into an office in each county throughout the province of Ontario and find out whether or not any of the property in which he is dealing is subject to a charge in anyone else's hands or in the favour of some other person.

Now this is an area where the commercial world is very much involved. Again, it is not just a question of the market place; it is a question of the mechanism and the machinery and the setting up of the system by which this kind of information can be almost instantaneously available through electronic devices at any point in any county in the province of Ontario.

Now this kind of operation is one which I believe could very well fall within the domain of the Provincial Secretary. It is a complicated, but at the same time quite feasible method of ensuring that we can get up to date information in the commercial world as to charges which are against any personal property which is entering into business transactions of one kind or another, whether it is from the point of view of the person who buys the second-hand car, or whether it is in the more sophisticated world of a floating charge on all the assets of some corporation for the purpose of giving security.

I am one of the persons who believe that for no good reason the personal property securities bill has been bogged down in this Legislature. I would like to find out what it is in one of the government departments, in The Attorney General's Department, that

prevents this bill from being dealt with. It is modelled on a bill which is in force in the United States, or a procedure which is in force in the United States. It has had the benefit of some of the most competent lawyers in the city of Toronto in the Catzman committee, since 1959, to urge the adoption of this particular procedure in Ontario.

It has gone through numerous revisions. It has been the subject of a conference at Osgoode Hall when people from all over the United States and elsewhere came to discuss the principles of this bill and to lend their wisdom in the initial drafting. It has now come to the government and has been referred to the law reform commission. So far as I can understand, the law reform commission in order to express its views on it, telephoned Mr. Catzman to get his views. So we have gone in a complete circuit about this bill.

One part of the bill, and a fundamental part, is setting up the machinery by which the system can operate. In the commercial world I do not think there is any lawyer or any accountant or person in business who does not think that this is a necessity as soon as possible. It seems to me, of all the places in the Ministry, the logical place for this to take place is in the Provincial Secretary's field.

What concerns me about The Provincial Secretary's Department is that there is no indication that the Provincial Secretary is thinking about this type of problem, even though he has only been in office a short time; no indication that he has been thinking about it. This particular companies branch has got an item of \$632,000, which is in substance the whole of the vote, because the total vote is only \$711,000; that is an increase of about \$180,000 over last year and practically all of it, so far as I can find out, is devoted to salaries of persons who are engaged in the administration of this department.

The Minister was not with us when we visited Albany to find out how the secretary of state department functions in that particular jurisdiction and, regardless of the legal differences in incorporation, they have in substance the same basic problems to deal with. The result of the information that we obtained there indicates that the division of corporations and state records in that state employs about 80 people to handle about five times the number of applications that the Provincial Secretary's companies branch employs about 115 people to handle.

It seems to me that enlarging this department in terms of the number of people and the salaries which are paid, not the level of salary for any individual because you have to have competent people, is not the road by which you improve the functioning of the incorporations branch in the province of Ontario. You improve it by mechanizing the operation because it is essentially an administrative operation. In mechanizing it, you can provide a better service. It may cost additional dollars, but those would be spent for a worthwhile purpose, and that is to mechanize the department and have it function properly.

If there is any merit in taking into account the mechanization of the personal property security law as well under the aegis of this particular department, I would like to hear the Minister comment, not only about the specific views which I have expressed about matters which should come under his department, but his views as to what he is doing, what plans he has in order to mechanize that department and to get it functioning as quickly and as efficiently as possible with the most up-to-date machinery and equipment.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that these are important aspects of this particular department. I simply sum up by saying that I think the branch has to be re-named corporations branch and something else to cover this other aspect of the administration of the personal property securities bill. I think that it must take under its purview and give much more emphasis to the legislation affecting other types of corporations rather than simply the companies with share capital, or the ordinary commercial companies. It must take under its purview the question of these corporate professional bodies to find out and to analyze and to look at the statutes to find out whether it is possible to have a general Act governing the procedures of such societies so that they will be responsive to and adapted to a modern democratic society. I would appreciate the Minister's comments.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, perhaps one or two observations should be made. In the first place, may I assure the hon. member who has just spoken that I would be very happy to give some consideration to the general principles which he enunciates, in consultation with the officials of the department, to see the practical implication of what he suggests.

To be specific insofar as the comments he has made are concerned, and with particular

reference to the mechanization that, as I have understood the member, he felt were perhaps additional responsibilities assigned to the secretariat of government, it would give more reason for moving into these other fields. I think it is fair to remind him that one of the things we look for from the select committee report is, in fact, the opinion of this all-party committee with respect to the mode of incorporation. Although he was very fair to point out when he was making the comparisons, it is in fact, a different method, perhaps aggravated somewhat by the fact that the secretary of state's office, to which he made reference, is not involved in annual returns, as we have them here. Of course, there is this complicated names procedure business that we have as well which in many cases, I would suggest, would defy some of this mechanical approach. When you really get down to it, it does require some personal attention in searching and sifting. Sufficient to say that the department is always on the lookout for methods by which it can increase efficiency if at all possible.

We certainly do not pretend that we have the final answer with a staff of some 115, to which reference has been made, working under the conditions they do with respect to the tremendous request for names and other modes of incorporation to which you make reference.

I might sum up by saying that these observations will be read with a great deal of interest and I welcome the opportunity to study these matters further in the hope that we might work out something which would, in fact, increase if possible the efficiency of the department in this secretarial and routine type of work.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, I just want to add a thought by way of support to my colleague, the hon. member for Riverdale, particularly in relation to the first portion of his remarks with which I am a little more familiar—I am not nearly so learned in the latter portion.

I think that the problems we have been having with corporate professional bodies in this province have become almost congenital. They give rise to very real concern from time to time, both on the floor of this Legislature and in the broader public domain. There is very real justification for some branch of government stepping in and taking authoritative control, in the sense that one

evolves specific statutes with major principles such as reporting to the Legislature and legislative accountability for actions, and that these things come within some given branch of some given department and the more one thinks of it, the more it becomes obvious that this branch in this department is indeed the relevant place.

It is a brave man, indeed, Mr. Chairman. Let me say of the Minister—it is a brave man indeed who would venture forth where mere mortals fear to tread, which is always true of these professional societies. They have about them a mystique which is almost impenetrable and it will take a man of the substance and depth of the Provincial Secretary to lock horns, but it has to be done. It has to be done by someone and he is obviously the person to do it.

Those of us who served with him for a short period of time on the select committee on youth, Mr. Chairman, know how formidable his personality is and how easily cowed and submissive the professional societies would become in his presence. So I can think of no one more appropriate to step in and lay down the law. I urge him to do it.

I urge him to do it, Mr. Chairman, because what we really have—if I can put it to the Minister—is a series of self-perpetuating oligarchies. That is what has happened in several of the professional groups and they are entirely contemptuous of, and frequently impervious to, public censure or demands from within their own professions, and some way in this Legislature we have to remove that component of indifference which has become characteristic of many of these professional bodies. They have a certain structure of committees which serve merely to perpetuate the establishment that has taken control of the profession. They can effectively choke dissent, and indeed, the college of physicians and surgeons is a very striking example of how it is possible to choke dissent so that even a Minister of the Crown has to say to the Legislature, "I am only one of 18 members on the board of governors and I am therefore rendered helpless in this particular situation."

I would say, to support my colleague, the hon. member for Riverdale, that there is a need for a real overhaul in this area and nothing would be more refreshing than this Cabinet Minister stepping in rather than our having to turn to individual departments for individual professions which is often unsatisfactory; or to the human rights code which frequently cannot take hold of the situation

or, indeed, setting up committees like the committee on the healing arts, which is really an effective way of siphoning off discontent, rather than coming to grips with the problem. Thus the overhaul of the statutory obligations is obviously relevant; and I urge it on the Minister strongly.

I have no doubt that if he puts his mind to it, something coherent will emerge.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bracondale.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Chairman, I rise to take exception to the proposition that was put forth both by the hon. member for Riverdale and by the hon. member for Scarborough West.

I do not agree that there should be a separate department established for companies or for a corporation branch; nor do I agree that the exercise of a function now carried out by the Provincial Secretary, with reference to companies, is an administrative one; nor do I agree that it will eventually evolve into simply an administrative one.

We often hear the remark, Mr. Chairman, that a person's right hand does not know what the left hand is doing. At the present time I would describe this government as not simply being left-handed in a right-handed individual, but more like the Indian god, Vishnu, who has eight arms, and none of these eight arms knows what the other seven are doing.

For instance, take the companies branch. They issue the charters—and I disagree with the hon. member for Riverdale that this is an administrative task. Today, with governments passing more and more and more regulations regarding financial affairs, and continually changing The Income Tax Act, those charged with the responsibility of protecting their clients' interests are practically going out of their minds finding ways to circumvent this legislation coming down.

It is a principle of our law that although you cannot evade paying income tax, you can so govern your affairs that you can avoid paying income tax; and the more regulations that come down with reference to taxation, the more the lawyers burn the midnight oil trying to find ways of getting around these regulations, so that whereas one time, perhaps, the types of applications for charters that came before the Provincial Secretary could have been put into computer form, that no longer applies. You not only have class A and B shares now—I think they are probably down to W, X, Y and Z.

So it is not an administrative function. It is a very complicated function that The Provincial Secretary's Department finds itself dealing with. However, I can find no justification for this particular department being a separate department. The government has seen fit to set up a Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs. It is inconceivable to me that one can divorce corporations or companies and their incorporations and the particular powers given to them in their charters from financial and commercial affairs, because they are set up for that one purpose, to carry on financial and commercial affairs.

If anything, all the functions which involve financial and commercial affairs should be centralized under one department. At the present time, The Provincial Secretary's Department issues the charter; they look after the annual returns. The Provincial Treasurer's Department, however, is charged with seeing that the corporate tax is paid and that income tax returns are filed.

Now The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs comes into the picture and I doubt very much whether The Attorney General's Department has abdicated all its responsibilities with reference to companies, their formation and their operations.

So here we have at least four arms to this monster. It should be under one department, as I have stated, because one of the strongest weapons that any department could have to govern the conduct of our citizens and their dealing with the populace is the cancellation or the suspension of a charter, if they misbehave. And who is going to be in a better position to exercise such function or to determine if such a function should be exercised, than The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs? They, therefore, should be charged with the total responsibility of looking after companies and corporations and their winding up and so on.

At the present time we have been complaining that the government is creating too many portfolios. If one adds to the number of portfolios that there are now in this government, the number of members on the government side who hold chairmanships of different boards and commissions, who in essence you might say are Ministers without portfolios or Ministers with a brief, it encompasses almost half of the members on the government side. Eventually, if this continues we are going to reach the situation where there are going to be nothing but chiefs, no Indians whatsoever. It is becoming top heavy with these chiefs; it is about time room was left for a few Indians over there.

Mr. Bryden: They have too many of them right now. We are going to knock most of them out in the next election.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: We have an indication that at least we concern ourselves with that particular aspect of our community, no one else seems to.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if we were to take the responsibility for the companies branch out of The Department of the Provincial Secretary and place it in The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs where I submit it rightfully belongs, and place The Citizenship Department under The Department of Education, the marriage office under the Attorney General—because after all he is passing an opinion as to the validity of the divorce which one or both of the parties have gone through and which necessitated the application for another licence, there would be little if any justification for this department existing. I assure the hon. Minister I have nothing but the highest regard for him, but I still take the position that this department is redundant, that it was set up simply to create another department. Certain responsibilities or semi-responsibilities, quasi-responsibilities, were given to this department to justify its existence. If the government does face up to its problems, it will do away with this department and put the responsibilities now within this department into other departments where they rightfully belong. This would also apply to another department about which I shall be speaking on another occasion.

I am afraid that I must take objection to the statements made by the two hon. members who spoke before me and disagree with them in that regard.

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): Mr. Chairman, since it seems to be the day when the speakers are disagreeing with the previous speakers, I rise at this point to disagree in large part with the member for Bracondale.

He, as I am, is a lawyer, and I would suggest that in my obligations and duties in the profession with respect to the incorporation of companies, I have found that the bulk of the work in the private companies is basically an administrative task. It really would not come with any degree of regularity under The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs. I would disagree wholeheartedly on that particular point.

In addition, the difficulty with which we are faced in this particular department, is the major difference between incorporating companies in our province as opposed to certain

other jurisdictions. It arises with respect to the share structures. In the state of New York, for example, which I, as a member of the select committee on company law, visited in company with the other members, 99 per cent of all the companies incorporated had a share structure that was similar, 200 no par value shares. This does not apply because of our income tax regulations and the difficulties connected therewith.

I feel that the companies branch in our province is as effective a group as can be expected in the circumstances. I certainly trust that some of the recommendations brought down from our select committee on company law will be brought into being within that department and these changes will be for the betterment of the department. I do feel that the department with respect to the companies branch is handling it properly and it should not be transferred to The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Vote 1702 agreed to.

On vote 1703:

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on the citizenship branch, I address my remarks again to the Minister. The esteem which I have for him plus the fact that he is a new Minister, would lead me to believe that the citizenship branch could now become an effective instrument for the communication of citizenship values amongst the people of the province of Ontario. My recommendation, or my suggestion, would be that the emphasis on the teaching of the English language should be shifted somewhere else. Probably The Department of Education may have a relationship with the citizenship branch because I assume a properly operating citizenship branch would know and be able to highlight the areas of need for instruction in the English language. It seems to me that the citizenship branch has got completely immersed in the problem of teaching the English language to people who come to the province of Ontario. It is a long way from the kind of citizenship operation which presumably led the fathers of Confederation to give a divided jurisdiction in citizenship between the federal and provincial governments.

One of the areas—and again it is a question of reorganizing departments of government—I can see no good reason why the Ontario human rights code is in The Department of Labour. It would seem to me that the values which led to the enactment of the human rights code are specifically values related to

citizenship, that in this society we want to have a non-discriminatory society and an open society. Now there are real functions of citizenship which can be accomplished through this department other than this continuous emphasis on the teaching of the English language, important as that is.

If one were to transfer the Ontario human rights commission to The Department of the Provincial Secretary as the Minister said earlier, it is undoubtedly not his purview to reorganize all the other branches of government. At the same time I think the logic of the connection between the Ontario human rights code and the work under the Ontario human rights code and the citizenship branch will be obvious to the Minister, and he could very well do more in areas related to human rights in this province through this branch than can now be done through The Department of Labour. It seems to me that the Ontario human rights code is an adjunct of The Department of Labour, and was placed there for reasons which had nothing to do with the substance of what the human rights code is attempting to accomplish.

The Minister knows, as we all know, that the philosophy or tradition behind the administration of the Ontario human rights code has been one of conciliation of individual instances of discrimination in the province with, on rare occasions, a case being taken to the courts to assert the principle of non-discrimination in Ontario society.

Mr. Chairman: I hesitate to interrupt the member, but under the circumstances I think his comments would be more properly dealt with under The Department of Labour. We have nothing before us at the present time dealing with the amount of money that is going to be spent on the human rights code. We have only the estimates of the Provincial Secretary and Citizenship before us; we have no money estimate before us at the present time for the human rights code.

Mr. Renwick: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will proceed now to the connection with the citizenship branch. I thought the relationship between the values which led to the human rights code were values which were intimately connected with some function of citizenship and it was for this reason that I was suggesting that the human rights code might very properly come under this Minister's department. I was pointing out that the emphasis on human relations in the human rights code has been to pigeonhole the operation of that commission in this area of conciliating individual disputes.

I am suggesting to the Minister that part of the function of a Minister of Citizenship, if it is to have any meaning at all in the province of Ontario, is to look with great care and with great scholarship and ability at the whole area of discrimination and sectionalism and compartmentalization of the society which is taking place so obviously in the city of Toronto. The communication between various ethnic groups in the city of Toronto is something much less than fluid; we pay at least open tribute to the values which are supposedly encompassed in the term citizenship, but there are many studies, including the study which was made or which is underway by the assistant director of the human rights commission to show that there is a very wide area of discrimination in attitude and in thought in the province of Ontario, which is in fact reflecting itself in inter-group cultural relationships in the society.

Many of the things which this Minister can do are related, in my view, in the field of citizenship to this problem. I would think that the constant emphasis on teaching the English language prevents adequate consideration being given to the other and larger questions which are now pressing very much on our society, particularly in the metropolitan area. It is just no longer simply a question of the absorption of ethnic groups into the sort of established traditional society of Ontario by teaching them the English language so that some individuals may become absorbed. It is in fact an overview of the society as we see it, divided as it is between various groupings, many of which have no method of communication from one group to another. In this field it would seem to me to be of the utmost importance that the Minister of Citizenship, if the title is to have any meaning at all, should direct his attention.

The other area—and we touched on it briefly in the questions related to the legal aid plan, but it is not limited only to the legal aid plan—is that there should be specific brochures advising people in all the languages. As I understand it, there are at least eight or ten languages in the province of Ontario, and people have to have a communication in their own tongue if they are to know what their rights are, what advantages are open to them under the legislation of this province, so that they can get the full benefit of it.

Now, it is not just sufficient to put out a brochure stating in general propositions what their rights and privileges are; it is an opportunity to set out in definitive brochures just what they do about their problems!

Such as, for example, if they have an immigration problem, what do they do about it? If they have a question about learning the English language, what do they do about it? If they have a question about how they go about legal aid, and what area of legal advice is available to them, or will be available to them under the new plan, then, sir, they can understand that it is not strictly a legal aid scheme related to the question of whether or not you are up in the magistrate's court, but that it has a much wider connotation in the solution of the legal aspects of their everyday problems in the civil side of the law.

The same problem applied in the case of OMSIP. My concern—I was quite happy about the fact that OMSIP was broadly published throughout the province of Ontario—but I had the sensation that the compulsion operating on the government was that they had to get membership in the scheme in order to make it function actuarially and this was the reason for the elaborate advertising campaign. In the legal aid plan, it is quite obvious that compulsion does not exist and therefore there is no impetus coming from the government to notify and to communicate with people from other ethnic groups who will have many of these legal problems in the civil sense that could be solved by an adequate scheme.

My thoughts, Mr. Chairman, are neither sophisticated nor new. They are quite rudimentary, but I think it is very important that this Department of Citizenship, if it is to continue to exist at all should have some function other than the simple function which so far under the predecessor Minister seemed to preoccupy its time. I am afraid that this same thrust for the activities of this department, The Department of Citizenship, is going to continue, because again under the citizenship branch, we note that the total is \$631,000.

Now, if it is to merit the designation of a Department of Citizenship and the province of Ontario is spending \$631,000 of which \$418,000 is teaching costs, then you can get some idea about the concern which we have about this department. The actual increase from last year, as far as I can determine, is all devoted to an increase in teaching costs—about \$150,000 odd, and all devoted again to this important area of teaching, but an area which should quite properly be under the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis).

I would ask the Minister if he would comment on those remarks.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, I would be delighted to.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if the member for Bruce wanted to speak on the same point?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I will be speaking on it.

Mr. Chairman: On the same point? Perhaps it might be as well for the Minister to respond after the other members take part, if he will, please. The member for Bracadale.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I am starting to pop almost every time the hon. member for Riverdale does, and I am afraid that once again I must disagree with some of the suggestions that he has brought forward for the consideration of the hon. Provincial Secretary.

I agree in one regard, in that I question whether this department should exist at all. He himself pointed out that the largest expenditure here comes through education, and therefore education rightfully belongs under the department of that name. Teaching costs, rather. So I would agree with him that, with reference to teaching, it belongs under The Department of Education.

What does that leave after we take away teaching? Certainly we do not have what could be called any sort of a recruiting programme to bring immigrants into Ontario, because I know of no office that has been established by the department, aside from an office they have in Great Britain. So that certainly is not their prime concern.

With reference to the human rights code, the points that the hon. member for Riverdale stressed are to my way of thinking social problems because we have discrimination through ignorance, ignorance of custom, ignorance of background of people, lack of education in many instances. If the human rights code belongs under any department, and if this particular aspect of The Provincial Secretary's Department—citizenship—belongs in any department, then I would suggest that it belongs under what is going to be called, after the passing of the bill before this House, social and family services. Because, as I pointed out, discrimination, because of age or religion, is something that comes back to lack of knowledge. It is a social problem that we are facing today.

Whether it is discrimination because families have children, or whether it is discrimination because of colour, sir, or whether it is discrimination because of age or religion, it is a social problem. As the doctor pointed out to

the standing committee when we were studying the human rights code, education is the best weapon they have to fight discrimination.

So I would go along with the remarks of the hon. member for Riverdale to the extent that perhaps enforcement of this code could be taken out of The Department of Labour and put into Citizenship. But I would go further and say that The Department of Citizenship should be put under the control of The Department of Social and Family Services.

The education aspect, as the member for Riverdale has stated, should come under The Department of Education, and this is just another argument to support the fact that this is one department that is redundant.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Parkdale.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Chairman, I think that this is one of the most important votes, certainly in this department, and it could be one of the most important votes to come before this House. I know that on the face of it it only seems a small amount, but it brings forth this matter of the old adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure", and I feel that we are not doing nearly enough to assist the immigrants who have come to Ontario and particularly to Toronto, during the last few years.

We must face the fact that a great number of the immigrants who have come to Metropolitan Toronto, came from southern Europe where they have not had the same standard of education that we have here. In my grandfather's day if you had a grade 8 education, you had a good education and that is all that was needed. Well, there are many small communities in Italy where a grade 6 education is considered a good education. It simply is not good enough in our modern society.

Now The Department of Citizenship is dealing with these people and I agree with what has been said and that is that this should really be handled in many respects through The Department of Education, but it is in the Provincial Secretary's hands as the Minister of Citizenship and it is up to him to look after it. You and I know that we may talk about segregation, but so much segregation comes from the economic differences. If people have the same cultural standards and the same interests, no matter where their grandfathers came from, it does not make that much difference. And we see this as Toronto, particularly, becomes more cosmopolitan all the time.

But what concerns me and what is so obvious is that many of the children who cannot speak English are at a tremendous disadvantage when they go into our schools. They simply are not going to grasp the subjects, and they are not now grasping them. And the difficulties cause a heavy dropout among the immigrants from southern Europe.

It is not that they are not as smart as everybody else; it is simply that they have not had the opportunity. And I suggest that if any of us had to go to Italy and had suddenly to take a course and we did not know Italian, naturally we would not grasp the subjects. But in Metropolitan Toronto there are now thousands upon thousands of people, particularly the children, who are going to be at a tremendous disadvantage to themselves and to our own community.

If we spend money now teaching these people, particularly the children, and in upgrading them we will in the long run save the taxpayer a lot of money and give the people who are here as immigrants a far better opportunity to live a better life. After all, we know perfectly well that if people are better educated they earn more money and they pay more taxes and they are a good investment. Just as many of us who had our way paid through university when we were discharged from the forces certainly pay far more income taxes than we would if we still had some of the jobs we had before World War II.

It is good business for government to invest in education and we particularly have a heavy responsibility in this field of training and upgrading the immigrants who have come to Canada in recent years. We know that the children when they go home are not particularly speaking the English language. They do not have the same opportunity or the cultural background that we have here in Ontario. And if these people are going to live in our community and if they are going to have any type of future, they will have to become part of the culture of Ontario and of Canada.

The vast majority of them want this, or they would not have come here in the first place. As I have said time and time again, nearly always it is the more aggressive and the more hard-working who will come to Canada. They think for themselves; they want a better life and they look around and go to those places where they feel they can better themselves. They want to better themselves and we know from the studies undertaken that many of these people would attend

classes if they had the opportunity, and some of our buildings were not used to the extent that they could have been.

I admit that this has been improved in the last year, and through the study carried out by the international institute and financed by this department, I believe, or at least in part financed by this department, that we learned a lot about the immigrants and their needs and that they are willing to work. But I suggest that if you had to get up and be at work at seven in the morning and did not get home until seven at night, you just would not feel like going to night school. And this is something we have to consider about these people who want to go to night school and learn: that they work tremendously long hours because of the jobs they have.

In some cases, in order to get by, they have two jobs. But still it is utterly important in the long run for the future of this country that we be very aggressive in going after this problem, because if you develop one ghetto in one particular part of the city or of the province, it is going to be with you for many, many years. And certainly our experience as a province shows that the German settlement in the Kitchener-Waterloo area has grown and nobody tries to decide if a Wintermeyer or a Diefenbaker is part of an ethnic group; they are part of the community and it is because they had the opportunity to learn and get ahead that they became tremendous assets to this country of ours.

But I feel there is a strong danger that, as things are progressing in the city of Toronto, we who have been settled here and are maybe fortunate in many respects that our grandparents came here and our great grandparents, we who have not had these problems, as individuals we are not taking enough interest in the problems that the immigrants have. And it is because the public do not take enough interest that governments do not move, and this government is not showing nearly enough leadership in this problem or they would not come out with such a small estimate on this particular item of the citizenship branch.

Because this is a growing country, this is a vital department. And when you bear in mind that 72 per cent of the unemployed in Canada have an education of grade eight or less, well most of these immigrants have an education of grade eight or less. Some of them have much less, and that means that immediately there is any type of economic recession these people are going to be thrown on relief rolls.

Well, if we are going to look to the future, the job is to see to it that they are upgraded and have an opportunity.

A heavy responsibility has fallen on the school authorities in Metropolitan Toronto. They are bearing a far greater burden than they should bear and the province is letting Metropolitan Toronto down in not assisting more in the education of the immigrants that have arrived here, particularly in the Metropolitan Toronto area. You can imagine in some sections of Toronto, the tremendous problem that the teachers have in dealing with children who cannot understand English. This means extra classes.

There should be money for smaller classes and more teachers, but it costs money and it is getting well over \$1 million extra. There was talk that one of our schools for teaching the English language would close down because funds were not available.

Mr. S. Lewis: Our only school.

Mr. Trotter: Well, our only school. Metropolitan Toronto says that it is going to find the money, but again it is the old problem of raising the taxes of the property owners and this simply is not good enough. Because it means that the city of Toronto or Metropolitan Toronto as much as they might want to help, are trying to pare their budgets all the time and this is not a place where the budget should be pared.

And one thing that annoys me when I read the estimates—if you go back on one of the earlier votes on this department and you see that the Canadian bar association got \$14,000 for their banquet or whatever we had—incidentally, being a lawyer I know if I go to it, it is tax exempt—and yet under this particular vote we see the international institute for teaching get about \$12,000. Our sense of values in this particular department is contrary to common sense, because you and I know that the average lawyer can buy his own meal, but a lot of these people of the international institute certainly need a lot more help.

Now I hope with a new Minister we give this particular situation far more vigorous leadership. Maybe being a young Tory, he might not be as Tory as some of the other Tories, but this is a vital vote. I know it is less than half a million dollars, but it is going to directly affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people right here in Metropolitan Toronto, to say nothing of what we call the golden horseshoe from Oshawa to

Niagara Falls, where so many of these people find their homes.

And it is going to affect government expense for years to come, and the proper thing to do is to invest your money where it should be, invest it now in the young people who are here, who are born here, and come from the newly immigrant families, and particularly the young men who have just arrived in this country. They have come because they want to get ahead. Let us encourage them not only for their sakes but for our own sakes.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Chairman, when one looks at the title of this department, The Department of Citizenship, I wonder just what the Minister or his predecessors have done to try to get citizens into this province of Ontario. Previous speakers have dealt more or less with immigrants, as to what has happened to them in this province once they have gotten here, and have suggested that the language and education facilities should be bettered. With this I certainly agree. But on the other hand I am reminded that some 10 years ago when the now Minister of Public Welfare was sent by the then Prime Minister of the province to Hungary to try to help some of those people in their dire need to get out of that unfortunate country at that time, and when he was successful in getting many of these Hungarians to come to the province of Ontario as citizens—and good ones they have been indeed—from there on there was a tendency by this government, and more particularly by this department, to take credit for the thousands of immigrants who have come into the province of Ontario. I would be one of the first who would be willing to give that credit if I thought it were justified. As a matter of fact, I want to go on record myself—

Mr. Chairman: I hesitate to interrupt the member but I think he is dealing with the immigration branch which properly would come under Economics and Development.

Mr. Whicher: It is citizenship.

Mr. Chairman: We are voting here now from the standpoint of citizenship, and it is in connection with vote 1703. I think the member will find as far as the immigration branch itself is concerned, it will come under vote 405 of Economics and Development.

Mr. Whicher: Well, Mr. Chairman, surely new citizens are most necessary in the province of Ontario and I would suggest that inasmuch as this Minister is named Minister

of Citizenship, that somewhere along the line—

Mr. Chairman: He looks after them after they get here.

Mr. Singer: You cannot have a citizenship department without citizens surely.

Mr. Whicher: I suggest this is most necessary. Mr. Chairman, I assure you I will not take too long. But in any event, what this country needs—and I am sure the members of the government benches will agree with me—more than anything else, are new citizens and the looking after of them once they get here.

Mr. Singer: Right.

Mr. Whicher: It is a tragic thing to my way of thinking, that this, the second largest country in the world, has only 20 million people and that as the most important province in Canada, we have a population of only seven million, or near that figure. This is simply not good enough. The most important asset that any country can have, that any province can have, is people.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Tell the federal government that.

Mr. Whicher: I will tell them, I will tell the federal government that. And I say that, as Canadians, the federal government and the provincial government have not been successful in this. Actually, we are one of the poorest populated countries in the world. When one visits Europe or Asia today, people do not know anything about Canada or the province of Ontario. The reason they do not, Mr. Chairman, is this, because we, speaking generally, do not have any people here. Now, more particularly, I feel that the present Minister should be interested in this subject, because he gave me these figures the other day, that the natural birthrate per thousand in the province of Ontario in the past five years has gone down 17 per cent. Mr. Chairman, the most important citizens, I suggest, that we can get, if there should be any degree of importance at all, the most important citizens that we have are those who come from the natural birthrate in this province. It is a fact that it is going down and the decrease in the last four years has been 17 per cent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, the solution to this is as follows, in my opinion: that if we

do not get them through the natural birth rate, we must bring them in as immigrants into this province.

I want to say that I feel that the federal government have been most lax as far as this matter is concerned. I cannot be too critical. The other day, I wrote the Minister a letter—as a matter of fact, I think it was yesterday, I do not know whether he received it or not—but in any event, in a small town in my constituency there are three Indians out of 23 high school teachers; three Indians from India. At least two of them have as high an academic qualification as any of the teachers in that school. As a matter of fact, they are a husband and wife and very shortly will be trying for their doctorate in their own particular subjects. I suggest this is a remarkable situation, where we have a husband and wife team who graduated from universities in India, who are trying for their doctorates here in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: I must interrupt once again—I have been very flexible with the member for Bruce and I have suggested to him that the matter of immigration properly comes under The Department of Economics and Development—

Mr. Whicher: These are citizens who are in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: We are not disputing that point, but what is before us immediately is vote 1703, dealing with the expenditure for citizenship, for those who are here.

Mr. Bryden: He might as well finish it.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): He is just stalling.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, if you wish to rule me out of order, of course I will bow to your wishes, but I say this, I feel there have been many instances—I am not going to carry on about it at all—but I feel there have been many instances in the past where matters which are not nearly as important as those I wish to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister here this morning have been allowed. I say this to the Chairman, that I asked last night what the job of the Minister without Portfolio was, and I think it is more than laughing at such a serious matter as this. This is a very serious matter. However, I expect to get a resounding clap from some members in the back; I intend to sit down immediately, under protest, and will bring it up when the Chairman suggests.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, may I say at the outset by way of a generalization, that it has been a tremendous experience this morning, aside from the specific assignments and the re-arrangement of departments—to hear really the Legislature speak with one voice with respect to our concern in this particular field of our work among the new people and our citizens generally.

I say too, by way of generalization before we make some particular comments, that the matter which pleased me most with respect to my new responsibilities, insofar as this Ministry is concerned, was the fact that this particular branch of government was part of those responsibilities. I would hope that during whatever time I am allowed to discharge the responsibilities of this Ministry, I might dedicate myself to accomplish some of the very high ideals and the very practical solutions that the members opposite have included in their general comments, insofar as this department is concerned.

I appreciate the fact that the member for Bracondale, if he had much more time, would have me an unemployed Minister before one o'clock. We will have to leave to government whether or not these particular branches or functions of this particular branch are properly placed.

May I just share one or two point? The question of language training is a very interesting one. Someone once told me if you really did not care who got the credit, there is not anything you could not accomplish. I have no particular intention as I launch out in this Ministry to hold unto this department anything which could be better done by any other branch of government.

The member for Riverdale and the member for Bracondale and the members for Parkdale and Bruce have raised many very interesting points with which I can assure them—

Mr. Whicher: You are out of order there.

Hon. Mr. Welch: —notwithstanding which they will not go unstudied. May I simply encourage these men to work with me and to continue to let me have the benefit of their advice, but the question which I am interested in is the one of communication.

The hon. member for Riverdale, for instance, who is using as his example this question of communication, really pointed out one of the problems. How in the world can Greek and Hungarian people and Italian people communicate with each other, unless there is a common denominator by way of

language — which, in this case, is English? Now, this is not to say who should make sure that they are fluent in this second language, or at least can understand it, but it is only to point up the fact that those who advise me at the moment in this work of newcomer-citizenship training, integration, whatever you want to call it, consider language as a fairly integral part of it. When it comes to children, naturally, The Department of Education, as the member for Parkdale mentioned, senses this responsibility, and I hope he will raise that question again there, because if we are going to provide this equality of opportunity, then this is certainly one of the ingredients of anyone presenting himself at a school door anywhere in Ontario.

All I am trying to say is that we gather up all of these thoughts. There is a common desire to make sure that the information services, the communication, the interest and the warmth of government towards people as individuals, regardless of their origin, certainly is a very great concern of the government. It prompted the government in 1960 to bring from the community programmes branch of The Department of Education, certain operations and to create and give birth to this citizenship branch.

I would only say, without taking each point individually that as far as I am concerned, I think we are agreed that this is a very important work. No one would dare say that it has been complete in any way. It is a continuing type of programme, and I can say quite sincerely that I am encouraged to go on to face all the responsibilities of this particular department, because of the comments I have heard opposite today.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment. I am glad the Minister ended with warmth, because I am feeling a little warm at the moment, and I do not think that we in this party are going to be drawn into the tri-partisanship policy which he is endeavouring to convey to the House.

One of the reasons that we feel strongly, and forgive me for introducing an abrasive note, is that these propositions about the citizenship branch have been put year after year and they have been ignored by your government. The obvious and important suggestion that educational responsibilities be removed from citizenship and put into The Department of Education has been made by members of this Legislature, by editorial writers right across Ontario, by the international institute, commissioned by the government to do studies, by every reputable

person who has analyzed the contents of the department. I recognize that under former regimes there was a proprietary-right feeling about giving language education. But I suggest to you that the insistence on maintaining language education within the Minister's branch is a harmful thing in the final circumstances. It cannot possibly do the job that The Department of Education with all its resources could do; and it tends to act as a catalyst in the conflicts which exist in immigrant families, between the children's adjustment to the society and the education that is given them in schools like Main Street school, and the adult adjustment to society through the citizenship branch. Finally—and most important of all—it always receives short shrift as 400,000 paltry dollars demonstrate; the classes are never organized sufficiently, the times are never appropriate, the available language facilities never advertise themselves through the communities sufficiently and the thing just does not work and when one says that you should move it into The Department of Education, there are very compelling arguments for doing so.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is not to suggest—and I want to put this strongly to the Minister—that you would then emasculate the citizenship branch, because you would not. What you then would do is to give back to the citizenship branch the function for which it is most appropriately suited, namely, an information-disseminating function, a series of citizen-advice bureaux across Ontario which would provide for the immigrant the sense of stability and security that so many of them presently lack and require.

You have immeasurable problems of translation difficulties in hospitals and health settings; translation difficulties in welfare settings; unemployment insurance difficulties; workmen's compensation difficulties and so on. You have all the normal functions from income tax filing to domestic arrangements, for which this department could well be suited if it provided an advice bureau located in various places with all kinds of linguists to solve these problems within the immigrant community, allowing the educational matters to be solved by The Department of Education. What we are really saying in this group is that the Minister should act on the studies done by his own department, admittedly before he took over the department. The international institute studies of the 200 Italian and 200 Portuguese families and the second study that followed on that, are superb analyses of where a department should step in. They say without equivocation that the

department should get out of education and into the field of information-giving and that that is the way one allows a community to adjust and allows an immigrant community to be more appropriately absorbed.

I put it to you with some passion because I have a feeling that we are losing a great many people in terms of their adequate adjustment because we refuse to take this responsibility.

Seven per cent of the Minister's department's time is presently devoted to social and economic functions in terms of immigrant adjustment; 93 per cent is devoted essentially to an educational function. I cannot imagine anything more perverse than that kind of ratio, considering the possibilities inherent in your portfolio.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bracondale.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I shall not be long. I wish to add to the words that were spoken by the hon. member for Scarborough West, with reference to a statement made by the hon. member for Riverdale regarding communication and the desirability of sending out correspondence and brochures in many different languages.

I think it is rather difficult, if not impossible, to send out brochures and literature in even half of the languages that are spoken by citizens of this city. In furtherance of what was stated by the hon. member for Scarborough West, one thing that is badly needed and could be set up by this department, is an information bureau in the main entrance of this building. I would even suggest that perhaps the offices of the Speaker could be pre-empted and he given more suitable quarters elsewhere and that there be an information bureau.

The Minister of Reform Institutions, on more than one occasion, and the present Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko), have given to this House a list of the persons

employed by different departments in this government and the languages spoken by those individuals. It would be a simple matter to have one central information bureau, centrally located, staffed by people who can speak a multiplicity of tongues—and there are such people on the staff of the civil service—where these people could either give the answer immediately or refer to the individuals in the proper department who would be able to converse with them in their own language. It is a simple step and they would be carrying out a function that the member for Scarborough West has so rightly pointed out as being a responsibility of this particular department.

Vote 1703 agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of supply rise and report certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will continue with estimates and I would remind the House that I have previously indicated the order in which the departments will be heard. I would remind members that following those of the Provincial Secretary, the estimates of The Departments of Economics and Development, the Attorney General and Highways will be considered in that order. On Monday there will be a private members' hour from five to six.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.05 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, February 27, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1967

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Willow Park public school, Scarborough; and in the west gallery, St. Clare's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you for your courtesy in allowing me to make this announcement before the orders of the day. I should like to draw the attention of hon. members to an important announcement that was made at the end of last week. The new Griffith Mine at Bruce Lake will begin production of iron pellets early in 1968 at the rate of 1.5 million tons annually.

The announcement to which I refer has to do with the plan to renovate and expand the Valley Camp Coal Company docking facilities at Fort William to provide an ore dock and other shipping facilities for the Griffith Mine production. The project, to be one of the most advanced transfer terminals in Canada, will cost about \$5 million. Construction on the new ore dock will begin immediately, so that the terminal will be completely ready for operation in January 1968.

Shipments to the dock will be on a year-round basis and the iron pellets will be stockpiled during the winter season when lake navigation is impossible. This second ore dock will undoubtedly be of considerable significance to the economy of the Lakehead cities and its construction is necessary because the existing facilities are taxed to capacity by the iron output of the Steep Rock and Caland Mines and the potash from western Canada, namely Saskatchewan.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the hon. Provincial Treasurer, notice of which has been given:

(a) How much has the province of Ontario collected in succession duties in each of the last five years; and

(b) How much has it cost the province in administration and other charges to collect this amount of money in each of the last five years?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, for the last five fiscal years, revenue collected under The Succession Duty Act, together with direct costs of operating the succession duty branch are as follows:

In the 1965-66 year, revenue \$56,968,000; direct costs of operating the succession duty branch, \$791,000. 1964-65: revenue \$48,683,000; costs \$716,000. 1963-64: revenue \$44,121,000; costs \$689,000. 1962-63: revenue \$44,149,000; costs \$623,000. 1961-62: revenue \$40,397,000; costs \$613,000.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management. Have the engineering studies—commissioned by the Ontario water resources commission—of water and sewage problems in the valley municipalities of the Sudbury basin been completed?

When will the report of such studies be ready?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker the answer to the first part of the question is—no.

And to the second part: The municipalities have been advised that, due to adverse weather conditions, test drilling has been suspended and will be resumed at the end of March, 1967. This should be completed around mid-June, 1967, and if it is successful in locating a suitable underground supply of water, the consulting engineer's report on regional studies should be available by mid-September of this year.

Mr. Sopha: In the absence of my friend, the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) I have two questions which he commissioned me to read to the hon. Attorney General:

In view of the recent decision of the Ontario court of appeal, when it held that

certain new rules relating to medical evidence were *ultra vires* the powers of the rules committee, and in view of the fact that this decision of the court of appeal substantially negates the government's new approach concerning admissibility of medical evidence in our courts, does the Attorney General intend to introduce any new legislation this session which will reassert the principles he enunciated last year in relation to the admissibility of medical evidence?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would ask the other question. The answer to both I think will be of the same nature.

Mr. Speaker: Would the member read the edited copy?

Mr. Sopha: Oh, he wants me to read the edited copy?

Mr. Speaker: It eliminated the parts of the question that had to do with argument and opinion.

Mr. Sopha: Well, my friend the member for Downsview asked me to deliver some encomiums about editorializing his questions. I will not do that chore; he can do that himself.

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate that very much.

Mr. Sopha: He can speak to that himself.

The edited version: In view of the recent decision of the Ontario court of appeal relating to medical evidence, does the Attorney General intend to introduce any new legislation in this session which will reassert the principles he enunciated last year in relation to the admissibility of medical evidence? I must say I am impressed with that version, indeed I am.

Mr. Speaker: Would the member read the other question?

Mr. Sopha: The other question, the edited one; yes.

In view of the recent decision of the Hon. Mr. Justice Haines respecting the investment of funds resulting from damages awarded to an infant, does the Attorney General intend to bring legislation which would allow more advantageous investment of infant funds in the custody of the Supreme Court of Ontario than is presently the case?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, both these questions relate to very recent events, court decisions handed down just last week, and

both questions ask an expression of government intention in the way of policy. I have given them some consideration but have had no opportunity yet to discuss matters further with my colleagues or to make any recommendations. I would have to say only that in due course, if legislation comes forward, the hon. member for Downsview, if he is in the House, will probably be one of the first to know.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health.

In regard to the registered letter the Minister received from the attendant staff of the Ontario hospital, North Bay:

(1) What precisely does a unified nursing programme entail?

(2) How is the unified nursing programme likely to affect the organization of work and the work load for staff attendants?

(3) Which other Ontario hospitals have a parallel unified nursing programme; and

(4) What does the Minister intend to do in the face of the notification by petition of a mass resignation scheduled for April 1, 1967, by 104 of the 114 staff attendants, if the unified nursing programme comes into effect?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this question as notice. My senior staff are on their way to North Bay to get first-hand information and inform me as to what is involved in this special delivery registered letter which I received. Until their return I am not in a position to answer.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the House leader. I understand that he might like to withhold answering it for a day or so and if so, fine.

On February 6 I asked the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts) if he could assure the House that the dissension in the top management of British International Finance (Canada) Limited and York-Lambton Financial Corporation was not caused by financial difficulties in this group of companies. The Prime Minister assured me that the government was completely conversant with companies under provincial jurisdiction. Can the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs assure the House now that the recent meetings between the heads of these companies and the Toronto stock exchange are not caused, in part at least, by the financial difficulties faced by the companies?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I believe there is another question from the hon. member for Riverdale in this same connection.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the question which I asked of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs is: Will the Ontario securities commission direct the Toronto stock exchange, pursuant to section 139 of The Securities Act, 1966, to require completely audited financial statements of British International Finance (Canada) Limited and its affiliated companies to be made available to shareholders rather than simply some audited statements and interim reports?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, certain meetings have been going on last week, and are continuing today. I would hope they might end today or tomorrow. At their conclusion, sir, I hope to be able to give a full statement with respect to all of the three companies mentioned either Wednesday or Thursday—not later than Thursday.

Mr. Renwick: Would the Minister permit a supplementary question? Is the Ontario securities commission intimately involved in these meetings which are taking place?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I will deal with that item on Thursday. There is certain information that is not available. There are various kinds of information which come to the government, as the hon. members will understand, some directly in the form of direct communications and reports, some by hearsay, and other by way of rumour.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury was inquiring about his question to the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme). The Minister has the answer but he was waiting until the member was in his seat to answer it.

Mr. Sopha: I am waiting for him!

Mr. Speaker: Well he was waiting for you on Thursday and Friday, so the two of you get together.

Mr. Sopha: The joke is the Minister of Municipal Affairs knows the answer too. He could—

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): That is no joke!

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That is no joke, that is a miracle.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 22nd order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND CITIZENSHIP

(Continued)

On vote 1704:

Mr. Chairman: Vote 1704; the member for Woodbine.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity, which will probably be the last opportunity as far as I am concerned in this House, to make a reference to the office of Speaker.

Specifically, what I have in mind is a question which has been raised by members of this group from time to time, and by many members of the public, and that is the question of a permanent Speaker.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the period immediately preceding an election, and I am quite confident that this is the period we are now in, is the appropriate time to get such a matter settled. I do not think it can as easily be settled after an election. My reasons for saying that will become obvious when I suggest to the House that three conditions have to be met if we are to establish the office of permanent Speaker in a way that guarantees the impartiality and independence of the Speaker.

First of all, it is essential, in my opinion, that all the parties should agree, before an election is held, as to the person who will be nominated as Speaker after the election, regardless of who wins. If that agreement is not made before the election, Mr. Chairman, then of course it is impossible to say that there has been an all-party consideration of the matter and an agreement as to a specific person to be Speaker.

It has to be settled before the election. We have to agree, the parties have to agree among themselves, that such-and-such a person would make a desirable Speaker; therefore, whoever wins the election, that person will be proposed as Speaker to the new Legislature established after the election.

Second, it is essential, in order to guarantee not only impartiality on the part of the Speaker, but also the appearance of impartiality, that he should be relieved of the

necessity of engaging in partisan campaigning in the election. This, of course, means that there must be an agreement among the parties that no one will contest the seat of the person who is to be the permanent Speaker.

This makes the first point all the more necessary. Obviously, no party is going to agree not to contest a seat unless it is absolutely assured that the person elected by acclamation in that seat will indeed become Speaker.

Then the third condition, as I see it Mr. Chairman, is that there be an agreement among the parties that Speaker's rulings will never be challenged under any circumstances. I do not see how else we can put the Speaker into the position of full independence, which he requires, if we reserve the right to challenge his decisions. I think in the modern Legislature it is necessary for all parties to discipline themselves and to accept rulings, even though they do not necessarily agree with them, in the belief that the Speaker is acting fairly and impartially. He is like all human beings and could conceivably make a mistake, although that does not very often happen with an experienced man; but even if he does make a mistake, everybody accepts it knowing he has acted in good faith.

This, of course, also makes it most important that he be removed from day-to-day partisan conflicts. In actual fact, our Speaker is removed from such conflicts while the Legislature is in existence, but then if he has to go out and fight for re-election in his seat he is necessarily brought back into the partisan political arena. So we cannot have an—

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Excuse me, is the member suggesting that we ought to perpetuate inequitable laws or regulations simply because it is the jolly thing to do? We would be setting precedent by agreeing not to question the rulings of the chair regardless of what the motive may be.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I have never known a challenge of the Speaker's ruling to be successful, so that I do not know there is much in the point that is made by the member for Bracondale.

The fact still remains that you will get a better body of rulings, and a more consistent and a fairer body of rulings, if you have an experienced person permanently in the chair as Speaker for as long as he continues to serve in the Legislature, and who is not subject to political pressures of any kind. I

think that is the best way of building up a body of fair rulings.

There will be mistakes, but I am sure that an intelligent Speaker, when he makes a mistake, will later take steps to make sure that that mistaken ruling does not become a precedent.

I have only to refer my friend the member for Bracondale to the experience in Westminster where they have had conventions of the kind I have just outlined for a great many years, and the Speaker's rulings are not challenged there. I do not know if that is a matter of the rules of Parliament or merely a matter of convention, but in fact they are not challenged. I can assure the hon. gentleman that there is no member of the House of Westminster who does not think that is a good system.

I think it is a good system, I think it is an intelligent system. The office of Speaker should be taken out of politics altogether. He should be put in the position where he can fully carry out his rule without being subjected to pressures of any kind, or even the suggestion that there might be pressures, in chairing the proceedings of this House.

When I embarked on these remarks the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) asked me in *sotto voce*, if I was preaching for a call. I would remind him that I am not running for a seat in this House and one cannot be Speaker without being member of the House; so that disposes of that.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I think what he said first was that he would like an arrangement among all parties that the new Speaker would not have to run in a contested constituency. That might change the situation for the hon. member a bit.

Mr. Bryden: Just to clarify, or remove all doubt on that point, I do not intend to present myself for election to a seat in this House under any circumstances, so that I am not preaching for a call.

In fact I would say, Mr. Chairman, that I do not quite have the temperament to be a Speaker. On the other hand, I think the hon. member who now occupies the chair of this House with great dignity and presence, is very much of that temperament. I think he has demonstrated that he has a natural capacity to chair a very difficult sort of assembly such as this one is, and any parliamentary assembly is.

I may say I have never discussed this matter with him, I have no idea what his views

on the matter are. I have the impression that he is perhaps not very keen to continue as Speaker, but I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the leaders of the three parties of this House ought to go to him, having first of all agreed on the conditions necessary for establishing the office of permanent Speaker, and tell him that it is his duty to the public to be the first permanent Speaker in this province.

That could be a revival of an ancient tradition, where, I believe—and I think they still carry it on in the British House—where the person chosen as the Speaker has to be hauled bodily up to the chair by other members because he is so disinclined to accept the honour himself.

I believe there was a certain amount of discretion in that in the past. It was not only a matter of it being a great honour, it was a matter where one was very much exposed to the reprisals of the king; it was a matter of safety, in the past. But the old tradition is still carried on.

We could revive it, at least in this one instance, and have the three party leaders go to the present Speaker and symbolically drag him to the chair and say that he must stand for election in this forthcoming election; that if he does so, and if it is previously agreed he will become Speaker again, the other parties will arrange not to have his constituency contested.

It seems to me that we have to start on this matter some time. I raised much the same point prior to the last election. The government opposite, which still is too much wedded to the old patronage, pork-barrel approach to politics, apparently was not willing to consider the idea then. They apparently wanted to hold this plum open so that they could keep some of their backbenchers in line. I do not know if that was their purpose, but at any rate they just would not consider this proposal, which I think most people who are concerned about the future of our parliamentary system think is a good idea.

I would suggest to the government that now is the time to reconsider the matter. I think I could quite safely say that our party would go right along with an idea along this line if the government would consider it, and I daresay the Liberal Party would, too.

So, Mr. Chairman, I hope this matter will not just be left in abeyance once again. Let us get it settled; and now, before the election, is the time to settle it.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Chairman, for my own part, to use Laurier's phrase,

I as one member of the Liberal Party want to tell my friend from Woodbine that I am not much enthused by the encomiums that he delivers in support of this proposition. I would say that in a country that has been discussing such a thing as the reform of the Senate of Canada since 1872—95 years—without having done anything about it, there is not much likelihood that in anything short of two centuries—

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The wrong parties have been in power.

Mr. Sopha: —will we get around to dealing with what he conceives to be an important subject.

Mr. Bryden: Obviously we need a new party in power.

Mr. Sopha: Now I deem it much more important—and I think my friend puts the cart before the horse—I deem it much more important that this Legislature create a body of rules. As far as I can see, after this my eighth session, this House is virtually without rules.

To illustrate that, I refer to the fact that a few weeks ago, when the attention of the Speaker was drawn to the fact that there is a specific rule that says the Throne Debate must be completed before the Budget is introduced, the Speaker informed that by custom and usage and precedent and practice in this House, that rule had been disregarded; and in fact, that same observation applies to a good many of them.

Now if members will look in the rules, they will see one that says no one may absent himself from the House without the leave of the House. If any attention was paid to the enforcement of that rule, there is no one in the House that would escape the House's censure, because as far as I am aware I know of no instance, since I have been here, that anybody ever asked for the permission of the House to be absent.

Then there is also one, a fairly lengthy rule, which sets out the order of business on successive days of the week. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, you have looked at that one and it sets out quite a programme of what this House shall do on Mondays and Tuesdays and Wednesdays; and attention was drawn to that in regard to the questions at one time. There is specific provision in those rules for question periods of some length.

You will recall yourself, Mr. Chairman, that so often the Speaker in giving a ruling draws attention to the fact that changing circumstances and the use of custom have altered

the rules to meet the circumstances as they now exist in the House, in the manner in which the House conducts its business. Several years ago, and I forget the year—perhaps as many as 11 or 12 years ago—a select committee of the House was appointed to revise the rules of the House. Curiously enough, its report apparently was never published save that it is included in the volume of the orders of the day and may be found in one of these volumes. It became apparent to anyone who was making research into the matter that that committee, the Stewart committee, chaired I believe by a former Speaker of the House, made observations which were unsatisfactory to the powers that be, and those who advised them around here. They were therefore never treated with any degree of seriousness at all.

I am not going to go on and make the natural comment that we ought to set up a select committee or a Royal commission or some other body, because I as one Canadian am thoroughly fed up with bodies of inquiry. I wish we would have a moratorium in this country for about five years, where it would be punishable by extradition to Baffin Island for anyone to set up an inquiry into anything.

Mr. Bryden: You will have most of the population in Baffin Island.

Mr. Sopha: Well, yes. We would have most of the politicians anyway.

But surely the time has come for somebody to sit down and compose a body of rules suitable to Ontario. I go on and say, in the same sentence, that to me as a Canadian living in 1967, it is a sorry spectacle—let me underline that: it is indeed a very deleterious practice for the creation of an integrity within this province—to see anybody in authority writing to someone in Great Britain to ask for advice. But that is supposed to be a very sophisticated way of getting at the problem, to write to somebody, who usually has a title about three and a half feet long, to ask him for his advice as to how we should manage our affairs in Ontario.

One of the things we suffered from in this country—I dare say the word is victimized—was the fact that in the last century too many Englishmen sitting 3,000 miles away delivered their own opinion about our constitution. We ought to have learned a lesson from that.

What the needs of Ontario are, in the management of its affairs by mature and reasonable and responsible adults, cannot find assistance in the opinion of somebody who is close to the palace of Westminster. That

proposition would find attractive support from such people as the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman). The Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) would agree with that, too. The Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) would be cut to the quick.

It would absolutely unsettle the member for York North (Mr. Mackenzie). My dear friend, the member for York North, would be hurt to hear anyone criticize our British cousins. But I have not got to him. It might be even unattractive in the riding of my friend from Bruce (Mr. Whicher). But I feel, in 1967, sufficiently independent to be able to say in this Legislature, and not be accused of treason, that it is about time we grew up and ran our own affairs without seeking advice.

In that regard, I always felt that about that rule. I think it is right at the outset, and must have been written by Sir Oliver Mowat; no one else could have written that rule but him; and probably inquiry would disclose that that is so. The rule that says: When there is any doubt about the interpretation or the application of a rule in this Legislature, the precedents of the Parliament of Westminster shall be consulted. Mowat, of course, was so angry at the federal government, and so infuriated with his pals Blake and Mackenzie, when they departed for Ottawa, that he would put that in the rules probably, in order to needle them.

Mr. Nixon: He was mad at Sir John A. Macdonald.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, he was mad at Macdonald too—

Mr. Nixon: Blake was Premier then.

Mr. Sopha: —but he got very angry with them because I understand that Mowat heard that Blake said to Mackenzie, or Mackenzie said to Blake, about the selection of their successor: “When we go to Ottawa, there are so few with any ability we might as well pick Mowat.”

Mr. Bryden: The Liberal Party is as it always was.

Mr. Sopha: He never forgave that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: I hope I am as successful.

Mr. Sopha: Finally, on the question of the rules that we have in Ottawa, we have a Parliament much similar in form; thank heavens it is not the same in substance. We deal with important things here. We do not

fool around. We do not concern ourselves with who got free colour television sets and who is taking Gerda to lunch, and all that stuff.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): It is not the \$80,000 items; it is the \$14,000 items you are concerned about.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Sopha: But they have the collective wisdom of Beauschene, and the name of the other one just escapes me—Burneau—that has been instilled in very compendious volumes. I see no objection. We would not have to feel that our independence or integrity was in any way diminished if we resorted to the experience of the Parliament of Canada. That to me would be infinitely preferable—I mean on the interpretation and the application of the rules.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): I can see the hon. member has not been reading the federal *Hansard*.

Mr. Sopha: Well let me say this.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sopha: Are you finished?

Let me say that a year or so ago, a couple of years ago, they had a very extensive revision of the rules which resulted from meetings of an inter-party committee of the House of Commons and, by common agreement and consent, many far-reaching changes were introduced to their rules and their method of doing business.

They do not pretend it is perfect. They do not pretend they have achieved the Utopia, like the former Provincial Secretary, when he introduces a piece of legislation: "This is the best in the universe," he says.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: And the facts have borne him out.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Sopha: They have made extensive progress in this regard. Indeed, in the federal House of Commons I can point to the fact that they have outstanding authorities on rules. The member for Winnipeg North Centre—is that his constituency—Mr. Knowles, who himself has apparently been offered the job of Speaker of the House of Commons, is a well-recognized authority on the rules. On the government benches both Mr. Martin and Mr. Pickersgill are looked upon as being experts in procedure.

As you look around the four corners of this House you cannot find anybody here that has anything like a working knowledge of the rules of the House. As I said in the beginning, there do not appear to be any that exist anyway. The important decisions in the Speaker's chair, my experience tells me, are made on an *ad hoc* basis.

I can remind my colleagues here that it is not many years ago when the business of whether two amendments were permitted to the motion to go into supply were in order or not in order; and it was not until the supper hour between six and eight o'clock one evening that that was decided. When we rose at six o'clock, the Liberal Party thought it was in order to submit an additional amendment to that motion, and at eight o'clock the Speaker, the former member for Essex South, decided against us.

I recall the scene that occurred in that House when that adverse decision was made. Well anybody with sand in one eye and glass in the other can tell that that is not the way to run the business of a Parliament—on a hit-and-miss and an *ad hoc* basis—when a convenience of the moment seems to overrule. We, in the Opposition, are prepared to accept almost as a way of life generally speaking the decisions of the Speaker on balance in favour of the government.

It has to be that way. It has to be that way in order that the public business get ahead, for it is the government at all times, we are willing to accede, that must control the movement of business through the House.

I say to my friend the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), through you, sir, that is one of the bases of consent upon which the parliamentary process works. It has to work that way, for that consent becomes as a concession from us and then flows to the Speaker's chair and through the Speaker's chair to the management of the business of the House by the House leader, the Prime Minister.

My plea is this: I think it unimportant who the Speaker is. We have a good one now. All of us proffer to him our deep respect and esteem for the way he conducts the business. Having sat through two Speakers, so to speak, I hope the one from Essex South, who went to his tomato farm, or whatever it is—

Mr. MacDonald: Chicken farm!

Mr. Sopha: Chicken farm—I hope he would not consider it disrespectful to say that he was particularly dreadful in the first four

years that I was here. The accession of this gentleman was a very marked improvement, and the whole atmosphere of the House has been different in the second four years than it was in the first four.

But I think that first four depended somewhat on the personality of Leslie Frost. When things were quiet and complacent around here he would come in and start an argument just out of that puckish sense of humour that he had. He did not like to see things too pleasant; he would start the argument, then pour oil on troubled waters; and then he would blame somebody over here for having started it.

Oh yes, I have seen him do it; and the hands would go up, he would show you the palms of the hands. Of course the exchanges that used to occur between him and the member for York South are not fit to be printed. I hope they have been expunged from the record.

Mr. MacDonald: Particularly his portion of it.

Mr. Bryden: Just Frost's side of it was not fit to be printed.

Mr. Sopha: But I say, let's grow up. Let's start to grow up and manage our own affairs in an adult and reasonable way. A good place to start is not to be concerned about the personality of the incumbent, but let us sit down, somehow, or get somebody that is an expert in the field, to sit down and evolve a body of rules for us that will give us certainty and precedent and a firm guidance in the management of the affairs of this House.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman!

Mr. Chairman: The member for Parkdale was on his feet at the same time as you.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): It is all right.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I am going to make a valiant effort to restore the debate to the topic we were originally discussing. I think it was an important one.

With respect, the member for Sudbury has drawn in two monumental red herrings. He says he is unhappy at the thought of another Royal commission. It was he who created the idea of a Royal commission to bring order out of the relative chaos and contradiction in our rules in this House. Then having created this Royal commission, he fled in terror from it because he is now so unhappy with Royal commissions.

Second, he is off once again on his tirade against those sources of imperial power that once used to oppress Canada. He says: "Let us grow up".

I say to the hon. member for Sudbury, that one of the evidences of having grown up is that you will recognize that now you are a man you do not need to be afraid to talk to anybody, and particularly those who may have a great deal more experience than you, even though that person originally held an imperial relationship to this country.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, when I get applause from that side of the House, and particularly from that source, I have to quickly review what I have said.

Westminster is the mother of Parliaments, and there is a body of experience there for any Parliament to glean advice and guidance. I, for one, would say that on many occasions it can be of value for us to find out what has happened in Westminster; not necessarily to adopt it in a slavish fashion, but to adapt it to our particular traditions. So I suggest that is another red herring.

I want to get back to the basic proposition that my colleague from Woodbine has put forward: Namely that we should have a permanent Speaker.

Now along with that, I will not argue with the hon. member for Sudbury. I think it would be very advisable that we should review the rules of the House. I think our rules have grown up until there are a lot of contradictions in them. This is nobody's fault. It is part of the whole process, and indeed if I may put it bluntly, it is part of the process of having Leslie Frost here for 20 years. Because he made the rules that suited his need for the hour. Many a Speaker, back in the day when the Speaker was a person who had to submit to the pressures from the government side of the House, which I do not think exists now, many a Speaker's ruling then was a product of dictate, subtle or not too subtle, as a result of pressures from the government side of the House.

I think we can get away from that kind of thing. I think if you had a permanent Speaker he would be the appropriate person to chair, not a Royal commission but a committee with a representative from each of the parties in the House to review the rules of the House and to come up with a modern version of Lewis' rules. After all, Lewis' rules were

written when? Back in the 1930's? In 1929 I am told. Some thirty years ago!

My colleague from Woodbine has pointed out that in any House of this nature the rules are going to change with experience to some degree, and therefore it is not necessarily a reflection on Lewis' rules, which are now more than 30 years of age, that there are contradictions in them and that some updating is required. I submit the person to lead in that kind of a job, the updating of our rules and the restating of our rules, must be a permanent Speaker who, by very virtue of his independent position, would be the ideal person to chair a committee that could do this very important job. And this is not a contradiction of the proposition of a permanent Speaker, in my view at least.

I say quietly to the hon. member for Sudbury, the point he raised with regard to regularizing the rules, or reviewing the rules of the House, is a good one but is supplementary, so to speak, to the appointment of a permanent Speaker.

I want to just emphasize the plea of my colleague, that we should consider this now, on the eve of an election, when it can be done in conformity with the necessary three stipulations that he outlined, if we are going to appoint a permanent Speaker.

If he is correct—and I have not raised with the present Speaker whether or not he reacts favourably to the idea of a being permanent Speaker—if the hon. member for Woodbine is correct—that the present Speaker is not attracted to the proposition, I know whom I would go to next, Mr. Chairman; and I am looking you straight in the eye, because I think we have had enough experience with the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) to indicate that he is a person of the kind of temperament and basic independence of mind to give the assurance to this House that he is going to rule, even when he is wrong on occasion, he is going to rule with an honesty of purpose. And nobody, I would hope, on the government side of the House as well as on this side of the House, is going to fault him, even when we think he has made a mistake. I think we are at this present time in the happy position of having a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker either of whom, I will state personally, could fulfil the role of a permanent Speaker in this House. We may not be in that happy position again for years to come.

Therefore I think my colleague, the member for Woodbine, is very correct in urging that the government give consideration to the matter now.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to let this opportunity go by without having some comments to make on the office of Speaker. I think it is a commentary on the efficiency with which the present incumbent is carrying out his duties that the pressure for the changes that have been brought to our attention by the hon. member for Woodbine seem to be somewhat less than they may have been in the past, when some of you gentlemen with longer experience in the House than I have been subjected to rulings that you were perhaps ready to question a little more frequently. But it seems to me, under the plan that has been proposed, whereby the Speaker be made permanent, and that by agreement he be returned from a constituency in the present order of things without opposition, it is something to which I would not be too keen to accede.

Perhaps it is the fact that hope springs eternal, but even in Ottawa West I believe the people should have the opportunity to express their views as far as the issues of the day are concerned and on the basis of the political decisions that are needed. If the permanency of the Speaker is something to be so desired, and I believe that it is, it would surely be much better in a democratic order of things to set aside a special constituency involving Queen's Park itself.

I know the leader of the NDP has put this to the House on past occasions, where the constituency itself would have no electors at all and by agreement one person would be selected who would become the Speaker of the new House, who would represent this very special esoteric area. So in fact, in this means, we would not deprive any of the electors of Ontario of their fair opportunity to express their personal views as to the issues of the day, and in that specific election.

I was quite interested in the other points brought forward by the hon. member for Sudbury, particularly the red herrings, as they were referred to, of our need to apply to Westminster for guidance in these matters—particularly as to the matters concerning the rules of our own House. There is no doubt that the rules are out of date but I understood that they were being updated by the present Clerk of this Legislature. I would think—and it has been expressed here before—that while they are being updated and amended and made modern in their application, he would refer to the Speakers present and past, and those people who have had some responsibility for the ordering of the House in years gone by.

I would not be so afraid to recommend the appointment of a committee or a commission as my colleague, the member for Sudbury. I feel that a good working committee of members of this House could come to some conclusions that would make our business more orderly and contribute to the efficiency of our working here. They could work with the Clerk, in his special responsibility of revising the rules that were set down by his father in the publication that was brought forward in 1939.

When we talk about references to Westminster, I think we should remember, even in the years of Confederation when this House was first established, that is under the new regime, that there were many areas in which we separated ourselves from Westminster and the traditions there. For one thing, we have only one chamber in our government, although some other provinces saw fit to have two. When this very legislative assembly room was built in Oliver Mowat's time, under his direction, the seats were not arranged as they are in Westminster and as they are now—as I understand it—but they were arranged in the U-shape around Mr. Speaker's chair. At least this prevailed up until 1943; I am not sure of the date when it was brought in, to begin with.

It was Mr. Drew, who was very much concerned about the traditions of parliamentary practice, who did away with this spectrum arrangement, which he thought would lead perhaps to some breakdown in the party system, and returned the seats to their present chamber. I was told at the time that he threw out all the stationery headed "Office of the Premier", and replaced it with stationery headed "Office of the Prime Minister", and they reverted to the older programme of referring to us as hon. members, as MPPs, which has rather peculiar overtones, and then they replaced the former reference of member of the legislative assembly with MPP.

I see certain people in the House who know about these things are shaking their heads at me, and perhaps it is time that this was set straight once again. My own feeling is that the head of the government in the province of Ontario should be referred to as the Premier of Ontario, and my own preference is that we as members of the Legislature be referred to as members of the legislative assembly. If these things are not directly traceable to the traditions of Westminster and the history of Ontario, well, this is unfortunate; perhaps I would be advised by those with a broader background than my own.

To return to the case that has been put before us, the office of the Speaker, I can see some obvious advantages in retaining the present Mr. Speaker as a man of competence who has engendered the trust of all of us on both sides of this Legislature in a permanent capacity. But I would not, as leader of the Opposition, and hopefully the leader of the government eventually after the next election, like to disenfranchise those people in Ottawa West who should have the opportunity to vote their preference on the issues of the day. I much prefer the representation to come from a specialized constituency as has been put before this House on previous occasions.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, to complete the record, and I just want to put an addendum on what the leader of the Opposition says about this matter of MPP. I see Mr. Levine is sitting in the gallery, and I speak with some trepidation because he is an authority on constitutional law, but I would say that the selection of that probably stemmed from the local prohibition case of 1896, and the phrase of Lord Watson, when he says that provincial Legislature are, within the sphere of their jurisdiction, as much sovereign parliaments, as the Parliament of Canada.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): That is right!

Mr. Sopha: And probably—and I get the support of my friend, the member for Simcoe East—and probably in Coldwater his constituents discuss little else but such things as this. But Lord Watson, having said that, the thing was set in motion, so to speak. They had to change the title to make the role here, the representation, suitable to that dictum he laid down. I have never been able to comprehend how a person who is called a member under The Legislative Assembly Act, and referred to as a member of the legislative assembly, can become by some legerdemain via Houdini a member of a provincial Parliament. Perhaps, if I have three hours to spare, somebody will sit down and tell me how that transformation can be made.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that the hon. member for Sudbury might possibly brush up on his history a little bit. I think a study of records is better than speculation as to what happened in the past. I am not going to go into detail on that. I believe, however, that though there were many at the time of Confederation who envisaged provincial Legislatures as sort of glorified county councils, except in the case of Quebec, when these Legislatures got off on their own they

asserted their full membership in the parliamentary tradition.

I suspect it was not Mowat who put the item in our rules to rely on precedents at Westminster where there is no governing rule here. This was in line with the whole thinking that this body had seniority, if anything, over the Parliament of Canada—in the thinking of the people who formed the first legislative assembly. If it did not have superior seniority, it at least was right in the tradition stemming from Westminster.

As for such matters as the use of the initials MPP, frankly I could not care less. I have always felt when I am called nothing worse than MPP, that I am doing all right as a politician. But I cannot see anything wrong with it. This is a parliamentary body in the parliamentary tradition. It would make just as much sense to me to say that the people at Ottawa should be called MHC, member of the House of Commons, as to say that the people here should be called MLA.

However, Mr. Chairman, those are minor points that I will not dwell on. I would like to refer back to the conditions I set forth as being necessary if we are to establish the office of permanent Speaker. The leader of the Opposition has raised a point, which certainly is a difficult point; that is that if you treat the constituency of the Speaker as not being open to political contest during the incumbency of the Speaker, which could be over a great many years, then in a very real sense you do disfranchise a substantial number of citizens of the province.

The only problem is that there are difficulties in this whichever way you do it. I think you have to consider what is the greatest good. I think the greatest good is a permanent Speaker who is truly independent; and that means that the voters in a certain constituency, during the incumbency of that Speaker, have to make a contribution to the common good. The alternative that has been proposed, in fact I think it was first proposed by Mr. Frank McGee in Ottawa, is that the Speaker should hold an artificial constituency called Parliament Hill. I believe it has been proposed here by my leader that we could create an artificial constituency in this province called Queen's Park.

That alternative gets around the difficulty of disfranchisement of the voters in a certain constituency. On the other hand, it creates another difficulty, and that is that it robs the Speaker of some of his independence. If you have a system that has applied for many years in Great Britain, where the Speaker

represents not a dummy constituency, but a genuine constituency, he is always a member of the House and if at any time he feels he is being subjected to pressures that are not proper and that he does not wish to be subjected to, he can resign his office of Speaker without resigning his seat in the House. He can still revert to the position of a private member of the House. This gives him an independence that he would not have if he represented a dummy constituency which was merely part of the office of Speaker.

If, say, you had a constituency of Queen's Park, with a certain member who is the member for that constituency merely by virtue of being Speaker, then if he resigned his speakership, he would also *ipso facto* resign his membership in this House. That is the difficulty on the other side.

Obviously there is no perfect solution to the problem. I am not completely wedded to either solution. I tend to prefer the system which has worked very well in Great Britain, and I am not such a colonialist that I am ready to repudiate out of hand what happens at Westminster. I am happy to look at their long experience and pick ideas that sound good, but—

Mr. Sopha: Marked contrast with your federal counterparts then!

Mr. Bryden: Well, I think it is just a form of inverted colonialism to say that we must repudiate everything in Britain, that we cannot even look at what is going on in Britain. I will look at it and take what I think is good, and I think this is a good idea. It is the method that seems to me on balance to be the most meritorious.

However, I think the principle of the permanent Speaker is the really important thing. And the other way of doing it, the method of having an artificial constituency, certainly would be better than nothing, in my opinion. But I would like to see it done. Whatever way is chosen, I would like to see it done one way or another. And I suggest, as I said before, that this is the time it ought to be done.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, is the Provincial Secretary going to reply to the convincing logic of my colleague, the hon. member for Woodbine?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister in charge of this department is the Provincial Secretary.

Vote 1704 agreed to.

On vote 1705:

Mr. Sopha: Would the Provincial Secretary inform us how much was spent last year in the acquisition of books, as distinct from periodicals? One cannot tell from the public accounts.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): For the purchase of books, \$4,500.

Mr. Sopha: How much?

Hon. Mr. Welch: \$4,500.

Mr. Sopha: Well, that would seem to me to be a very niggardly amount. No doubt the library must get a good many books free, according to the custom of the publishing houses. But, it just recently came to my attention. I say to the Provincial Secretary, through you, Mr. Chairman, that there is virtually no fiction, none of the great works of fiction are included in this library.

I recently had occasion to ask for a book, and I make no apologies. I asked about the most recent of the trilogy of Allen Drury. You will recall, Mr. Chairman, he wrote *Advise and Consent* and *Shade of Difference*, and now he has one out called, *Capable of Honour*. And to the politician, those would be very engaging reading. A message came back from the library to say that fiction was not a facet of this library.

Now perhaps maybe the time has come that we allocate something much more respectable than a modest \$4,500 for the acquisition of books.

Let us bear in mind also, sir, that in the history of this library, at Confederation 100 years ago, when the Parliament of Canada was created, somehow or other they sequestered our library. They took ours.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): They did?

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes, the Parliament of Canada took our library and they took the library of the province of Quebec; no, the library at Quebec City, of the United Province of Canada. And that was the foundation of the parliamentary library.

Now they have established a national library there to put us somewhat in the same position as the Library of Congress. Perhaps they might be persuaded that they pay us for our library that they took 100 years ago.

Mr. MacDonald: With interest?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, with interest. That would promote a spirit of amity in Confederation, that they reimburse us for—

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The hon. Provincial Treasurer tells me he has so much trouble with the current account that he doubts very much he could collect an account that is 100 years old.

Mr. Sopha: Probably. Probably it would be a difficulty of immense proportions. But I am not going to go into any of the characteristics of our library, save to say as one member of the House that one indeed reflects with gratification on the courteous service that we get from all members of the staff and from the librarian herself in any inquiry that is made of them or any service that is requested of them.

The Provincial Secretary can talk about the new appointments, the physical appointments of the library, although his predecessor will take the credit for them, no doubt. But I would say that a province of seven million, perhaps might consider the spending of a somewhat greater sum for the acquisition of new books.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, I would not like to see this vote go by without at least two things being put on the record. One, the new facilities in the library I think are much improved, and the Minister responsible perhaps should at least get a pat on the back for the work that has been done there, because the renovation has made a very much more attractive and efficient set-up in the library.

The second thing I would like to express is appreciation for the very capable and efficient staff within the library—this particularly within the past period, when the renovations were taking place and when they were working under very difficult circumstances. In spite of that difficulty they were able to produce on time, and efficiently and effectively, reading material asked for. I think they deserve that word of commendation, not only for the work they did during that time, but for their continuing efficiency in the periods during the sessions and between the sessions.

Mr. Renwick: On vote 1705, I would like to pursue for a moment or two the question raised by the member for Sudbury. On what basis is the book selection made, and what connections are maintained by our library with, for example, the congressional library in Washington? What is the basis of selection of periodicals? Who makes the decisions as to which books are purchased?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, Mr. Chairman, in order to function and to provide the facilities

necessary for the type of research and educational background which we feel is required here, the librarian has discretion to make sure that we are, in fact, current and up to date with respect to the services which are provided. In this connection, it is my understanding that we have been designated as a depository here for all United States periodicals. And from this project, to make reference back to the question asked before, as to the amount spent on the acquisition of books and periodicals in addition to the \$4,500 for the acquisition of books there was another \$3,000 for the periodicals and newspapers, a total outlay of some \$7,500. Within the framework of this budget, the librarian and her staff are given wide discretion to make sure that we would maintain ourselves in keeping with the standards as a members' reference library and to provide this service to the members and to the Legislature—which is the principal function of the library. There are some negotiations presently under way, in so far as the United States Library of Congress is concerned, with respect to cross indexing and this sort of thing. I am not able to announce any finality with that, except that these negotiations are current at the moment.

Vote 1705 agreed to.

On vote 1706.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): On vote 1706, Mr. Chairman, I think this is the appropriate spot where we can talk about the election laws of the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I am not asking for any money in the operation of the election office in these estimates, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Singer: Well, there is \$155,000 here for the clerk of the legislative assembly and the chief election officer.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I would suggest that, on examination of the estimates, Mr. Chairman, although the title chief election officer is attached to the vote, the whole \$155,000 is for the office of the Clerk of the legislative assembly.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I can refuse completely to accept that explanation from the Provincial Secretary. This is the way it appears in the estimates. There is no further breakdown on page 105, opposite vote 1706 where another gentleman called the chief electoral officer is referred to. Undoubtedly he does some duties, and undoubtedly he gets some money. If any of the rumours that we

have heard around these halls in the last few months mean anything, somebody is going to have to spend some more money within the very foreseeable future to have something to do with an election.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Now, Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I do not wish to argue with the member for Downsview from the standpoint of cutting of any discussion. But in all fairness, he knows as a much more experienced member of this chamber than I that money allocated for the particular purpose which he wants to discuss is, in fact, voted by the Legislature—a separate vote.

It does not come under these estimates and all I suggest to you is that \$155,000 is presently before the House for the office of the Clerk of the legislative assembly. And I suggest he would have every opportunity to discuss the subject matter which he wants to bring before this House at the time the Legislature is asked to vote money for the purposes to which he has made reference.

Mr. Bryden: May I speak to the point of order, Mr. Chairman? I think that the Provincial Secretary is quite in error on the point he makes. I know that funds for the actual conduct of an election are not in these estimates or in any estimates. The government professes not to know when it is going to have an election until after it is called, and then the funds are scrounged up afterwards. What we do have here are funds for the permanent framework used for the conduct of an election.

Now it happens that the same officer holds the office of Clerk and of chief election officer, but it is not true to say that during the course of a year, even when there is no election, he does nothing whatever in his role as chief election officer—that he puts that hat on only when an election is called. Both he and his staff have to carry on some duties, admittedly not too onerous in non-election years, in his capacity as chief election officer.

I say, Mr. Chairman, that this matter is quite properly raised at this time. I remember a few years ago I was ruled out of order for trying to raise matters of election law under this vote. I was not very happy about the ruling but I could not do anything about it. But in subsequent years Chairmen did, and I think quite properly, permit discussions such as the member for Downsview wants to embark on under this vote. And I think quite rightly, because this vote provides the money for the permanent machinery that exists all the time with relation to the conduct

of an election, which comes fully into operation only at election time.

It does not admittedly include anything for the actual conduct of an election, but then there is no vote in the estimates anywhere from beginning to end that provides for that. And this is the proper place, I think, to discuss matters relating to the election machinery of this province.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Mr. Chairman, simply to provide you with information which would be helpful to you I am sure in reaching a decision on this matter, in the public accounts themselves for the fiscal year ended on March 31, 1966, on page B24 you will find the sort of thing to which I was making reference. In the special warrants for these purposes, which under the public accounts are filed with The Department of the Attorney General, and this is the point that I was attempting to make here—that the matter of the conduct of these elections and the expenses in connection therewith, are handled as special warrants by the House under The Department of the Attorney General.

Mr. Bryden: Well, not by the House; the House does not handle special warrants. That is the problem.

Mr. Chairman: Order please. The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, in public accounts on page P8 under the title "Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and Chief Election Officer" there is a figure for salaries, and then they have this notation—R. G. Lewis, Clerk of the legislative assembly and chief electoral officer, and the salary that he gets. Now this is the way it is shown, and part of the money that he gets is for his duties as chief electoral officer. I can make the point no more simple or more obvious to the Provincial Secretary, other than to say this: he must know, as I know, that there have already been appointed some returning officers—I do not know how many there are, probably only a very few.

Mr. Bryden: None, according to the hon. Prime Minister.

Mr. Singer: None appointed? Well, all right. Then there is a review of their being appointed. And I am sure that in the study of their being appointed certain talks must take place with the chief electoral officer so far as specifications are concerned. What sort of person is a likely person to be the

chief electoral officer—what sort of an education should he have? Now, Mr. Chairman, it is obvious that if the government is going to try to cut off debate in a matter that is going to be very embarrassing to them and you allow it, there is only one answer that must come forward—they do not want to hear about our poor election laws.

Mr. Chairman: On your point or order, I would be inclined to say that this particular Minister is hardly responsible for moneys being paid for a chief election officer. I think most of the moneys that we are voting on now are in connection with press clipping service and personnel connected with it. At the same time I understand that it has been the custom in this House to give the members of the House an opportunity to discuss the chief election officer under this vote. Because of this I would suggest under the circumstances that we should try to make our remarks brief inasmuch as they do not come under this particular Minister, and I would permit them at this time.

Mr. Singer: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to say that over the years my colleagues have put on the order paper, particularly my leader, the hon. member for Brant, a series of resolutions asking for the reform of the election laws of the province of Ontario. These matters have come up in the awkward times in the past when private members' motions have been dealt with, more recently in the future at fixed times. Then last year, strange to say, the government said, "Well, all right, we are going to set up a select committee of this Legislature, we really are going to examine into and inquire about the election laws of the province of Ontario."

The government, in its wisdom, chose one of their bright, shining new young men, the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales) and appointed him as chairman. On the surface it looked like a very interesting and worthwhile decision. We hoped that there was going to be a real examination of the election laws of the province of Ontario. Having observed the hon. member for York Mills in the House we thought that he was a reasonable person to have been selected as chairman. Strange to say, Mr. Chairman, as this committee has attempted to function since the ending of the last session until the present time, one is forced to the conclusion that the government set up the committee as a sham and a farce and a delusion, in order to cloak inaction.

The hon. member for York Mills seems notable in my opinion for having neglected to carry out his functions of that committee.

The committee has met on very few occasions. Some of its discussions have been quite useless insofar as voting machines are concerned: the trip to part of New York state to investigate voting machines; a whole afternoon taken up when somebody brought in a voting machine to be looked at. Nobody on the committee needed to be told that we did not want any voting machines; but we wasted a considerable amount of time with that committee in discussing voting machines. Since the House has started, we have heard repeated suggestions that some mysterious person in a back room is drafting some kind of a report which hopefully will be presented to the House.

Let me say, sir, since it seems apparent that there is an election pending in the province of Ontario, it seems to me obvious that the government ploy is that they do not want these matters to be discussed on the eve of an election. They have no real intention whatsoever of allowing a reasonable and meaningful examination into the method of conducting elections.

They have no intention whatsoever of attempting to have brought fully before the floor of this House a proper discussion about election expenses. They have no intention whatsoever of attempting to control or make effective the inane sections—and I use that word advisedly—the presently contained sections of the pertinent statutes which are really inane insofar as their effect. I do not know of any historian in this House who could ascertain who was the draftsman of the section of The Election Act dealing with election expenses. But I can well imagine him rolling on the floor with glee as he figured that section out and transcribed it into a statute which eventually became part of the law, happy with the thought that no one could ever understand what it meant—or actually that it was completely meaningless and useless.

Mr. Chairman, as a result of the arguments that have been put forward year after year after year in this House, one would have thought that the government, having boldly said they are going to inquire into this, having yielded to our pleas, and having boldly said they are going to inquire into the worth of the election laws of the province of Ontario, then having chosen one of their bright young men to chair the committee that was going to do it, would have made sure the committee functioned. Instead, I say it has been a subterfuge—a complete, absolute, obvious subterfuge. They have no intention whatsoever of doing anything about the election laws, even allowing for the inquiry that

they ordered to proceed in the normal manner.

Mr. Chairman, is this a complicated thing? I know you have read with care the report that came forward from Ottawa, from a carefully chosen committee representing all points of political view in the Dominion of Canada, in relation to suggested electoral reform. I think it is an outstanding volume and I think its recommendations could in large part be adapted to the election procedures in the province of Ontario—not in all extents, but in large part. Certainly we could benefit very materially from the studies that were done by the Ottawa committee, and by the recommendations they made. But even something as obvious as that has been too hard a task for this government to face.

It is unfortunate, Mr. Chairman, in the conduct of these select committees, that the members really have no control over the functioning of the committee at all. It is a government-appointed leader who dictates when the committee will meet, if it will meet, when there is going to be a report, or if there is or is not going to be a report. In this particular instance, one must come to the conclusion that either the chairman on his own has decided there shall be no report, or the chairman has received instructions from his government colleagues saying, "This is too hot a potato, let us not discuss it now on the eve of an election."

Mr. Chairman, we spend hours in this House talking about the values and importance of the democratic system. Can there be anything more important to our democratic system than that we have fairly conducted elections? I suggest to you, that because of the mystery that surrounds election financing, one must come to the conclusion that elections are not fairly conducted, that the runners in the election, the various candidates, do not have an equal opportunity to present themselves and their cases to the voters, the people of Ontario. The government of Ontario is quite happy to let this situation continue and is not prepared to do anything about it.

I suggest to you, sir, for various reasons that we have heard in this House over the past few years, that the time has come to whip away the veil of election secrecy that surrounds the collection and distribution of funds. I suggest to you, sir, that the government makes the avoidance of the facing of this problem much more sinister because they are not prepared to allow these matters to come out into the open. The only way that they will come into the open is if there are

inscribed, on the statute books of the province of Ontario, reasonable statutes which will guarantee complete and full disclosure on a local level and on a party level of where campaign funds come from and where they go to.

I suggest, in addition to that sir, if we really believe in democracy there has to be some method of fixing a top limit on how much can be spent in any individual riding, and how much can be spent by any individual party organization. Surely we in the province of Ontario do not want the election system to deteriorate further than it has today and to become a system where only very wealthy persons or only very wealthy parties can properly and reasonably conduct an election campaign? If there is not strict control exercised over election expenditures, then we are running into a very serious threat to our democratic system.

In addition to that, sir, we must wonder whether or not there should be some use of public moneys insofar as assisting the dissemination of literature of all kinds, of propaganda coming from all different points of view at election time. Does it not make some sense that laws can and should be enacted allowing certain free mailing privileges at election time? Does it not make some sense that there can and should be a control over the use of radio, television and even the news media insofar as advertising is concerned? Those are matters that can be readily and easily ascertained and readily controlled by adequate legislation. But none of these moves at all appeal, apparently, to the government.

I say, sir, that the time this vote is before the House, and the actions of the Provincial Secretary in trying to get it ruled out on a point of order, are part and parcel of the same pattern. The government wants to avoid discussion of this. They are ashamed of it, but they like the game the way it is.

They want to hide where their money comes from. They want to hide how much they are spending. They want to take an unfair advantage when they go to the people in a few months time. And I say, sir, that this is a disgrace and a shame to the people of the province of Ontario, and the government has no excuse for this whatsoever. They stand condemned by the manoeuvres this afternoon of the Provincial Secretary, by the manoeuvres of the Minister of Labour who is chairman of the committee, and by the sanctioning of this by the Prime Minister of the province of Ontario, who is allowing this system to go on.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I have many times over the past years put on the record of the House my views with regard to the control of election financing by political parties, both as to placing limitations on total expenditure and requiring full public accounting of all contributions and expenditures. So I will not go over the ground again. As a matter of fact, the most recent occasion on which I stated my views on the matter was in the Throne Speech debate in this session.

However, Mr. Chairman, I do want to say something about the late lamented—and those are the only adjectives that now appear appropriate—the late lamented select committee which was set up to inquire into election law. I would remind hon. members that this committee was set up as a result of a certain episode relating to Melchers Distilleries which I brought before the House last year. The government was not willing to have the Melchers thing looked into, but it did try to, I assume, give evidence of good faith by setting up a committee to inquire into all aspects of election law, including election financing, a thing it had always refused to do in the past. So it appeared to those of us who are naive. And most of us believe that other people are acting in good faith; usually we act on that assumption. To those of us who are naive, it appeared that at last we were making progress in this matter. Even though we could get no explanation of the Melchers affair, at least we were going to have the election law reviewed and one could hope that as a result of the review it would be reformed in a logical way.

However, as I say, we were very naive. Because it is now quite obvious that the only effect of the setting up of this committee was to stall the matter until after another election. It was the only effect.

The committee did not meet until October and at the very first meeting, as I told the House on a previous occasion, I called the attention of the chairman to the urgency of the matter: that as we would likely be facing an election, surely the committee should get cracking and get a report in at this session. The chairman simply said that the life of the Legislature under law could extend to 1968 and that was the basis on which the committee would operate.

Then early in February I wrote him a letter. As a result of certain comments that the Prime Minister made in the House, in which he seemed to suggest that he would be ready to consider electoral reforms at this session, I wrote the chairman a letter asking

if we could get the committee together to review what we have done and bring in at least an interim report, with some recommendations on important matters.

He told me orally a day or two later that a draft report was then in the process of preparation for consideration by the committee. He said that the committee, he hoped, would be called together next week—as of that time—and that was two weeks ago. The next week to which he referred was two weeks ago, the week before last. He hoped it would be called together in the next week to consider this draft. He also said he would write me a letter confirming what he had said orally. That is the last I ever heard of it. There is no sign of the committee being called together. The committee is simply a stall to avoid action on a most pressing matter.

It is perfectly obvious that the Tory party wants to retain its secret slush funds with which it can once again, it hopes, overwhelm the people of Ontario in another election. It hopes to get through at least one more election with this huge accumulation of money from sources which it is ashamed to disclose. It has never been willing to disclose them, and if it is not ashamed then let it disclose them. Let it agree with the other parties to change the law so that there will be provision for disclosure. So it hopes to stall it off for one more election.

In my opinion, Mr. Chairman, this is a situation that is almost intolerable. That these fellows with their top-heavy majority should sit back there smugly, refusing to make changes in the law that are obviously essential to the proper working of the democratic process in this province. They sit back smugly and arrogantly, sneering that they have got the slush funds and they are going to use them to swamp the Opposition if they can.

Well, this is the basis on which it apparently will be. We can see now that these fellows will never change the law. They would rather continue on the present basis, so it will be an issue that will have to be fought out before the electorate when the election comes.

There is, however, Mr. Chairman, another phase of our election laws that I would hope the government will do something about, and on this point it does not require a report from the committee. It does not even require a change in the law. I am referring to the matter of the appointment of returning officers for the constituencies.

Under the law as it now stands, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council has the power to appoint returning officers at any time. A

month ago, I called this provision to the attention of the Prime Minister and asked him if he would get cracking and get the returning officers appointed so that they, for their part, would be able to get prepared for the task and the people who plan to contest the election would know whom they were dealing with and would be able to discuss common problems with them.

I realize the Prime Minister has been sick, but surely the business of government does not grind to a halt because he is sick. I got the impression that he was ready to consider the proposition of early appointment of returning officers. As far as I know, not a single returning officer has as yet been appointed. Surely they should be appointed soon.

I know what the holdup is. It is because even this office is treated as part of the pork barrel patronage of the Tory party. That is the problem, and I am suggesting to the Tory party that they should get over that antiquated notion. It would be far better for them and for everyone if they would make someone such as the chief election officer responsible for the appointment of returning officers and get it done independently. In that way they could save themselves a lot of arguments within their own organization. But as it stands now, everything has to wait until every last internal dispute is settled within every last two-bit Tory organization in the province before we can get returning officers—people who are absolutely essential to the conduct of the election.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to call the attention of the House to an incident that happened only a few days ago. An organizer for the New Democratic Party, who happens to be assisting supporters of the New Democratic Party in the Lakeshore constituency at the present time, phoned up the office of the chief election officer just a few days ago, and asked for the name of the returning officer in that constituency, Lakeshore provincial constituency.

He was advised by that office, and the office had no option but to advise him of this, that he would have to go to the office of the Lieutenant-Governor, because under the law as it now stands the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council appoints the returning officers. So from there he was referred to the Ontario headquarters of the Progressive Conservative Party.

Mr. Sopha: No.

Mr. Bryden: That is not the whole story. The Ontario headquarters of the Progressive

Conservative Party said, we do not know who the returning officer is because the local Progressive Conservative association has not told us yet.

Mr. Singer: Oh, dear.

Mr. Sopha: Probably it is going to be Carl Brewer.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): Perhaps it was a mistake.

Mr. Bryden: Now somebody says it probably was a mistake. He says it with a broad smile, because he knows perfectly well it was no mistake at all. That is exactly what happens. The returning officers are in effect appointed by the partisans for one party in each constituency and I say it is high time that antiquated system was abandoned. They should be appointed as public servants, which is what they are, and not by local Tory organizations. Actually, I do not care too much even about the partisan approach the government takes to these appointments, if it would at least get on with the appointments. If you have to refer it to the local Tory organization, give them until the end of next week to get their names in and if they have not got them in, then—

An hon. member: Let someone name qualified people.

Another hon. member: Get a good man.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, have somebody name somebody who is qualified to do the job. But at least let us get them appointed so that the chief election officer can give them adequate preparation; and so that all candidates will be on an equal footing in finding out from them what their plans are with regard to such matters as the boundaries of polling subdivisions.

As I say, Mr. Chairman, I have no hope now for the committee on the reform of the election law. It was obviously put in there just as a stall. It is not going to do anything. There is going to be no action. But I would plead with the government at least to take action on this one very important matter, where it already has power under the law to act.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Chairman, let me say that the anguished cries of the Opposition have been noted and will be drawn to the attention of the government very shortly, and to the appropriate people involved.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Very condescending of you.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The anguished, frustrated cries of the Opposition—maybe a small element of the Opposition—are carefully noted.

Mr. Bryden: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think this precisely reflects the arrogant, contemptuous attitude that this government takes to the democratic process. Because we call for election laws that will make for an orderly and fair conduct of elections, the hon. Provincial Treasurer, number two in the government order of seniority, I take it, dismisses what we say contemptuously as anguished cries.

I would say, Mr. Chairman, that they are anguished cries of people who believe in democracy, and see it being crucified by this government with a patronage, pork barrel, slush fund approach to politics.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, may I just follow that up with one more observation. Certainly they are anguished cries, but the words that you hear, Mr. Chairman, that come so easily out of the mouth of the hon. member for Woodbine and others—words like putrid, corrupt, slush funds—we do not know what the hon. member is talking about.

Mr. Bryden: Because they are so true.

Mr. Trotter: I think, Mr. Chairman, that the words the hon. Provincial Treasurer used apply very well to the way this government handles election campaigns. Now I believe it is vitally important for the future of Ontario, and for this country, that we have some radical changes in our election laws. I was one of those who was cynical enough, and I think my cynicism is justified, that when this committee was appointed here in the province of Ontario to look into the change of our election laws, I believed an election was coming. And it was a façade, it was a whitewash job. Really nothing was going to be done to change the laws.

Now this is obviously what has happened and it is a real tragedy for government as a whole. Because what is happening to politics today is, it is becoming an old man's hobby and a rich man's game. It is becoming far too expensive for so many candidates, that many men simply will not stand for public office, particularly if they are opposed to the government in power.

Now we know that it is quite obvious with the use of—and this is why I have dwelt on

this so much—of government advertising, of conferences, of so much money spent on goodwill, no matter even where it is justified. It obviously makes friends for the person who is dispensing the goodwill, be it a conference, or a free meal, or the huge contracts that must go out for advertising. It obviously helps the government in power. This works federally as well as in the province, and this is why I believe it should be stopped, regardless of what the government is or what particular party is in power.

The government in this province has had a tremendous opportunity over the years to bring about the changes that are necessary. But it is quite obvious to me that this government will never attempt to bring in any proper changes in our election laws, simply because the way the laws are today, they assist the party in power. And one of the great dangers we face is the tremendous centralization of economic power. And the major leaders of economic power are in the Tory party, or are extremely friendly toward the Tory party. So that obviously the establishment are going to be desperately opposed to any reform whatsoever in our election laws.

This is why today we are now looking at this façade, this whitewash job of an election reform committee being set up. Because we know that once this House began to sit that committee would not be sitting, and it is obvious now we are heading into an election campaign. But when we live in the day of the big wheel and the big deal it is settled more or less in private clubs. It is extremely dangerous to the general public in Canada and it is extremely dangerous to the rank and file in any political party, whether it be the Tory party, the Liberal Party, or the NDP. Because to my mind the same thing applies to a big union as well as to a large corporation. This is concentrated economic power and the little guy in the middle is forgotten.

So that inevitably, if we are going to have a democratic system, if we are going to preserve the democratic system that we have today, we are simply going to have to change our election laws, and if necessary to see to it that the government itself puts up the money that is for the most part needed in election campaigns.

I am sure that many of these large corporate givers will be just as happy. Because today, despite the fact that many of the men who collect money for election campaigns are completely honest, it is because they are collecting money for a political party there is so much hush-hush and secrecy about it.

And this is not needed and it is not necessary.

I think when we discuss this issue, Mr. Chairman, it should be said that so many of the men who do the collecting are doing it the same way as they would for the united appeal. But because it is a political party, it is something different. But there is still this tremendous danger that those who are close to the seats of power, of economic power, are obviously going to get far more money than those who are not.

Obviously if you try to lower insurance rates, or if you are for medical insurance, or if you want to toughen up the laws on trust companies, these people are obviously going to turn on any individual candidate or party who so espouse medical insurance or a similar reform.

I think one of the worst examples of using economic power on a particular candidate in a particular riding was in the riding formerly held by John Wintermeyer, the former leader of the Liberal Party. He was in an insurance company riding and even though he was certainly no radical when it came to medical insurance, they knew in the long run that he was for it. And because of this the economic power was used against him. This should not be in a democracy, and we will end up having decisions made for us over a scotch and soda at some of these large private clubs, unless the average individual in this country has every opportunity to express himself as freely as we should be able to in a democracy.

So in summing up, Mr. Chairman, I think it is a shame that this government has once again literally deceived the people of this province, particularly once again having to do with election reform, and its lethargy is shocking.

Just as the member for Woodbine mentioned about the appointment of returning officers, they have a system now that there are men working as returning officers. But they are not appointed, they are designated. They have no legal or any other type of status, but they are working. So-and-so is delegated to be a returning officer.

This is a stupid, inefficient way to run any election campaign, particularly when redistribution has taken place, where many of these ridings have new subdivisions. This is just a stupid way when no man has the legal responsibility of realigning the subdivisions in various ridings. In my area, I think I know who the man is. I can call him, because he is designated.

Why in the world does the government not get off its backside and appoint the returning officers, especially when they know an election is coming? But again, when they have a returning officer he should, as they are federally, be permanently appointed so there is a man on the job all the time. Stop this nonsense of keeping everybody guessing, including the returning officers, as to who is going to be the returning officer or officers in the various ridings in Ontario.

So it is a lamentable fact, Mr. Chairman, that at this time and in this state of our history, we are still being run by patronage rules in our election campaigns. We are inefficient and it is time that we, as the second largest business in the country, used business methods and became far more efficient and responsible than we are. And the fault is completely on the shoulders of our Tory administration.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the Provincial Treasurer, through you, what he means precisely when he tells us that the government will consider these matters that have been raised here this afternoon. If he is a man who means what he says and says what he means, what does he mean precisely by that?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No reference has been made to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. I think it is reasonable to state to the House that these are matters that will be attended to.

Mr. Sopha: When will they be attended to?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What does the member want me to do, tell him when we are going to have an election?

Mr. Sopha: Yes.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I do not know.

Mr. Sopha: No, but when will the matters be attended to? When will they be considered?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The appointment of returning officers is a matter that will be dealt with in due course.

Mr. Sopha: When?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I cannot tell the member. I do not know when the election is going to be.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Why was the Provincial Treasurer so presumptuous as to get up here a moment ago and tell us, in a very patronizing manner, that these matters would be considered, when it becomes apparent he does not know what he is talking about?

May I ask him through you, is that the situation, he does not know what he is talking about? He just got up in this supercilious way and said, "These matters will be considered". I would like to know from him when they will be considered. Will they be considered at the next Cabinet meeting? When might we expect that returning officers will be appointed? I am one of those who have the advantage of knowing who the returning officer is going to be. But when will the returning officers be appointed in Sudbury East and Nickel Belt, two of the ridings that are antiguous to the city of Sudbury? Can anyone tell me that, Mr. Chairman, from those benches? Can the House leader?

Mr. Bryden: This is precisely—

Mr. Sopha: The House leader usually speaks on the basis of some degree of fact and not the idle, empty generalizations of the Provincial Treasurer. The House leader has just wandered in here; he has just wandered in. Might we then divert the question from the Provincial Treasurer, whom we have now proved conclusively does not know what he is talking about, to ask the House leader if he might tell us when returning officers are going to be appointed in these new ridings?

Mr. Chairman: I would say—

Mr. Sopha: Do not answer for him, please. Might we ask him?

Mr. Chairman: No, I would say to the member for Sudbury that he has asked a question of the Provincial Treasurer—

Mr. Sopha: No, I have given up on him; I have given up on him.

Mr. Chairman: Well, then, I would say to the member for Sudbury that the Minister with the responsibility for this particular department before us now is the Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, he does not want to talk about it at all. Listen here, Mr. Chairman! The Prime Minister is not here in this House to direct its affairs—and may the Lord speed his return as quickly as possible, we wish him back to health. In his absence there are certain senior Ministers over there and we have legitimately directed a question to them.

Might we ask those who are exercising the responsibility of the head of this government in his absence, when these returning officers will be appointed?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Chairman, the answer to the question is very clear. I will undertake on behalf of the government that the appointment of returning officers will be made in sufficient time so that the most efficient job of running an election can be carried out.

Mr. Bryden: I am afraid that we have slipped back a notch from a month ago, when the Prime Minister seemed to indicate that he could appreciate the problem we were trying to raise and that there would be an attempt to get the returning officers into the field as soon as possible. The time which would make for the most efficient conduct of the election would be right now; in fact it would have been several months ago.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): How do you know when the election will be?

Mr. Bryden: Well, you see, there is a mind that simply cannot grasp even an elementary problem. The whole point which this hon. gentleman, who is now a Minister, obviously cannot grasp, is that the appointment of returning officers should not be left until after the election is called. That is the whole point. If it has not penetrated to him, I guess it never will. He still associates it with the old bad system of appointing them after the election is called. Of course that is a system that works fine for little patronage purposes in the local Tory organization, but it is not a system that works well for democracy. As the member for Parkdale—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: May I just add a word to this? I understand what the member is talking about and—

Mr. Bryden: I know the hon. Minister does.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: —and I will undertake myself to look into the matter at once.

Mr. S. Lewis: That will please us greatly because, like the member for Woodbine, the member for Sudbury, and others on this side of the House, we are sorely exercised. The fact is that if an election is called this year at all, you are already too late—in terms of returning officers doing efficient jobs in newly redistributed ridings—when you have to reestablish entirely new poll boundaries

and set up the voters' lists accordingly and run the election campaign. You have already turned the election in many ridings into a shambles, by the refusal to appoint returning officers ahead of time.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, I refuse to accept that kind of statement.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I will not withdraw.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I did not ask the member to withdraw—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. S. Lewis: They ignore it, Mr. Chairman. The Minister ignores it at his own peril because anyone—and all of us in this House who have gone through the complexities and intimacies of an election campaign know that in terms of the requirements of the returning officers, if you nominate that returning officer with anything less than a few months to do his job the election at some point during the five-week period will be reduced to a shambles. That is particularly true of new returning officers of newly redistributed ridings.

Mr. Chairman, let me say to the Minister, and again I put it to this Minister in personal terms, because I, as other members, am interested in when the returning officer would be appointed. Last week, I had my office phone the chief electoral officer and ask when the returning officer would be appointed for Scarborough West; or, more accurately, who was the returning officer for Scarborough West. The reply I received was that the Scarborough West Progressive-Conservative association had not yet appointed the returning officer for that riding. Mr. Chairman, if that is not the most preposterously unfair approach to electioneering one could profitably design! I want to suggest to you, sir, that that kind of thing must simply be abandoned. I do not know whether it has to be a Cabinet decision, or whether it must be the Provincial Secretary who does it, but it is entirely untenable and anti-democratic and any other term of abuse one wishes to apply—I suggest they would all be equally appropriate.

I want to concur in the observations that have been made about this vote, Mr. Chairman, not only in the matter of election financing but in the matter of returning officers. I say to the government, and to the House leader, that he does not know whereof he

speaks if he thinks he can cavalierly suggest that there is time left to appoint returning officers. If some of his new Ministers without Portfolio can throw out, in a jocular and contemptuous fashion, "in the fullness of time", it is absolutely absurd; it shows no concept of what elections involve.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, I have given an undertaking. As soon as I heard what was being raised about the matter of returning officers, I said that I would undertake to look into it at once myself, and that I will do.

Mr. S. Lewis: We appreciate that. The House leader does that engagingly from time to time, and I for one accept it. We are simply driving the point home for the less receptive among his colleagues, of whom there are far too many, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, I do have a couple of things to say on this matter, particularly since the House leader I felt was inordinately condescending in his reply to the member for Scarborough West when he said that surely a suggestion from a junior member such as he implied the member for Scarborough West was, was out of order. Now surely in this House we are all equal when we are putting our views to the Chairman, and I feel that both the House leader and the Provincial Treasurer have been strangely out of character in their discussions this afternoon—perhaps right in them. I do not know, because the points that have been put here, Mr. Chairman, have all been valid points. Do you want a point of order—what is this?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No. I just say that I did not intend that word in the sense it has been taken up and I withdraw it.

Mr. Nixon: Well surely, Mr. Chairman, it is not up to me to defend the hon. member who sits on my left. However, he is probably too careful a debater to have raised this but I was not, because twice this has happened since he came into the House. And I have often thought it was a rather strange approach that because no matter what our backgrounds are and our age, and our point of service, we should approach the House and the discussions all as equals.

Now the hon. House leader has indicated that he is in his capacity going to bring this to the attention of the Cabinet. I was wondering if at the same time there would not be further reforms that could be discussed while the council is discussing this particular

matter. I remember in the discussions last year that led to the appointment of this committee, I brought to the attention of the Prime Minister that I felt it was already too late for a committee of the type that was subsequently set up to undertake careful examination of election reform that this province needs.

It so happened that I was correct because of the lack of application of this particular committee and the chairmanship as it has worked out. But a good many features have been brought to the attention of the House this afternoon of importance and growing importance as we approach the possibility of an election this year. It seems to me that the hon. House leader in undertaking to bring this to the attention of the Cabinet has made a very serious undertaking indeed, and we will be following it with interest and very carefully. Because these appointments should be made in the near future and we will hold him to this undertaking.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Let us get the record straight. I said I would undertake to look into it and I meant that in the broadest sense. But I did not use the word "Cabinet"—just so we get it straight.

Mr. Sopha: Are you offering—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Not at all. I just want to be quoted accurately.

Mr. Sopha: Today is Monday. We will be asking you on Thursday.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, could I just make one comment? The Prime Minister in answer to a question of mine a month ago said he would look into it too, so I hope it will in fact get looked into and be acted upon. Surely it is an obvious thing that does not need great detailed investigation. It could be done within the next week or so.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, let us not get led astray on this, either. The question of the appointment of returning officers is a very important one and that is the only answer, or even partial answer that we have had from the government benches. The House leader says he is going to look into it. Will somebody tell us who is going to look into the arrant defiance of normal democratic procedures when a select committee, appointed and led by a Cabinet Minister, never deigns to meet? Is somebody going to explain that to us?

Is somebody going to explain to us why a now senior member of the government ignores the duty that was given to him by this House to chair a committee? And the committee is not going to report, is unable to report because it has not met and it has not carried on investigations? Is the House leader going to tell us about that? Is the House leader going to tell us what accounting there is going to be about election finances in the next election? Is he going to tell us something about that? I think it is time, Mr. Chairman, that one of those Ministers on the government benches stood up and explained to the people of Ontario why they ignore democratic process at election time.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 1706.

Mr. Trotter: A question please of the hon. Provincial Secretary. Will the Provincial Secretary tell the House how many of the returning officers have been delegated? In other words, not appointed—designated is the term used; have you any idea?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I have absolutely no information at all to allow me to answer that question.

Mr. Singer: A mystery.

Mr. Bryden: The stork brings them all, does he not?

Mr. Trotter: I say to the Provincial Secretary through you, Mr. Chairman, this is a confusionist matter. Some of us know who we think our returning officers are going to be, and it is particularly important because these areas are being redivided as the result of the distribution bill.

We have new subdivisions, and how in the world can you have a properly organized election without this work having been done considerably in advance? I do not know. Some of us find out through Tories who know, and incidentally Tories who are fed up with the Tory party, and I suggest to members of the Opposition: if you want to find out this is the way to find out who your returning officer is going to be. But it is extremely difficult for anybody who may not necessarily have had the experience in election campaigns.

It does not bother me too much because I have been in one, but obviously this is part of a government's misuse of its power in holding back the naming of the returning officers. Because the majority of members of the Legislature are Tory and as a result they have the organizations. And a new candidate

coming along may not be familiar, and even though the returning officer is a Conservative it still affects the organization in a riding. Therefore, it is something that in fairness to a proper handling of an election the Provincial Secretary should look into, and look into very, very quickly. Not just with a broad, silly statement like we have had from the House leader. Because, heaven knows, his statement could mean anything. My guess is it means absolutely nothing—my own opinion—but I would the Provincial Secretary to see to it that we can have within the next ten days at least the naming of our returning officers in the province of Ontario.

Mr. S. Lewis: As a junior member for Scarborough West to the junior Minister from Lincoln—in a friendly way. This is such a friendly gentlemen's club, Mr. Chairman—I want to commend him again—he is an articulate and eloquent fellow; he is even a dialectician. Everyone in this House knows that. He is sort of the Marx of the master class—that is what the Minister is. Now everybody knows—the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) has pointed out, the Provincial Treasurer has pointed out how close to Marxists the socialists are. Why do we not in a chummy way, sir, get together and we will appoint your returning officers and you will appoint our returning officers and solve the problem with dispatch.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, just one other question. The chief electoral officer does have the responsibility for conducting local option polls. I wonder how many were conducted this year?

Hon. Mr. Welch: My information is sixty-five.

Vote 1706 agreed to.

On vote 1707:

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on this vote, there are two matters that are, I believe, of urgent concern to the Legislature that require to be dealt with very promptly, and I ask the Provincial Secretary if he would give serious consideration to them.

The first question relates to the adequate staffing of the standing committees of the Legislature. You will note, Mr. Chairman, that it is under this particular vote that the provision for the clerks of committees is made. In fact, the only service that the standing committees get in the performance of their functions is from the clerks of these committees.

Now, consider that back in January we appointed some very important standing committees—agriculture and food, education and university affairs, government commissions, health, highways and transport, natural resources and tourism, welfare and reform.

And when we realize that few, if any, meetings of the great majority of those committees have been held at all—one or two of them have held organizational meetings—my understanding is that they are not simply for the purpose of dealing with bills which may come up and be referred to them specifically from this assembly, but they can in fact deal with any matter which is referred by the House to them.

Now it would seem to me that each of these committees, the ones that I have named—particularly the one, for example, on education and university affairs, could at this present time, with the state of debate in the field of education and university affairs taking place in the province, perform a very valuable and useful function of a forum in which the exchange of ideas could take place. A forum in which the public could attend and have an opportunity, if the committee so wished, to express their views on matters related to education. And the only way that this could possibly be done is if this assembly has an adequate staff of expert counsel and advisors who would do the research, the study, the background digging that is required in order to ask informed and intelligent questions of those who might be called before the committee.

There will be other places where specific matters can be dealt with, relating to any one committee; but certainly, for illustration purposes, I would point out to the Provincial Secretary that the whole question of the financing of university education, the whole question of the grants made by this assembly for university purposes, is one of the major topics of democratic accountability.

Nobody knows what the answers are. No one knows how you solve the problem of maintaining the intellectual autonomy of the universities in the traditional sense with the requirement of democratic accountability to this assembly which votes a substantial part of the funds which go to university education.

It would seem to me, Mr. Chairman, again simply as an illustration, that this standing committee could call before it the presidents of the universities, the chancellors of the universities, members of the public, and other persons interested in this area in order to have an intelligent communication of ideas. But it is not possible, I am certain each mem-

ber of the House that sits on one of these committees realizes that it is not possible, individually to do the kind of research, to have the kind of background knowledge in so many fields, that will permit you to ask intelligent questions.

In my view, under this Minister's department, not just a feint gesture toward providing a staff should be made, but an effort to provide the kind of staff for each of these committees which will enable them to carry out their functions. I have spoken on other occasions about the lack of staff on the standing committee on government commissions, and how we in this assembly are in default in our obligations when we are expected to go for one hour and talk with the people who come from the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. We cannot do it. It has become almost ludicrous to go to the standing committee on government commissions.

Nothing, or if anything a very marginal amount of useful discussion, takes place. We have no opportunity in advance. We have very rarely received the reports, which are discussed in those committees, in sufficient time to read them before we go to the committee here. No staff is available to discuss the affairs, to present the position of the committee to the commission that appears before it. There is no opportunity for exchange of ideas, no way in which we can attain any adequate information about how all those commissions operate.

I use the standing committee on government commissions simply as a very easy example of the default which takes place, year in and year out, in the functioning of these standing committees. But there are many others which are very important, and certainly the one on agriculture and food is of supreme importance. I would assume, now that the Attorney General has decided that he is going to introduce a bill on trading stamps, that this would fall logically as a matter which could be referred to the standing committee on agriculture and food.

If it is the intention not to introduce the bill, but simply to give notice of it, then I would ask that this topic be now referred to that commission and that staff be appointed for the commission—a counsel, an accountant, and expert persons who can assist the standing committee in looking into the whole vexed and difficult area of incentives for consumer spending in the area of food purchases.

Each of us could, by looking at the various standing committees which the House has established, point out equally important areas

where urgent topics could be discussed in an intelligent manner. Yet we find it is not possible for us to go to a standing committee and do other than touch very lightly on the matters that come before us.

I do not include in this particular case the committee on legal bills and municipal affairs. I think, in the membership of the House, there is an ample number of members who are quite well qualified to deal with matters that come before that committee. I think that also applies in large measure to the private bills committee, because the proponents or the applicants for the private bill come prepared to give an explanation of what is required. Certainly, in these other standing committees, there are matters of urgent topical importance not being dealt with by legislation which is going to come before the assembly, but which are matters requiring considered discussion before they reach the point at which the government could consider introducing legislation.

I again urge the Provincial Secretary to take upon himself the responsibility for seeing that this assembly, either under the provisions for this vote or under an enlargement of the preceding vote, under enlargement of the duties and responsibilities of the clerk of the legislative assembly, start now to build up a proper staff for the assembly. Not a proper staff for the particular parties that are involved in the Legislature, but staff for the assembly, so that members of the assembly who are interested in a particular field know who the staff are, can go to them and say that they would like research done or background work done in a particular field. Thus, when the matter comes before the committee with the assistance of the staff of the committee, the members of the standing committees can make an intelligent contribution to public discussion of matters of urgent public concern. One need only, and I will not repeat them but one need only refer to the actual titles to the standing committees to draw the attention of every member to at least one area, and probably several, which could be called matters of urgent public concern for each committee to deal with.

This, to my mind, is one of the most significant fields in which the legislative assembly of Ontario can make a very real change in the way it conducts public business. To my mind, this is about the most productive area in which the assembly, as a body for conducting public business, for stimulating public discussion, and for exchange of information, can adapt itself to the needs of a democratic

society. We are missing, if I may say so, Mr. Chairman, tremendous opportunity—both to inform ourselves as members about the problems which require attention and to provide a vehicle by which the exchange of views can be communicated to the public to assist those among the public who are equally interested in these topics.

One of the main difficulties that impresses itself on me, in this Legislature, is whether any of the important matters, which we do discuss in this chamber from time to time, make any impact on the public. Very few people come and attend the sessions of this assembly; but I would say to the Minister that, in my view, a great number of people and a large number of organizations and bodies would come if they knew that the standing committees of the Legislature were dealing in the specific areas that were of particular interest to them.

It is not possible to pick an evening where a matter that you think may be of interest to you is going to come up in this Legislature because of the way in which the business is conducted. No one knows when that particular matter will come up; therefore persons cannot come just for the sake of attending the assembly, just to hear what is taking place. It may happen that on occasion a person does know when a particular item in which he is interested is going to be debated, but he does not have any opportunity of either speaking, which could be allowed very readily in the committee hearings itself, or of presenting a brief to a standing committee on a matter which is going to be discussed. The only way in which this could be at all useful would not be simply by multiplying the number of meetings of the committee but by making certain that, when meetings are held, public notice is given—and that the staff of these committees has done the basic background research work which is required so that informed public discussion can take place in that field.

Mr. Chairman, the other area of very great concern to me, and which I think we in this assembly must deal with before we can start to deal adequately with the problem in other fields, is the question of conflict of interest related to members of this assembly. I think the problem of conflict of interest is a sufficiently identifiable problem for all of us to realize that there are many areas of public office activities—whether they are incorporations, or whether they are in the executive branch of the government, or at a municipal level, or in this assembly—where conflicts of

interest are going to arise. I would suggest however, Mr. Chairman, that the conflict of interest problems of the elected members of this assembly are sufficiently different for them to warrant a specific study by this department, or at least under the initiation of this department, to find out whether or not it is possible to enact a statute or provisions of The Legislative Assembly Act, by way of amendment, which would deal adequately with this problem.

I need only refer, Mr. Chairman, to the rudimentary provision dating back to the last century, which relate to this question of who is qualified to sit in the assembly and who is qualified to vote in the assembly, to show to the House that they are in fact rudimentary and that they do not have any real application to present day government operations. It is very difficult for a member of this assembly, if he is at all involved in public affairs, to make the kind of decisions as to whether or not he has a conflict of interest.

Many of you may say that it is not very important, because nothing has yet happened to indicate that it has been a conflict of interest which has led to a member of the assembly putting his personal interest ahead of his public obligation as a member. But the very merit of an adequate consideration of this field of conflict of interest, related to members of this assembly, is that we have the opportunity to do it in advance if a proper study is undertaken.

I would refer, for example, only to one part of section 8 of The Legislative Assembly Act, which for some reason or other does not disqualify any person who is a member of any commission, board, committee, or other body holding office at the nomination of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, from being qualified to sit in this assembly and to vote in this assembly. But the section then goes on to say that if you are a member of the Ontario labour relations board, the liquor licence board of Ontario, the Ontario municipal board, the workmen's compensation board, the Ontario securities commission, the milk control board of Ontario, the civil service commission, or the board of parole, then you are not qualified to be a member of this assembly.

That is a very limited number of the boards and commissions appointed by this government, of the members of the boards or commissions appointed by this government, and my point is that consideration should be given at least to the many other boards and commissions. It may very well, Mr. Chairman, at this particular time, make

very good sense that no person who is a member of this assembly should be a member of any board or commission or other agency of this government. It may be absolutely essential that this be done. We tend to have every variation of that particular principle and I, for my part, cannot see any distinction between them.

We have, for example, the member for Muskoka (Mr. Boyer), who sits on the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. We have the member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root), who sits on the Ontario water resources commission. These members of this assembly, I think, should be protected by some understanding as to what their position is when they sit on such boards. I think it deserves consideration as to whether or not a member of this assembly is required, in some way or other, to make a declaration of any interest which he may have in any company which may be doing business with the government of the province of Ontario, or any of its agencies.

Similarly, I would think that if members of this assembly are to sit on government boards and commissions, in one capacity or another, they should make a declaration as to whether or not any of the people who deal with those boards and commissions have any interest in those bodies.

Another area with which, I am quite certain, we have not dealt with effectively is the question of gifts. I suppose there is not a member of this assembly who at some point or other has not received some form of a gift, whether it be nominal, or whether it is of substantial value. The question is whether or not a person in this assembly should accept a gift. I do not think, in this day and age, it is sufficient to leave it for an individual member's discretion. I think there should be a standard of conduct required for a member of the assembly, a rule of conduct about that particular question.

Mr. Chairman: How does the member for Riverdale feel that this has to do with this particular vote?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, if the overhaul of The Legislative Assembly Act does not come under the Provincial Secretary, and this particular vote, I do not know where it comes. I simply point out, Mr. Chairman, that this is an area where we tend to talk about the conflict of interest in municipal councils, we tend to talk about the conflict of interest in all other branches, except our own area, as it relates to us. This is a difficult area. There is very little background

guidance to it. The law is very hazy. It is very simple to state the general proposition that one must not allow one's duty and interest to conflict, but it is not sufficient at this time for us to take this position.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, does the hon. member have many more remarks in this connection; or should we proceed with the private members' hour?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would prefer to proceed tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of supply rise and report that it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report that it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The 33rd order.

SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham) moves second reading of Bill 19, An Act to proclaim senior citizens week.

Mr. Carruthers: Mr. Speaker, in presenting this bill to the Legislature, I do so with a considerable amount of pride. The bill is designed to create senior citizens week in honour and recognition of the invaluable contribution which older men and women of this province have made, and it sets out the objectives of its observations.

The bill provides that the week commencing with the third Sunday in June of each year shall be observed under the name of senior citizens week, for the purpose of encouraging, first, the recognition of contributions made over the years by aged men and women to the life of Ontario and, second, the appreciation of past and present services rendered by outstanding aged persons, either individually or in associations, by the development of special programmes and projects by and for the aged in communities throughout Ontario, and to the stimulation of general interest in the knowledge of aging and the aged. The Saturday ending senior citizens week shall be observed as senior citizens day for such purposes.

Mr. Speaker, in the year 1967, the Saturday ending senior citizens week shall be designated senior citizens Centennial day, 1867-1967.

Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege, on Saturday evening last, to join with the citizens of one of the progressive communities in Durham county for the official opening of a new artificial ice plant in that area. The equipment was installed at a cost of some \$24,000. The funds were obtained through a concentrated community effort, involving a vast amount of time, effort and financial sacrifice.

The project called for a considerable amount of improvising that challenged the skills and talents of many individuals in the community. It required a considerable amount of travelling on the part of interested individuals, in search of used equipment, to reduce the cost. In the realization of their objective, however, the people developed and strengthened an already strong community spirit in that area, and they can be justifiably proud of their investment in the future physical and social life of their young people.

I simply refer to this event, Mr. Speaker, in order to point out that the need for this facility was brought to the attention of the community in so many ways and on so many occasions by interested groups and individuals. There is, however, another group of individuals in this community, and in hundreds of other communities across this province, for whom facilities are also needed, and who are not in a position to have their needs satisfied. While these worthy enterprises of which I speak are being developed in our communities, there are large numbers of our senior citizens being required to leave hospital where they have enjoyed protection under the Ontario hospital insurance plan. Now they either return home or enter a nursing home with the costs to be met out of their own financial resources.

The rest-home programme in that community and other communities would fill a great need, and should form part of a total community programme for the aged, including housing, senior citizen centres, and so on. The problem, Mr. Speaker, is to make communities aware of the needs, and assistance available through grants, from the senior levels of government. Certainly, during the tours throughout the province made by the select committee on aging, the members found a great deficiency in communications and a great lack of knowledge on the part of the public with respect to services for the aged.

This group in our society is not as aggressive, not as vociferous in demonstrating their needs, and it is therefore necessary that other forces be brought to bear in order to stimulate interest and a knowledge of aging and aged. May I suggest that the bill before the House today, proclaiming senior citizens' week, is one major method by which the attention of the general public can be focused on the needs of our elder citizens.

On Friday evening of this week, I will be present at the opening of a new \$1,750,000 vocational addition to one of the secondary schools in my county. This addition will have several major facilities, including three gymnasiums, two large and one small, a greenhouse, \$60,000 worth of machinery, a girls' commercial department with a steno laboratory especially designed for this particular school.

The new addition represents a major investment on the part of the community in its youth and in their future. It is a sound investment. For from this school and countless others will emerge the ideas, the knowledge, and the skills which in the days ahead will change and modify our way of life.

In this same community, however, I know of no particular facilities for older people, although a need exists. Ways must be found to make the public aware of the need and, in supporting this bill, I suggest the members have part of the answer.

In this same community, a citizen whom I have been endeavouring to assist will this week be retired from employment, not because he is unable to carry out the work in which he has been engaged for the past two years but because, in order to maintain that position he must now undergo a training programme and pass a formal examination. And, being over 60 years of age, and not too robust in health, he has discovered that this programme together with his work is more than he can do.

The time has come, Mr. Speaker, to draw the public's attention to problems facing older workers in the field of employment opportunity. This province, although more blessed than any other jurisdiction in the North American continent, cannot afford to be wasteful of its resources. The youth of our province comprise, perhaps, our greatest resource, when we consider the development resource, when we consider the development of a province to its fullest potential. We should skills, the wisdom, and experience of our senior citizens. As one means of attaining this recognition, I urge support of this legislation.

Within a matter of days, the attention of the public will be focused on education week, a week in which various events, displays and press articles will emphasize the importance of education and the problems involved in the educational field. I am simply asking that similar consideration be given to the programme for senior citizens of this province.

Senior citizens' week can provide opportunities for many organizations and groups to recognize the creative and sustaining participation of older citizens in our provincial and community life. May I make a few suggestions? An open house at senior citizen centres, nursing homes, senior housing developments and homes for the aged; special displays by florists and gifts of flowers to nursing homes and homes for the aged, special films for our older people in our local theatres and in various clubs, visits by 4-H club members and other groups, to shut-ins. There could be special church services with active participation by elderly people; tours for senior citizens sponsored by local service and church clubs; art exhibits of paintings by older citizens, and schools to call upon older people as eyewitnesses to history in class, public ceremonies honouring senior citizens, either because of their great age, or real achievement, and service in later years. I suggest coloured posters to make the public aware of the various needs of the aged; senior citizens conventions; and memories of trailblazers—a recording of events and experiences by senior citizens through the use of tape recorders and other means; special displays of reading matter in our local libraries; and employment opportunities advertised for senior citizens.

The committee on aging has recommended, and The Department of Public Welfare has established an office of aging. Through the agency of this office, senior citizens week can be fostered and promoted with lasting benefit to all. The rapid increase in the number of our aged has brought with it new problems that call for the cooperation of the public and private agencies, and above all, a new understanding of the opportunities that exist in later life. The vast numbers of young people now knocking on the doors of our schools and our universities will be the elder citizens of tomorrow, and the population explosion of the present youthful segment of our society will mean a population explosion of elderly people in the years ahead.

This province would not be setting a precedent, Mr. Speaker, in adopting this legislation. In May, 1964, President Lyndon

B. Johnson proclaimed senior citizens month in the United States, urging all private and public organizations and all people to adopt opportunities for older Americans as a theme for the month. And, each year since that date, this proclamation has been renewed.

Let us therefore recognize and make the general public aware of the importance of our senior citizens. In so doing, we shall take a major step in providing the 508,000 senior citizens of this province with meaningful opportunities.

Let us take all necessary steps to see that they have a real chance to enjoy health, love and a life of dignity. Let us find ways and means to employ the skills and wisdom that so many of our older citizens possess and long to share. In proclaiming this week, let us make it an outstanding and continuous effort to keep in the main stream of life all those who have lived so long and contributed so generously. I sincerely ask for your support in passing this legislation.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, first I would like to acknowledge the many messages I have received from many of the members of this House who are worried about my health; but I would like to advise you, Mr. Speaker, that my doctor said that my health is pretty good and I shall continue to do my work for many months and many years as a member of the Liberal Party. I almost made a slip and said a member of the Opposition, but I corrected myself before I made that slip.

Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on Bill 19, I would like to inquire from the mover of the bill whether this legislation is really necessary in order to honour our senior citizens in this province. I remember, in a speech made last year, my friend from Bracondale (Mr. Ben) opposed the number of special weeks that were being introduced. I would be inclined to think a little like he did, that perhaps there are too many of these special weeks.

Why should we, in order to do something for our senior citizens, have to introduce a bill and reserve one particular week in the year to honour them? The member for Durham specified that this week should begin with the third Sunday of June. I would like to ask him whether he has checked whether this third week of June, 1967, does not coincide with another important week. Of course we have so many special weeks during the year that I suppose there might be some other important week coinciding with this third week of June. I feel myself that every week, and every day in the year, should be

set aside to honour our elderly citizens, rather than one particular time. Because unfortunately, what happens when we set up a special week of this kind, is that we think of what is going on during that week yet are inclined to forget that those people exist in the other 51 weeks.

I wonder if the chairman of the committee on aging, who has done such a marvellous job as chairman of that committee, might be emphasizing too much the fact that one special week will do a lot for those elderly people. This is my feeling, Mr. Speaker, and I think perhaps, in determining one week as being the senior citizens' week, the general public and perhaps the government will forget about the numerous problems we have at this time that are of interest to the senior citizens of this province.

I will agree with the previous speaker that we owe a large debt of gratitude to our senior citizens. Without them, this province would not have developed the way it has. A number, a very large number of senior citizens we have met, for instance, in our travels, were people who have been defending Canada in the last two wars. They were showing their veterans' buttons with pride, and we owe a large debt of gratitude to those people. We should definitely recognize their services.

I would also like to remind the member for Durham that there is a possibility that looking after the senior citizens in this province is not entirely the public's responsibility. I think a lot of that responsibility should rest with the government. The government should look after those elderly citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the chairman has mentioned some of the recommendations that have been made by the select committee on aging for the elderly people. But I think that it should be important that we get the government, that we press the government to implement those recommendations. A lot of those recommendations, Mr. Speaker, have been part of the thinking of many people in the welfare field over the years; and I am afraid that, unless tremendous pressure is put on the government, a lot of those recommendations will not be acted upon for many years. I know that some of those should be implemented this year, in 1967.

The member for Durham has mentioned about the hospital facilities for elderly people. I know that the thinking of many people in this province—and the thinking, I think, of the majority of all the members of the committee on aging—is that facilities in hospitals,

or in nursing homes or in rest homes should be made available immediately to the senior citizens. I think everybody knows that those facilities do not exist at the present time, that there are too many of the senior citizens who cannot stay in hospitals because they are not eligible to remain in the hospital under the Ontario hospital services commission plan. There is no room for them in nursing homes, and the Lord knows when those rest homes will be available.

I know this is one of the recommendations that has been made by the select committee. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that those are things that should be done. There should be a crash programme in order to make those facilities available to elderly people.

I think, in speaking on this bill, that I would be remiss in my duties if I did not ask the government to act as quickly as possible on some of those recommendations, particularly on those recommendations on economic measures. The government of the province, I think, is waiting to see the implementation of various Acts passed by the federal government; but I think that something should be done at this session in order to give the elderly citizens of this province more facilities and more economic relief.

There is the question of housing. I think that statistics have proven that there are, at the present time, thousands of elderly citizens in this province who do not have proper housing. I know that the members of the committee on aging are aware of that fact. We have been in contact with the Ontario housing commission, and other government bodies, to find out why more facilities were not made available, particularly to the senior citizens. I know that my good friend, the member for Durham, being on the government side, will see to it that more housing is provided in 1967 for the senior citizens of this province.

I know the chairman of the committee has said so; and I am asking him now, not as chairman of the committee, but as a member of the government, to see that this is done. I think that, in this way, we can honour our senior citizens in giving them what they really should be getting. I think the leadership in that line has to come from the government.

I could go along in reading some of those recommendations, Mr. Speaker, but all I can say is that I do wish if this senior citizens week comes into being in June of this year, that everybody in this House will not forget that not only do we have to do something

for the senior citizens during the third week of June, but we have to do something for the senior citizens of this province for the 52 weeks of the year.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on Bill 19, we in the New Democratic Party support the idea of senior citizens week on the basis that we agree that something needs to be done for our senior citizens. Whether the idea is to set aside a week to honour them or not is a question. Maybe there are some more important things than this.

I was interested in our recommendations. We recommended 44 different recommendations in our report and I was actually a little surprised that the private member who sat as a member of that committee would pick on number 42. There are things in the report that would be more important to get done for our senior citizens than really worry too much in having a separate week set aside.

I agree with the member for Ottawa East; we should honour these people for the whole 52 weeks of the year. There is no doubt that the senior citizens are the people we have to thank for what we have here today. And as the member for Durham said, we will all be growing older and we will all be looking for some honour.

But I do feel, Mr. Speaker, that it is not the public that is at fault if we have to bring in a week for senior citizens. It is this government. When we look at what has been done for the older people in Ontario, we realize that the senior citizens have not had very much of a break. When we look at the problem in housing, the problem in health matters and the problem in pensions, it is really too bad that this government would sit back and allow this type of thing to go on as far as the senior citizens are concerned.

They are the group of people definitely entitled to a lot more than they have been getting, and I feel it is this government rather than the public as a whole that should be doing something for our senior citizens.

Of course, I will agree with the member for Durham that we should do all we can for our senior citizens. But I feel this basically is not the main thing we should be doing for the senior citizens in Ontario today. And if this government really wants to move and really help the senior citizens, they will do it on the basis of some of the more important recommendations in our select committee report.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the chairman of our select committee on aging on his very fine remarks here today. And I disagree with the remarks made by the hon. member for Ottawa East, in which he felt that recognition for a week did not constitute very much recognition.

I might say that Christmas is only celebrated one day, but nevertheless it has survived through the years. I do feel that honouring the aged for a period of one week will bring their needs to the attention of everyone to a greater extent than has been done until now.

I do feel that it is not just handouts that our elderly people want. It is not just housing, nor just material needs that they want, but I do feel that one thing that is equally important is for the rest of the people to show them the appreciation that we all should have for their sacrifices and achievements over the years.

I feel that the suggestions made by the hon. member for Durham would work toward that end. I believe if radio and press and different media adopted the policy of calling to the attention of all citizens, the contribution of our aged people through the years for one week during the year, that it would make us all much more aware and more conscious of what they have done. It would remind us to show appreciation which would not just last for that one week, but might extend throughout the year.

I know that in my own area, one service club, the Kinsmens club of Picton, won an award by just doing certain things for the aged people. And I can assure you that I have been their guest on the occasion of banquets and other events, and the joy that those people get, and the feeling of being recognized and appreciated, is worth a very great deal. And while I agree with the suggestions that a great many other things can be done, I nevertheless do want to express my approval and entire agreement with the suggestions that were made by the hon. member for Durham.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I am not going to take more than a minute. The volume of sacred law says honour thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God has given thee. It does not say honour today or one week or one day. It specifies no time limit. I think it is presumptuous on the part of the hon. member to introduce a bill in this House to vary the sacred scripture.

Mr. Speaker: The debate being concluded, this order of business is discharged from the order paper.

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Mr. R. D. Rowe (Northumberland) in the absence of Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton), moves second reading of Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the town of Burlington.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview) in the absence of Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South), moves second reading of Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

PETERBOROUGH RACING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Mr. R. G. Hodgson (Victoria) in the absence of Mr. K. Brown (Peterborough), moves second reading of Bill Pr18, An Act to incorporate Peterborough racing association limited.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

Mr. L. M. Hodgson (Scarborough East) in the absence of Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre), moves second reading of Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, Bill Pr29 deals with the right of the borough of Scarborough to control the sale of soft ice cream. Now, the borough of North York and the township of North York had the same bill last year and we approved of it. The borough of Scarborough asked for exactly the same thing this year and it will probably be approved of. The borough of Etobicoke is asking for the same thing and it will probably be approved of. I just do not know, Mr. Speaker, what sense there is at all when the principle is established when it is obvious that the original drafters of this legislation did not have in mind, and probably could not have had in mind, in the general section of The Municipal

Act, the invention of soft ice cream, when it was obvious as a result of representations of the township of North York a year ago, that there was a mistake. Why my good friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), did not at that time say "We are going to change the general legislation", I do not know. But no, he did not do that, so the bill went through the House and had Royal assent and now we have two more private bills, with all the expense involved, all the time of additional hearings.

Really, Mr. Speaker, all that is involved would be the changing of one phrase in one section of The Municipal Act to avoid all that fuss and bother and all the time of the Legislature. I just do not understand for the life of me, Mr. Speaker, the approach of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Before the motion is carried, Mr. Speaker, I hesitated to get up because I expected that the Minister of Municipal Affairs would rise to deal with the very reasonable point that the member for Downsview raised. It would seem to me he could settle the matter once and for all with about a two-sentence statement to the effect that the government will do this obvious and logical thing.

Apparently he is not prepared to say that, and I will merely say for our group that we concur entirely with what the member for Downsview has said. It is absolutely ridiculous that municipalities should have to go to all the trouble of coming here, and our own private bills committee should have to go to all the trouble of dealing with these matters a case at a time when all of them could be dealt with by one amendment to The Municipal Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE FORESTRY ACT

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests) moves second reading of Bill 27, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE SURVEYS ACT

Hon. Mr. Brunelle moves second reading of Bill 28, An Act to amend The Surveys Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE TREES ACT

Hon. Mr. Brunelle moves second reading of Bill 29, An Act to amend The Trees Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE CANCER ACT

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health) moves second reading of Bill 33, An Act to amend The Cancer Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves second reading of Bill 38, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, Bill 38 is not printed in our books. I think that is the bill that wants two more Supreme Court judges. I have no objection to it but again it is a breach of the regular proceedings of the House. It is not in the book.

Mr. Speaker: It is marked "printed" on the order paper.

Mr. Singer: It may be printed but nobody bothered to put it in the book.

Clerk of the House: It may not have arrived in time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Singer: If you had a legislative programme before the House you would not be stuck in a spot like this.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): What spot?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

THIRD READINGS

The following bills were given third readings upon motions:

Bill 1, An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill 3, An Act to amend The Agriculture and Food Act.

Bill 5, An Act to amend The County Judges Act.

Bill 6, An Act to amend The County Courts Act.

Bill 7, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Bill 25, An Act to amend The Commuter Services Act, 1965.

Bill 31, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Bill 32, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Bill 35, An Act to amend The Parks Assistance Act.

Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock.

Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the city of London.

Bill Pr23, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, the same point I made about the bill concerning the borough of Scarborough—here is the borough of Etobicoke with the same thing. Hopefully, maybe we can get the Minister of Municipal Affairs up on his feet to explain why we have to do things the hard way, the expensive way,

the slow way, the unobvious way—and why the government cannot do business in a proper businesslike manner.

Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will proceed with the estimates of the Provincial Secretary and thereafter the Departments of Economics and Development, the Attorney General, and Highways. I think thereafter I would like to have the two departments, The Department of Tourism and Information and The Department of Energy and Resources Management, to be added to the list.

I understand the weather is very bad and this might be an opportune time to move the adjournment of the House.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 5.50 of the clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 28, 1967
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to welcome as guests to the Legislature today, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, Essex Street public school, Toronto; Precious Blood separate school, Toronto; and in the west gallery, Odgen public school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills, presented the committee's seventh report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bill without amendment: Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments: Bill Pr28, An Act respecting the city of Hamilton; Bill Pr33, An Act respecting the borough of York; Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS CODE, 1961-1962

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Ontario Human Rights Code, 1961-1962.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the bill is simply to eliminate discrimination against children in the rental of accommodation.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we wish to make a statement in connection with the Ontario securities commission. I make this statement on behalf of the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) who, had he not been

absent through illness, would have made this statement himself.

It is with a feeling of regret that I, on behalf of the government, announce the resignation of J. R. Kimber, QC, as chairman of the Ontario securities commission. Mr. Kimber will become president of the Toronto stock exchange.

Mr. Kimber joined the securities commission as vice-chairman in 1962 and became chairman in the spring of 1964. He has made a significant and valued contribution to the role of the commission during his period in office, particularly in the investment field. Mr. Kimber has served on many committees in addition to his regular duties as chairman, and has played a large part in the research and development of legislation, especially with regard to the new Securities Act and the regulations thereunder.

While regretting the departure of Mr. Kimber, I am pleased to be able to announce that, effective March 15, three distinguished citizens will join the Ontario securities commission.

Mr. Henry E. Langford, QC, will succeed Mr. Kimber as Ontario securities commission chairman.

Mr. Gordon E. Grundy, FCA, will become the commission's first full-time vice-chairman, and **David S. Beatty** will join the commission as one of three part-time commissioners.

Ontario mining commissioner, **J. F. MacFarland** and Professor **John Willis** of the faculty of law, University of Toronto, will continue as part-time commissioners.

Mr. Langford, 63, has retired a year early as president of the Eastern and Chartered Trust Company to join the OSC. He has had a long and noteworthy career not only in business but in the law and public service.

A native of Toronto, Mr. Langford served as a wing commander with the Royal Canadian air force during World War II. Immediately after his wartime service, he served as an administrator with the wartime prices and trade board and joined the Eastern and Chartered Trust Company in 1945.

Mr. Langford is a member of the board of regents of Victoria University and the board

of governors at Queen Elizabeth hospital. He is a former chairman of the RCAF benevolent fund.

The OSC chairman-designate received his primary and secondary education in Alberta, is a commerce graduate of the University of Toronto and a graduate of Osgoode Hall law school.

Gordon E. Grundy, 55, resigned today as president and director of Studebaker Corporation, international automotive division and Studebaker of Canada, Limited. He was, from 1953 to 1958, president and general manager of Studebaker of Canada Limited at Hamilton.

Mr. Grundy's experience in business and finance dates back to the early thirties. He was educated at Halifax academy, Halifax, Nova Scotia; Dalhousie University and Queen's University. He was born in Toronto.

From 1941 to 1946 he was deputy chief, prices division of the wartime prices and trade board.

Mr. Grundy is a past president of the Hamilton children's aid society. He is a governor and chairman of the finance committee at McMaster University and a governor at Hillfield-Strathallan college in Hamilton.

David S. Beatty, 51, is a Toronto native with 35 years of experience in the investment business. This includes 28 years with Burns Brothers and Denton Ltd., where he is a former president and is presently in the process of severing his connection as deputy chairman of the company.

Mr. Beatty is a graduate of Upper Canada college, and currently serves as a governor of both Upper Canada college and Havergal college. During World War II, he served overseas as a major with the Royal Regiment of Canada.

He is president-elect of the united community fund of Metropolitan Toronto and a governor of the Ontario geriatrics research society. Mr. Beatty is a former president of the investment dealers association of Canada, and was a member of the board of governors at the Toronto stock exchange from 1955 until 1960.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add that Mr. Kimber will not be ending his connection with government service immediately. As you know, one of the important areas to which our government is giving attention is that of mutual funds. An inter-provincial committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Kimber, has been preparing a study and report on this subject.

At the request of the government, Mr. Kimber has agreed to carry on as a consultant for a period of six to eight weeks, in order that this research matter may be further advanced.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, with your usual unflinching courtesy you have permitted me to have copies of two publications placed on the desks of all hon. members. I suggest that both are worthy of their attention.

The first, *Ontario Mining at the Threshold of the New Century*, is the annual review of The Department of Mines for the calendar year, 1966. I think a statement I have made about this publication in other years will bear repetition, Mr. Speaker. It is just this, that to the best of my knowledge my department is unique in this or any other government in Canada in that it succeeds in producing so voluminous and comprehensive a report less than two months after the close of the year.

Now, I am not boastful about this because I do not prepare it, Mr. Speaker, but that is a real accomplishment in which members of my staff take a great deal of pride. I share their feeling and I recognize that the job has been accomplished only through a great deal of hard work and close cooperation among the several department officers concerned, and between the department and the mining industry.

I should like to extend my thanks to my colleague, the Minister of Energy and Resources Management and the members of his staff who contributed the section to the review, dealing with oil and gas developments.

The review is not specifically a Centennial project but in view of our country's 100th birthday, we have this year included some background historical data in several sections as well as the customary current information. This, I believe, should prove to be of some interest to readers. The same blending of history and current developments is incorporated in the cover design which is built around the Ontario Centennial medallion, a memento of this province's mineral industry in which many of our principal metals are incorporated.

The whole review is destined to be of maximum use as a reference work. As such, Mr. Speaker, I commend it to the attention of all hon. members with the suggestion that many of them will find it of real value at times when the attention of the House is focused on the mining industry.

The other publication, *The Golden Porcupine*, is one which would not normally be tabled here but since it was received from the printer at the same time as the review, it seemed appropriate to make the combined offer. This booklet is one of a series on the historical development of Ontario's mining industry and I think that my friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) will find it of some interest. I regret very much that he is not in his seat at the moment. But if you look near the back page, Mr. Speaker, you will see a handsome picture of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, when he was mayor of Timmins for four years. Unfortunately, we have not yet received enough copies of this book to give every member a copy but more will be available the first of next week and I will see that they are distributed to any members who do not get one today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the Ontario research foundation annual report for 1965.

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I want to call attention to a recognition of public service performed by one of our colleagues, the hon. member for Perth (Mr. Edwards).

The Ontario municipal electric association and the association of municipal electrical utilities of Ontario are at present holding their 58th annual meeting at the Royal York hotel. At the annual dinner this evening, a scroll will be presented by the chairman of Ontario Hydro, Mr. Gathercole, to the hon. member for Perth, honouring Mr. Edwards' 25 years of service as a member of the public utilities commission of Palmerston.

Mr. Speaker, credit must be given to the municipal electric utilities commissions of Ontario for their efficient operational methods and the effective role they play in the system of municipal administration of this province. The growing use of electricity by the customers of these municipal hydro systems is one indication of the good job they are doing.

The 25 years of faithful service of the hon. member for Perth, as a commissioner in Palmerston, represents for us in this House the kind of service being rendered to the electrical customers of 352 municipalities by their public utilities commissioners.

He has served at various times as chairman of his own commission and holds that position at the present time. He is also a past presi-

dent of district No. 6 of the Ontario municipal electric association and has been a member of the provincial executive of the OMEA.

It is a pleasure to pay tribute to the hon. member today and to acknowledge the wise counsel and faithful service which appears to have been well recognized by his fellow citizens in retaining his services in this important work in the municipality where he lives, for these two and a half decades.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Public Welfare.

When can we expect to come into force the provisions of the Act to provide benefits to persons and families in need, 1966, and other Acts relating to the implementation of the Canada assistance plan and already given Royal assent in the House?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the answer to that is "very soon."

Mr. Nixon: Supplementary to that, Mr. Speaker—and I do not want to extend too far into a debate in this matter, but there have been many inquiries from people concerned in this matter. Should we refer them to the Minister's department or just say — "very soon?" Some of them are getting rather edgy about this.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing is how comparatively few inquiries there have been in this field.

In the last few weeks our department has been very busy with the federal department in the finalization of the federal regulations, the agreements, so that when I say "very soon," I mean exactly that. In a very short time we will be in a position to bring these things into effect.

Mr. Nixon: Will the benefits be extended under the new plan, for those under disability, who had been receiving disability pensions and blind pensions? They will all get this extension?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The policy in that regard will form part of the announcement.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have three questions for the hon. Minister of Highways, notice of which have been given, but I am afraid that the questions were not prepared as I had wanted them to be and perhaps I can give the Minister notice.

The first question reads: How many reports of violations, breaches of contract and other irregularities have occurred in the past three years in connection with the construction of roads in Metropolitan Toronto?

My question, Mr. Speaker, should have been how many irregularities were reported in the years 1964 and 1963, and how many have been reported since the last session in 1965?

The second question reads: What changes has the department instituted in procedures for grants to the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto for road construction?

That is a rather broad question. It was meant to read: since the last session of the Legislature when I raised the issue in the House.

The third question: What repairs have been made to the superstructure of the bridge crossing the Humber River in Metropolitan Toronto?

It is not specific enough. It should be the Frederick Gardiner bridge crossing the Humber River, and it is: what repairs have been made to that bridge in the last few years?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, as the House is well aware, these questions will take considerable research and I will take them as notice and have the answers as soon as possible. However, I would like the hon. member to send me the questions as he wanted them answered, and maybe we could do that.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Education.

At what stage are the plans of The Department of Education for the erection of a UHF transmitter in Metro with satellite stations across the province to provide educational broadcasts?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, The Ontario Department of Education submitted what we refer to as a technical brief to The Department of Transport and this brief refers to channel 19 UHF here in the city of Toronto. This brief was accepted as the hon. member knows and as is customary, referred to the board of broadcast governors.

I appeared before the board myself, Mr. Speaker, some time, I believe, in October, 1966 when the question of UHF channel allocation was discussed with the board. Since that time, we understand, several considerations have been brought to the attention of

the board and I assume to the department, as they relate to the white paper on television broadcasting here in Canada. We understand that the board has recommended that channel 19 be reserved for educational purposes and that this recommendation has been accepted by The Department of Transport and that the reservation is still in effect.

We are awaiting, Mr. Speaker, some word from either the BBG or The Department of Transport as to how they intend to deal specifically with the allocation of channel 19. We have prepared a further technical brief for The Department of Transport and the BBG relating to other areas in the province on a predetermined range basis and this material is in the process of submission to the BBG.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs. He is not here. I could direct it to the hon. Minister of Economics and Development, I suppose.

Would the Minister tell the House what action if any he intends to take on a complaint of Mr. A. E. Diamond, president of Cadillac Development Corporation Limited:

Government red tape has been the main factor in pushing the cost of vacant Metro land from \$6,000 an acre in 1959, to \$27,000 an acre today, an increase of \$21,000.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister will take that as notice. Will the member go ahead with his other question?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I have a couple of questions for the Minister of Health.

Will the Minister tell the House what action, if any, he intends to take to help the \$12 million Scarborough Centenary hospital open its doors to the public this September?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, the hospital services commission is dealing with this matter on a continuing basis and is in close touch with the hospital concerned. There has been no stoppage in construction owing to problems of financing and plans for equipping and furnishing the building are proceeding. Every effort is being made to assist the hospital to complete the financing of its share of the capital cost so that the hospital will be in readiness for the scheduled opening date.

The executive committee of OHSC last week had arranged to meet with the representatives of the board of this hospital in question this afternoon, and I feel that out

of that meeting will come some guidance and counsel for the board which will help them.

Mr. Sargent: Will the Minister of Health tell the Legislature what action, if any, he intends to take on the complaints by the Ontario society of radiological technicians that unqualified radiological technicians working for hospitals, doctors and chiropractors, pose a health threat to patients and themselves?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: The only information I have concerning this question is a report in today's newspaper and therefore I can only say that it is hearsay evidence. But it is our understanding that this report is of a meeting which the radiological technicians had with the committee on the healing arts who made these statements. The subject is under review, of course, by the committee on the healing arts and I have arranged that I shall meet with representatives of the board of this organization to get more specific information on the statements they made.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Scarborough West asked a question yesterday with regard to the registered letter which the Minister received from the attendance staff of the Ontario hospital, North Bay.

The answers are:

Under unified nursing service all nurses' aides and attendants are responsible to the director of nursing.

A unified nursing service does not increase the work load of attendants but permits a better organization of nursing services and more effective utilization of male and female nursing staff toward the hospital.

Four out of 14 regional mental hospitals have a fully unified nursing service. Six out of the remaining ten are now in the process of unifying their nursing services.

Since this administrative policy was determined by The Department of Health five years ago we propose to go forward with the programme. As happens in every case every assistance and consideration will be given the staff at North Bay to effect the changeover.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day are called, could the Minister of Economics and Development indicate when he intends to reveal the contents of the proposals on the Malvern project from his department to the council of Scarborough on the three dates which he mentioned some time ago?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I have asked our people to get that to me. They

have been busy getting ready for the estimates. I presume they have not got it but I will make sure the member gets it. I will question them again today and see if it is available.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There is a report on the front page of the first edition of the Toronto *Telegram* today, respecting an alleged company law select committee report. The report in the newspaper goes on to indicate what the select committee of the Legislature on company law will report to the Legislature when it makes its report. As chairman of that committee, Mr. Speaker, I would merely like to point out to the House that the newspaper report is incorrect, premature, unauthorized, and completely speculative.

If I may add my own personal opinion may I say that I think the current jockeying of some members of the press gallery in this House, in respect of these select committee reports, is doing a great disservice to the members of this House and destroys the purpose that some of us are trying to achieve.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: Fifth order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND CITIZENSHIP (Concluded)

On vote 1707:

Mr. Chairman: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, when the committee rose yesterday I was in the course of remarking about the necessity for this assembly to establish, by way of amendment to The Legislative Assembly Act, certain more up-to-date rules relating to the question of conflict of interest in which members of this assembly may be placed. If I may briefly review my comments before concluding them, I drew to the attention of the assembly that it is this Legislature which will be passing any conflict of interest provisions related to officers or directors of corporations, with respect to the municipal councils of the province of Ontario and, I assume, in due course, with respect to the executive officers of the Crown, and with respect to the members of the civil service.

I do not see how it can possibly be a matter which we can any longer delay in giving consideration to this specific question of conflict of interest; and it seemed to me most appropriate that we should first start by review and study of the elements which enter into a consideration of a conflict of interest so far as it relates to members of this assembly. I had pointed out that the law as it presently stands, as stated in The Legislative Assembly Act, is rudimentary and dates back to the last century. It does not have very much application to the specific type of conflict of interest problem which is peculiarly a problem of this century, in the sense that it is a matter which we can deal with by legislation.

I had also drawn attention to section 8 of the statute which appears on its face to prohibit anyone from being qualified to sit in this assembly or to vote if he is a member of any board or commission, or holds any office of employment in the service, either of the government of Canada, or the government of this province. But the section then proceeds to make various exceptions to that prohibition, and goes on to provide that membership on certain specific types of boards by a member of this assembly is not permitted. It left open the wide number of boards and agencies and commissions of this government for membership by members of the assembly and I, for one, think that this is one area which requires serious consideration to determine what the distinction is, which, on the one hand, disqualifies a person if he sits on particular boards but on the other hand does not affect his qualification as a member of the assembly if he does sit on certain other boards. I gave one or two of the many examples which we could find in the legislative assembly.

The statute, Mr. Chairman, then goes on to provide—

Mr. Chairman: I was wondering if the member for Riverdale will recall that I questioned whether or not this should come under vote 1707. It seems to me that this should be an amendment to The Legislative Assembly Act. I do not really believe it comes under our vote 1707 from the standpoint of supplying funds for this particular vote.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I felt we had dealt with that yesterday. I am not proposing a specific amendment, I am proposing that the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) should consider, since this particular vote is related to The Legislative Assembly Act, the question of studying the whole area of conflict

of interest of the members of the assembly. I do not intend to provide any amendment.

If I knew what the answers were to the problems, then it might well be possible that we could propose an amendment. What I am proposing is that the area of conflict of interest which members may run into is one which deserves attention and consideration before any amendment can be drafted. Mr. Chairman will recognize that the member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) the other day introduced a bill in connection with conflict of interest so far as municipal officials were concerned.

Mr. Chairman: That properly came under the Budget Debate at the time that the member for St. George spoke.

Mr. Renwick: Yes, but he attempted by way of an amendment to deal with this problem and the debate immediately showed that it was not possible simply to introduce an amendment to a bill which would answer the question. What I am asking the Provincial Secretary to do, Mr. Chairman, is to institute a study of this whole area. I do not intend to labour my remarks at any great length. I want to finish them off and complete the areas which I believe should be of concern. I think one of the areas, where it is very important that a study be made, is in addition to being whether a person who is a member of this assembly should or should not be a member of any board, commission or agency. I think it is then necessary to ascertain whether or not members of this assembly should represent anyone who has any dealings whatsoever with any of the boards, commissions and agencies of the province.

I think this raises very important and serious questions for the members of the assembly. I think it is also necessary that, if it is decided that members of the assembly should sit on such boards, there should be provisions specifically in the statute providing for a declaration of interest and a refraining from voting in any of the affairs of the boards, agencies or commissions on which they sit, in matters which may come before them and which they have directly or indirectly, an economic interest of some kind.

This is peculiarly, of course, of interest to those members of the assembly who happen to be lawyers by profession and I would like to draw to the attention of the House what the traditional provisions of the statute have been and suggest that again this area requires much broader and wider consideration and study. Section 40 of the statute prohibits any

member from receiving any compensation with respect to any bill or resolution which comes before the assembly but does not contain any prohibition against members of the assembly representing or promoting persons who appear before boards, agencies or commissions of the government.

Section 41 then goes on similarly to preclude any person who is a barrister or solicitor, and is a partner of a member of the assembly, from similarly receiving any compensation. I think, because of the representational nature of a lawyer's business in many spheres, that this particular area requires special consideration to determine what the statutory rules should be so far as government boards, agencies and commissions, are concerned, what the consideration should be which determines whether or not a person who is a member of this assembly, and is a lawyer or anybody related to him in the practice of the profession—what is the area in which he can in a proper way represent persons or promote issues before those boards and commissions.

I am simply saying, Mr. Chairman, that the legislation is obsolete. I am drawing it to the attention of the Provincial Secretary. I think it is obsolete, I think it is weak, I think it is poorly drafted. It may have been adequate at one time or another to cover questions of qualification. It may be in some instances adequate so far as voting or representation on boards and commissions or agencies of the government are concerned, but in many areas it requires an individual study. I would ask the Provincial Secretary if he would seriously take under consideration the institution of such a study.

My suggestion is that it should be done in two parts: One should be a historical survey of what the legislative history of these particular sections is, what their ancestry is, what experience of what court decisions or other decisions have been made with respect to their application. As a second part of it I would suggest that a confidential questionnaire or interview system be adopted to discuss with the members of the assembly as presently constituted, and members of other assemblies, specifically what they as members do in the interests of promoting the interest of their own constituents and in other interests which they may have, on the understanding that the information would be confidential to the Provincial Secretary. But it would provide him with the kind of basic information which, I believe, would enable a report to be made envisaging statutory enactments of certain standards of conduct

by members of the assembly, to avoid this question of conflict of interest and to provide in some way for an adequate understanding of what the rights and responsibilities are of a member in his public office, as distinct from any private interests which he may have.

I think the area could also well include, as I mentioned yesterday, this whole question of gifts, be they small or otherwise, which members of the assembly from time to time undoubtedly have proffered to them. The importance is twofold, it is not only to avoid the conflict of interest problem, but it is to make certain that people who are considering entering public life should have a clear understanding of what the disabilities of public office may be.

I would hope that we would avoid any suggestion by having such a thorough and complete study, that this problem can be answered simply by some form of exhortatory code of ethics to which we could all make some obeisance from time to time; but that rather such a study would provide a method by which amendments to this statute or a separate statute could be devised to provide for statutory rules of conduct, and what the sanctions should be to enforce those standards of conduct.

Once that were done, Mr. Chairman, I think it would be very important that the same area be reviewed so far as it relates to the Ministers of the Crown and other senior officers of the government and the senior members of the boards, commissions and agencies of the government as well as the general members of the civil service of Ontario. From there it may then be possible, after those studies have been completed, to deal adequately with the question which the member for St. George raised in connection with municipal officers and what their standards of conduct should be.

I would ask that the Provincial Secretary would either take this under consideration immediately, or that he would indicate that he is not going to take it under consideration, so that on other occasions we could press upon him the necessity of such a study.

Mr. Chairman, I say it falls peculiarly within the ambit of this particular Minister and I think he would be well qualified to institute such a study.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Riverdale has raised three particular questions under this vote: one to do with the organization of the standing committees and the staff which is

there required—and I listened with some interest with respect to this. As he knows, for the past three sessions we have had civil servants who have acted as secretaries to these standing committees, and they do not receive any extra remuneration for this. This, plus the staffs which are invited to the various committees, depending on the department which is being considered.

As I understand the organization of matters here, the function of the Legislature and the standing committees of the Legislature would come under the office of the Speaker and as far as the allocation of staff to these committees and so on is concerned, I would feel then that it would follow that the Speaker might well assume the responsibility as to these needs.

If memory serves me correctly, there was some reference yesterday at the close of the consideration of these estimates, to a meeting of one of the standing committees—was it education and university affairs or was this perhaps just an example? It was my understanding that committee was in fact planning to meet this week, although I would assume now notices would be out about it.

The other matter—and this is one which I have found very interesting: the comments in connection with the proposed amendments to The Legislative Assembly Act or the proper notation as to that Act, qualifications of members and conflict of interest and other related factors. This, of course, would have to follow in due course as a government policy matter, the consideration of this and all legislation as it would emanate.

I can assure the member that I have followed his comments with a great deal of interest and would be very pleased indeed to give the matter some consideration following the consideration of these estimates, to see what in fact might be the proper course of action, and in due course to make whatever recommendations might suggest themselves to my colleagues on the government by way of follow-up.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, I would just bring to your attention once more a very small technical problem that faces us in connection with the estimates.

The books in which these estimates are printed are rather difficult to handle on our desks. We have to turn them upside down, otherwise they do not stay open at the place we want. Last year I suggested to the House and to the Minister, that we might have these books published with rings on them. At that time, the Minister thought it was a good

idea. As a matter of fact, the Minister of Municipal Affairs made one available to me for last year. This year when the books appeared this way, I sent a note over to the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, and asked what had happened to our idea. He immediately said, "Send your book over, I have a book which will open, which I can put on my desk and which is a very usable instrument."

Now, I call again the attention of the Minister to this very practical way of handling the estimate book. No doubt it was lost in the shuffle of Ministry. We hope there will not be another shuffle in the next few weeks—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): There will be, they are all going to be out.

Mr. Young: —although there will be, we hope, before the next 12 months have occurred. So this Minister perhaps cannot do too much about it. But if the House has this in mind over the next 12 months, I would expect that this improvement can be brought into effect.

I call it to this Minister's attention so that he can initiate it and perhaps we can carry it through when the time comes.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I have a question to ask the hon. Minister. I think it comes under this vote.

May I ask him what are the regulations regarding the use of the crest of the province of Ontario—we will say, on menus for banquets or other social events?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, would you tell me which vote you are discussing this under?

Mr. Whicher: Under stationery.

Mr. Chairman: I do not know of anything under this vote that deals with the provincial crest.

Mr. Whicher: Well it deals with stationery, including printing paper, printing bills, printing and binding. I have a very good reason for asking the question.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, the Provincial Secretary provides under this particular vote the stationery allowances of members of the legislative assembly, and in the exercise of their responsibilities as members of the Legislature, they provide them with letterheads with the crest of the province of Ontario in dealing with their constituents.

You made some reference to a menu, which of course is to go back to the main office

vote where we talk about the hospitality fund. During the course of the year at these various functions, which are in fact sponsored by the government of Ontario, a menu is produced with the provincial crest on it, to indicate the fact that the government of Ontario is the host.

Mr. Chairman: I am sorry, Mr. Minister, I would have to rule any discussion in connection with the main vote out at this time.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, I was only attempting to be of some assistance.

As far as any policy laid down, I would think, to revert to the particular vote which we have under consideration, that we would assume that such pieces of stationery as are used by members of the Legislature in their elected function could carry with them the crest of the province of Ontario.

If I am not answering the question exactly as the member would hope, I would be only too happy to get some further information for him, if there is some other information he requires. I would like to have the question worded again more specifically as to the particular type of document to which he is making reference.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, under item 2 there is one suggestion that I would like to bring to the attention of the Provincial Secretary, having to do with the difficulty that some of the members of the House experience in returning to their own constituencies on personal or public business. Perhaps I am speaking more for the member for Kenora than anyone else here. I was talking to him the other day when he was leaving for home by train and I believe he would have to be two nights on the train and the days in between. I was very sympathetic to the difficulties that he and other members who live a great distance from the capital here in Toronto experience as they move about on their constituency business.

It seems to me that since Confederation we have been provided with access to rail transportation as members of the Legislature. This was for any member anywhere in the province. The time, I believe, has now come when we should have access to air transportation, not that we would have a pass to allow us to go anywhere in the province, but for the convenience of those members who live a great distance from Toronto. It seems ridiculous that they should have to travel by train when what they usually do is simply abandon the rail pass and use their own

funds to fly in order to make the many trips back and forth from their constituency to Toronto.

I would think that this pass could be of a rather restricted type, and that those people who would be served by the flight from Malton to London would have that transportation available to them, the people in the Windsor area would have it, and the same is true of Ottawa, North Bay, Sudbury, the Lakehead and points north. I offer this—

Mr. Bryden: What about the Lands and Forests charter service?

Mr. Nixon: Maybe there is some way that they can do it that way, but surely it would be preferable if something could be worked out with Air Canada, so that the members of this Legislature who have long distances to travel in the service of their constituencies would have this provided just as we now have rail transportation provided.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Perhaps I could comment by saying that I appreciate the spirit in which the last comment was made, and certainly it is something that perhaps could be taken under consideration.

As a matter of clarifying the policy as I understand it now, any privileges we have on the railway are a matter of courtesy of the railways and not necessarily as a matter of right because of our membership in this House. There is something which—

Mr. Nixon: Perhaps you could negotiate the same courtesy here.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Perhaps on some restricted basis. I think perhaps we will take this under consideration now that you have mentioned it.

The other matter that should be pointed out here is that as part of the expense allowance, or however you want to describe it, there is a mileage allowance given to each member of the Legislature, calculated I think on the basis of 15 round trips per year at ten cents per mile. It may be that in thinking about this and seeing what amounts are involved, we can perhaps make some arrangements for the allocation of that expense allowance. Of course, there is the additional \$3,000 or \$4,000, depending on whether you are in Toronto or out of Toronto with respect to expense allowances, too.

Mr. Nixon: The hon. Minister of Education gets that one.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Thank you.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would like to raise a point with regard to item 8 under this vote. It is described as being for legislative art purposes and the sum involved is \$2,000. I would like to ask the hon. Minister what that \$2,000 is for?

Hon. Mr. Welch: I am glad that has been asked because I thought that was a reasonable question. I would have been very disappointed if it had not been asked.

I understand that a somewhat arbitrary sum in the amount of \$2,000 is set in the estimates each year for this purpose, which places us in funds for each Parliament to produce this composite membership picture of the Parliament.

It also provides the fund necessary to provide a painting of the Speaker at the end of each Parliament, and of course some of the recent pictures which we have accumulated in the Prime Minister's office of the recent Prime Ministers of Ontario, I think have come from this fund as well.

It is sort of a progressive building up of the amounts that would be necessary to provide these particular matters, and whether or not they are in fact legislative art will be a value judgment which I will have to leave unanswered.

Mr. Bryden: Well Mr. Chairman, I have no objection to the steady accumulation of these various rogues galleries which is a tradition and I see nothing wrong with it, but from the Minister's explanation, can I be assured that the government is no longer in the business of purchasing art?

The reason I ask this is that I suppose that the government of Ontario is the custodian of what could only be described as the world's greatest collection of bad art. This came from policies over the years. I think the Legislature used to have a select committee on art and over the years; I would imagine that anybody who had a painting that he could not dispose of in any other way probably considered that this committee was the place to send it.

Of course the committee was human. It made mistakes from time to time, and as a result the government does have in its possession a small number of meritorious works of art. These represent the mistakes of the committee, but—

Mr. Chairman: I think I should remind the member for Woodbine that that is not before us.

Mr. Bryden: Well, it could be. I am just hoping that this policy has been totally discontinued and that we are not now considering that we are competent to purchase works of art from our artists in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Welch: It is my understanding that there have been no purchases to which the member makes reference for a number of years. There was, in fact, a committee, and I think at one time there was a member of the Legislature several years ago who took a particular interest in this matter, but for the last number of years the money allocated by this vote has been for the purposes which I have just mentioned, and those only.

Mr. Bryden: Who is the custodian of the collection that was accumulated over the years? Does that come under this department or is that under Public Works?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Under The Department of Public Works.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, since they have taken some of the paintings and I guess you would call it renovated them—brought them up to date in many cases and varnished the faces of them, as you have noticed through the halls—I understand that in some places in these buildings there are many works of art that are not exposed to the public. If that is so, why are they up in the attic and not somewhere where they can be seen?

Mr. Chairman: I should say to the member for Niagara Falls that I have ruled discussion on this out of order under this Minister. It would properly come under the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell).

Vote 1707 agreed to.

On vote 1708:

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, under 1708 I would ask the Minister if it is still the practice to require a recommendation from the sitting member in an area before a printer can have access to a bid on a public order? If that is so, why is it that there is such a hesitancy to put this up for public tender? There must be a lot of printing that goes out from the government on the various committees.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I think the better way to describe the policy at the moment is that the Queen's printer relies on the member in the particular area where the printer is located to assist him with respect to the

type of shop and the responsibility of the printer. I think it should be kept in mind that the Queen's printer as such has no staff to go out and meet with people in Ontario and to assess their ability to look after the contracts of printing that there are.

As you know, all contracts, I think I am correct in saying that all contracts for printing over the sum of \$1,000 must, in fact, be tendered publicly and there is an invitation tender with respect to this. The Queen's printer allocates his printing on a very open basis insofar as the whole province is concerned, relying to a large extent on the recommendation of the member. I should not really use the word "recommendation"—on the nomination of the member. I understand, for instance that if there was a printer in the riding of the leader of the Opposition who wanted to do business with the Queen's printer, he would write directly to the Queen's printer or to his member and then he would be sent a sheet of some kind on which he would spell out the various types of equipment and the type of printing that he is equipped to do, the stationery supplies which he is prepared to perform and so on. It is a very routine matter. Then the Queen's printer, as orders come up, provides the opportunity for these printers to do this type of work.

Mr. Nixon: Do I understand that this whole approved list gets access to the tender on each order, or do you send it out to a special list as different jobs come up?

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes, I think we would have to be very clear on that. It all depends on the type of job. I understand that the printing trade in this province has changed a great deal. For instance, there is far more offset work being done now than press printing, if I am using the right word.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Letterpress.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Letterpress, yes, letterpress as opposed to offset printing, and a lot would depend on what this report or sheet would have on it as to the type of equipment any particular printer would have. There would be certain types of coloured work.

In other words, what I am trying to say is that each job would really have to be assessed on its own, the type of professional and trade training that would be needed and then an assessment of those who are on the Queen's printer's list who could do this. Then the invitations would go to these people who could handle the job to tender on the particular job.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, since this question has been opened up, there is one phase I would like to raise with the Minister. We have had it out many times in the past with previous Provincial Secretaries, all without success. Now that we have a new one there, perhaps there is a chance for some rationality to be introduced into this matter.

I am referring specifically to the age-old practice, a heritage of political patronage of the past, whereby a printer cannot get his name on the list unless he has a nomination or a recommendation or whatever the Minister wishes to call it, from the local member.

Does the Minister really think that that serves any useful purpose at all? I am suggesting to him that it serves none. Speaking for myself, and I would suggest for the overwhelming majority of members in this House, I am not qualified to pass technically on the competence of a printer or on the kind of equipment he has in his shop or even on his credit rating. I will tell the Minister quite frankly that whenever a printer in my constituency has gone to the Queen's printer to get on the list and then has come to me asking for a letter, I write the letter as a matter of course.

As far as I am concerned, I think the printers in my constituency have as much right to be on the list as anybody else. I can assure him that in my case, and I suspect in the case of a great many members, perhaps all the members or nearly all, the fact that I write the letter is no guarantee to the Queen's printer as to the competence, the qualifications, the adequacy of the equipment or the credit rating of the printer. No guarantee at all. All it certifies is that the printer does, in fact, have a shop in my constituency.

I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this practice is really a heritage of an earlier and less desirable day in Canadian politics when printers and others did not get any government business unless they were *persona grata* with the party in power. They would have to indicate by financial contribution and in other ways that they were good supporters of the government in power. To the victors went the spoils. That was the old attitude. That is where it comes from.

Hon. Mr. Welch: The member is not suggesting that that is being done now?

Mr. Bryden: I am not suggesting it is, but I am suggesting it is a vestige of an old era and it is completely pointless. It still retains the aura of the old patronage system. I am suggesting to the Minister that he ought to

cut it out. It is plainly ridiculous and I do not see why it carries on. I am suggesting to him—I am not asking him for an answer right now—but I am suggesting that there is no reason in it at all. If he would think it over I think he might agree there is none and would cut out the practice.

Votes 1708 to 1710, inclusive, agreed to.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, before you declare that the estimates of this department have been completed, I think it has now become pretty well established that, after the completion of the specific votes of the Minister's department but before the estimates are declared completed, we can discuss any boards or commissions for which the Minister is responsible. Now, this Minister is responsible for the liquor control board and the liquor licence board, and there are certain matters that I would like to raise in connection with those boards. Maybe there are also matters that other members would like to raise, and I am wondering if it would be proper for me to do so now.

Mr. Chairman: I think under the circumstances that I must declare the estimates before us as completed. If the Minister wishes to make an undertaking in connection with other boards or commissions, it is up to him now. But this completes the estimates that are before us.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Yes, Mr. Chairman. If we could conclude these particular estimates, I would be very happy at a time to be appointed by the House leader, to have the advisors for both these boards and follow the usual custom in having this type of discussion here.

Mr. Bryden: Well, the practice that has been growing in the past few years has been that they appear immediately after the estimates. I do not know whether it is before or after the Chairman declares the estimates completed, but it is more or less as a continuation of the estimates.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Well, perhaps we could set a day for that.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I do not know what arrangements the hon. member for Woodbine made with the Provincial Secretary. Were any arrangements made?

Mr. Bryden: In answer to that, Mr. Chairman, I made no arrangements because I was relying on what I think has become the regular practice in the past few years.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We can arrange a time for it and I am sure that would be satisfactory to the Minister. I would think that would meet the needs of the situation. No arrangements had been made, but if that is to go on, then we will arrange for a time when the appropriate representatives of whatever commissions or committees are involved, can be present, and we will do that.

Now, we were to go on with the estimates of The Department of Economics and Development, but a situation has developed, and with the permission of the House I would like to move the adjournment of the House for ten minutes, if I may?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House for ten minutes.

Motion agreed to.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Chairman, early in January each member was given a copy of a nine-page report on some of the new construction and reconstruction carried out in 1966 up until the end of December. Some statistics which have been prepared since that time expressly for the benefit of the members today are indicative of the scale of improvement and expansion of the King's highway system effected during the 1966-67 fiscal year.

Before the end of the 1966 calendar year, some 435 miles of hot-mix asphalt pavement had been laid and, in concrete, the equivalent of nearly 60 miles of 24-foot pavement. In addition, 150 miles were resurfaced and 75 bridges completed. With that impressive score sheet as background, I shall now briefly summarize some aspects of the programme, these, of course, being only representative of the hundreds of projects that were either carried forward, completed or initiated in 1966.

On the Macdonald-Cartier freeway a high volume of work was much in evidence. Within Metro Toronto two additional sections totalling nine miles are being reconstructed to 12 lanes, most of which mileage will be opened this year and the balance in 1968. On the new 25-mile section being constructed as a four-lane unit on a new alignment north of the present route between Gananoque and Brockville, the work is right on schedule. All contracts for grading the entire route had been awarded by the year's end, plus a contract for paving of the first 11.5 miles easterly from Gananoque.

In southwestern Ontario, where all four lanes of the Macdonald-Cartier freeway have been in service since 1965, the emphasis was on increasing the safety factor through greater control of access, achieved by the construction of additional overpasses and interchanges for intersecting roads.

Also in the 400 series of freeways, the opening of the 6.75 mile long Brantford bypass section of Highway 403 in October brought the many benefits of a controlled-access, multi-lane expressway that extends from one city limit of Brantford to the other and passes through it rather than around it.

Major work was carried out on the Queen Elizabeth Way at many points. Examples were the completion of the widening to six lanes from the Mississauga Road, west of Highway 10, westerly for 5.5 miles; the construction of new interchanges in the Niagara peninsula and, near the western limits of Metro Toronto, the beginning of work on the reconstruction and expansion of this key artery to ten lanes from Royal York Road westerly to Highway 27, preparatory to the new interchange complex planned for that junction.

The final link on the Ottawa Queensway, between Concord Street and Hurdman's bridge was opened in October.

The excellent progress made on the first major contract awarded for roadway construction of the Kitchener-Waterloo expressway has been such that the two south lanes of the first section, that is, from Block Line Road to First Avenue, as well as the service roads parallel to it over this distance, are now in service.

The continuing programme to widen Highway 11 to four lanes from Orillia northerly went forward without interruption and on schedule, a highlight being the construction of a new structure at Severn Bridge, in addition, the widening of another 4.5 miles northerly from Severn Bridge was completed in October.

The volume of work completed on the Quinte skyway, more particularly paving of the bridge deck in the latter half of the year, will make possible opening of this great project this summer.

In northern and northwestern Ontario, apart from the main route of the trans-Canada highway, work was in evidence on a great number of King's highways. In the accelerated programme to complete the new Sudbury-Timmins road, King's Highway 144, grading contracts covering 62 miles of the route had been awarded by the year's end,

with construction being pushed forward from both ends of the route.

One of the most significant highway completions in 1966 was the opening to traffic of the new 80-mile link on Highway 101 between Highway 129, south of Chapleau, and Wawa—and thus, the Lake Superior route section of trans-Canada Highway 17—thereby providing several new combinations of circle tour routes, so popular with tourists.

As the result of the acceleration of the programme to reconstruct secondary Highway 614, work on the first nine miles southerly from Manitouwadge was completed before the end of the year. The initial contract for construction of the Lakehead expressway to serve Port Arthur-Fort William was likewise completed.

Still progressing westerly, a substantial volume of work was carried out on Highway 105—which links the mining area of Red Lake with trans-Canada Highway 17—the final contracts required for reconstruction of the entire route having been awarded by the end of 1966. On another highway where a programme of reconstruction has been accelerated, Highway 71, grading of nine miles from Nestor Falls southerly was completed in September, at which time a paving contract for this section was awarded and, as well, a contract for reconstruction of an additional nine miles southerly from the southern limits of the former contract.

On the main route of the trans-Canada highway, reconstruction or the construction of new mileage was under way in 1966 over sections totalling some 50 miles. Among some of the projects completed during the year were: seven miles in the Keewatin-Kenora area; 12 miles in the vicinity of English River on Highway 17 between Kenora and the Lakehead; and a six-mile section of Highway 69 between Hayes Corners, south of Parry Sound, and Gordon Bay.

One of the largest projects on which work was begun was the reconstruction of a section of Highway 17 in the vicinity of Montreal River, north of Sault Ste. Marie, much of which will follow an improved alignment. A notable bypass placed in service was the 12.5 mile one around Beaverton for traffic using either trans-Canada Highway 12 or Highway 48.

Sketchy as this summary has been in the interest of brevity, it does nevertheless portray something of the way in which the department has, in carrying out the largest budget to date, spread the work equitably over all

parts of this province on the basis of priority of need.

In the estimates addresses on behalf of this department in recent years, the members have been given a great deal of detail with respect to the area highway planning studies which The Department of Highways has had under way for several years now. Without repeating anything on the highly-sophisticated procedures that have been evolved for the purpose, it could be said that each such study results in a projection of highway needs over the next 20 years, a system of priorities—with immediate, intermediate and long-term staging—and estimated costs.

By now the formal type of presentation of the recommendations that has been made following the completion of five of these area studies has given the members in the ridings affected first-hand knowledge of what is involved, and the thoroughness with which the related techniques are carried out. Accordingly, I propose today, in dealing with this all-important topic, to simply make an up-to-date report on the current situation.

The present expectation is that it will be possible for the department's planning branch, more particularly the traffic and planning studies division, to complete in the calendar year no less than six more such regional or area studies.

Before listing these in the name-style or form of identification used by departmental personnel, it should be noted that the studies cover a territory much greater than the name indicates, some names being chosen either because the cities concerned are the largest within the study area or are central to it. For example, the Brantford one embraces some 1,500 square miles.

With that preamble, these studies are known as: Brantford area; Toronto area north-east; upper Ottawa valley; Peterborough area; Kingston area and the Simcoe area. In addition, work will be continued on three others known as Kitchener-Waterloo; Lake Huron-Georgian Bay; and the Muskoka-Parry Sound area study.

It is planned to start work this summer on the 15th such study, identified as the Sudbury-North Bay one. Every part of the province in which there is King's highway mileage will be examined in the course of this programme and, according to the segments into which the balance of Ontario has been tentatively divided up till now, there will then remain only five more such studies to be done to complete this ambitious undertaking.

In carrying out these area highway planning studies, roads and streets in the larger urban centres are not studied, the department relying instead on the municipalities to collect the data required in carrying out their own urban transportation studies. A primary objective is to prepare a transportation plan tied in to projected development over a 20-year period; in addition, road construction priorities are established and costs estimated.

To be effective, these studies must have as their foundation land-use studies based on the latest techniques. The department has encouraged these urban transportation studies—usually conducted by consulting engineers—in every way possible from the beginning, subsidizing 75 per cent of the cost, and providing technical assistance where requested.

From the circumstance that once the department has completed an area highway planning study, the next stage is to meet and discuss with the municipalities concerned how their road plans can best be integrated with ours. The importance of the urban transportation studies should be obvious from that standpoint alone, not to mention the many other advantages accruing to the municipalities. It is, therefore, most encouraging to report that as of January of this year, 42 municipalities had either completed or were undertaking such studies.

The way in which the urban transportation studies and the department's own area highway planning studies are linked so effectively is an excellent illustration of a most practical application of the "total roads concept" proclaimed so frequently by my predecessor. For the record, let me say here that I subscribe whole-heartedly to that same concept and endorse it as fundamental to the department's planning.

In September, each member was provided with a copy of the publication entitled *County Roads in Ontario*, this being a report prepared by the municipal roads division of this department, summarizing the findings of the comprehensive individual needs studies which the counties had been carrying out from 1963 onward.

With each passing month the positive results which can be seen as the counties move toward the further implementing of the recommendations flowing from their own studies—that is, the adoption of the desirable county road systems thus determined—grow in their dimensions, to the great benefit of regional road networks generally. Here again, we see notable progress in the direction of a "total roads concept".

Over and above this most favourable development, publication of the County Roads in Ontario report has created interest in and been requested from many quarters in the United States and much farther away. It is being requested for guideline purposes and appears to be a landmark in its field.

As indicated in last year's estimates address, The Department of Highways began on its own, in the fall of 1965, a most comprehensive research project to evaluate the effectiveness of inhibitors for reducing the corrosive effects on motor vehicles of salt used in winter maintenance operations. The tests, which will continue until May, 1967, involve an all-out attempt to assess the relative significance of simple atmospheric corrosion—which occurs in any case—in comparison with the damage caused by the salt, and the reduction in damage which could be expected by adding inhibitors to the salt.

Tests are being made both on traffic simulators outside the department's laboratories at Downsview, and also on departmental vehicles in different parts of the province. In a further effort to make the research project as complete as possible, and through the cooperation of the other provincial governments concerned, similar samples of motor vehicle steel have been installed on vehicles being operated by the highways departments of the provinces of Alberta, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The wide range in climatic conditions found in this group of provinces is such that the total test experience will, it is hoped, be sufficiently broad to be representative of Canada as a whole.

While it will not be possible to reach firm conclusions until the end of the test in May of this year, it may be stated at this juncture that the testing to date has established that atmospheric corrosion—which occurs independently of the use of salt—is a highly significant factor.

A preliminary analysis of the data will be available this July and the full report by late fall of 1967.

The importance of the corrosion tests can be appreciated equally by the members and the public at large, for both of whom they have what might be termed instant appeal. However, this happens to be only one of several current research projects now being carried out by the department's research branch. Others, some of which are of a less tangible nature, are these:

Studies of the ways in which the highway programme can assist the development of

areas in which the economic activity is lagging behind the rest of the province;

Studies to develop more accurate methods of predicting the type and volume of highway traffic that will result from the expected growth of tourism in coming years;

Study of methods of eliminating or minimizing the transverse cracking of flexible pavements so prevalent in the parts of the province that experience extreme cold;

Analytical and field studies to develop improved design criteria and procedures for pavements and structures.

Work has been proceeding favourably, with worthwhile benefits becoming increasingly evident, on all phases of the department's maintenance management survey which has been under way since 1965, details of which were given to the members in the 1966 estimates address. For example, better winter maintenance operations, more specifically in terms of uniformity in procedure, has resulted from the development of a training device that demonstrates an improved method for the calibration of salt spreaders with a complementary follow-up system for control purposes.

Also, a revised cost-reporting system, fully compatible with the department's present accounting procedures, has been evolved and will be introduced in four of the department's district operations commencing April 1 of this year, with the gradual addition of the other 14 districts over the course of the year. Without going into further detail, a basic purpose of the new reporting system is to provide management with more precise performance and work-quantity data. In particular, cost reductions will be achieved through the development and application of still more efficient procedures.

The extremely large allocation which has been made for maintenance of the King's highway system in the budget I am about to present—both in relation to the corresponding amount for construction and in terms of the total budget—indicates the importance of the maintenance management survey and the savings which can be expected as a result in that field in the years to come.

The demand for roads of every type continues to grow without let-up in all sectors. Significantly, many of the demands involve extremely costly construction, such as for urban expressways, with regard to which for approved ones in a special category the department assumes 75 per cent of the cost of property acquisition, construction

and maintenance. Given this situation, the highly-developed planning and related study techniques of The Department of Highways which determine highway needs and priorities on a businesslike and precise basis—through the area highway planning studies and related techniques—assume increasing importance.

Despite the most thorough methods of analyzing needs and then planning near-term and long-term highway construction projects, one record budget has followed the other in recent years in the case of The Department of Highways, and this year will see another sizeable increase in the amount that has been budgeted.

In saying that I would observe that, as the members know, there is a limit to the financial resources of this government, even in these most buoyant times, and assure them that the projects for which funds are being requested have withstood a most painstaking examination on the basis of priority of need.

The table below will provide a comparison of the estimates for the forthcoming fiscal year with the one now ending.

The estimates for my department include \$3.6 million to cover operations of the government of Ontario transit rail commuter service.

Not long ago I announced to the House that this service will commence operations on May 23 and gave details of the fares and scheduling of trains, so I do not propose to deal with these matters again at this time.

However, in a very broad sense I shall briefly refresh the memory of the hon. mem-

bers by describing the overall concept of the project that was undertaken by the government less than two years ago.

This service has been designed to serve residents along the lakeshore between Hamilton and Pickering, a distance just over 60 miles. In its initial operation, covering a period of two to three years, it will be critically assessed to determine its public acceptability and the best means of operating rail commuter services in this region.

Directly, it is hoped that it will serve to attract automobile commuters off our highways in the heavily-populated areas east and west of Metropolitan Toronto.

If this proves possible, the government believes that it can result in considerable savings in the cost of building highly-expensive freeway facilities. Also, its success in this area will be closely examined to determine the possibility of adapting such a service for use in other parts of the Metropolitan Toronto region and in other parts of the province densely populated enough to require it.

Every effort has been made in the design and engineering of the equipment and our facilities to make the service attractive to commuters, and its operation has been planned to the fullest extent that railway facilities will permit.

When we come to the two votes, one covering \$1.6 million for capital expenditures and the other, \$2 million for operating costs, I shall be pleased to deal with the developments of the project in greater detail.

An examination of the construction programme book reveals that a high volume of

	1967-68	1966-67
King's highways—construction	\$172,903,000	\$159,329,000
King's highways—maintenance	68,668,000	56,713,000
Municipal assistance ..	164,930,000	153,750,000
Subsidies	\$124,000,000	
*Other	40,930,000	
	<u>\$164,930,000</u>	
Commuter rail project	3,600,000	9,625,000
Administration	6,960,000	5,848,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Gross expenditure	\$417,061,000	\$385,265,000
Less: refunds	11,300,000	12,000,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net expenditure	\$405,761,000	\$373,265,000

*Under this heading, expenditures budgeted for connecting links and construction agreements are included, as well as direct aid.

improvement will be in evidence throughout Ontario in the construction months ahead. In northern Ontario, new major work will be started on the reconstruction of the trans-Canada highway at three points: west of Desbarats in the Sault Ste. Marie area and, west of the Lakehead, east of Upsala and, still farther west, of Borups Corners.

Work will be pushed to complete in 1967 the reconstruction of Highway 105 as a Centennial project of this government. The accelerated programme to reconstruct Highway 71 all the way from the Minnesota border to its junction with the trans-Canada highway, east of Kenora, will likewise be continued in full swing.

There will be no letup in similar advanced scheduling for the reconstruction of Highway 614 to Manitouwadge and the extension of Highway 631 southerly from Hornepayne to trans-Canada Highway 17. One of the more interesting projects is the improvement of an existing road that runs from Minaki—at the end of secondary Highway 596, northwest of Kenora—northwesterly for some 35 miles to Caribou Falls. Planning will also be done for a new road northerly from Caribou Falls to Werner Lake to facilitate access to a nickel-copper mining enterprise now operating, and to other deposits in the same vicinity.

On the major urban project in that part of the province, the Lakehead expressway—on which the first construction was carried out in 1966—it is expected that an impressive amount of work will be started. It is proposed to award contracts for nine miles of grading in two sections, from Highway 17-A easterly to tertiary road 800, on the eastern limits of Port Arthur, and, in the Fort William area, from Highway 61 easterly to Highway 17, which will include a bridge over the Kaministiquia River. The estimated construction cost of this new work is in excess of \$3 million.

The new Sudbury-Timmins road, King's Highway 144, will be the scene of one of the largest programmes, both in terms of physical volume of work and dollar value, the value of the new work alone that is to be awarded in the 1967-68 fiscal year being estimated at some \$4 million.

At the southern end, it is proposed to award two grading contracts both south and north of Benny totalling 16 miles, one of which will include three structures. At the other end, contracts covering 19 miles of grading and three structures will be awarded.

In southern Ontario, although attention will be focussed on the expansion of the free-

way system, an impressive number of improvements for the less spectacular ordinary King's highway mileage—including several new routes—will be in progress, to some of which I will refer briefly in a moment.

On the new 25-mile section of the MacDonald-Cartier freeway being constructed between Gananogue and Brockville, paving of the first ten miles easterly from the junction with Highway 2 will be continued, as will the grading of the last nine miles at the eastern end. It is proposed to award contracts for the paving of the balance of the route in the 1967-68 fiscal year, the value of this new work being estimated at \$4.2 million.

Other new work we are proposing for the improvement of this freeway, notably for the elimination of crossings at grade—other than expenditures on the section through Metro Toronto—has a value of \$2.3 million.

Within Metro Toronto, work will be going forward from Wendell Avenue—just west of Highway 400—westerly to the Dixon Road interchange. East of Yonge Street, work will be under way as far east as Warden Avenue.

Provision for major renovation and expansion of the Queen Elizabeth Way forms a significant portion of the capital programme. In an extension of the control-of-access programme now in progress between Hamilton and St. Catharines, it is proposed to award contracts for service roads between Lake Avenue and Glover Road in the Hamilton area.

Near the western limits of Metro Toronto, in a continuation of the work begun last year to reconstruct and expand this freeway in the vicinity of Kipling Avenue, it is planned to award grading, structure and paving work.

In the Hamilton area, new work will be started on the extension of Highway 403 with grading contracts from just east of Hamilton Drive westerly to Highway 2, west of Ancaster. A paving contract will also be awarded from the crossing of the TH and B Railway to the west end of Mohawk Road.

The route of another freeway, Highway 406, will be extended this year through the award of grading for some seven miles from Merritt Road northerly to St. Davids Road near the southern limits of St. Catharines.

Also in the Niagara peninsula, a high volume of work will be carried forward on one of the largest of the department's current major undertakings, the tunnel under the Welland canal at Thorold. Work is in progress on the tunnel itself, both approaches and related structures, the contracts awarded

to date having a construction value alone of more than \$22 million.

In the same general area, as part of a continuing programme to reconstruct and expand Highway 3 westerly from Fort Erie, it is proposed to award a contract for grading and paving of additional mileage westerly from the road to Crystal Beach as far as Gasline Road.

At Paris, major work will begin on a large new structure to carry Highway 2 across the Grand River, the construction value of this work being estimated at \$1.5 million.

The first major grading contract will be awarded for a section of the new Highway 40 on an alignment inland from the present route, namely, from a point west of Wallaceburg northerly to the county road to Sombra.

On the Kitchener-Waterloo expressway, it is expected that contracts for the construction of three more miles of the route will be awarded, this work having an estimated construction value of \$7.2 million.

Eastern Ontario will likewise benefit from a number of projects, including work on at least two new King's highway routes. A start will be made on a new bypass of Spencerville on Highway 16—to be known as the Spencerville diversion—as the first stage of the programmed reconstruction of Highway 16 between Johnstown and Kemptville.

It is planned to begin construction work on a new north-south highway—138—that will link Cornwall more directly with Ottawa via King's highway mileage through a connection with the proposed new freeway between the federal capital and the Quebec border. A contract has been scheduled for award this year for grading and paving of a section of a county road that will serve as part of the route, namely from St. Andrews west to Monkland on Highway 43, this work being valued at \$1 million.

A start is scheduled for the westerly extension of the Ottawa Queensway, to be constructed as a multi-lane, controlled-access freeway and to be known as King's Highway 417. This will be in the form of the awarding of a contract for grading from the intersection of Highway 15 westerly to Carleton county road 9, for which the estimated construction cost is above \$2 million.

The three-mile Madoc bypass on trans-Canada Highway 7 will be completed in 1967.

Abbreviated as this forecast of some aspects of the 1967-68 construction has been, of necessity, it does provide ample evidence that

the economy of the province as a whole will be helped to the maximum degree through the implementing of this record programme that has been so carefully prepared.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, my remarks really should be addressed to a point of order. As you know, the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) was stricken with an illness a few moments ago and it has been necessary for the government to bring forward the estimates of The Department of Highways without the usual notice. We had understood that The Attorney General's Department would be reviewed next.

Because of this the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. Newman), who has prepared careful criticism of the work of the department over the past year, is not with us. As you know, his wife is in hospital and he will not be in the House until Thursday of this week. However, the House leader has given us an undertaking that there will be an opportunity for him to make his remarks at a more convenient time.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): What the hon. member said is quite correct.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, I might just say that we, like everyone else, were somewhat caught by surprise by the fact that this change had to be made. If it is agreeable to you, I think it would be appropriate if the general remarks from our group were made following those of the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Do you wish then that we would proceed with individual votes at this time?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, if it be the wish of the committee.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Right.

On vote 901:

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of items having to do with the general administration of the department that I would like to deal with.

The first one has to do with the report put out by the department during the past year, concerning the development of the county roads system. The results of this report were quite shocking, as far as many of the county councils were concerned, and I know that the Minister in charge at the time made some

comments publicly about the programme. I feel that it would be very useful if the Minister could put his views on the record now as to why the backlog of construction in the county system is so very large at this time, and how the grants that he has announced in this year's budget will go towards the improvement of this position that has developed in the county system.

Reading from page 17 of his report, entitled *County Roads in Ontario*, which I understand is a programme to up-grade this system, we see that some of these counties in the province—some of them renowned for their high assessment and normal progressive attitudes towards presenting and spending moneys for the development of their areas—have a backlog of construction well over 75 per cent. My own county of Brant is 80 per cent. Looking down the list the county of Lincoln is 99.7 per cent, as far as backlog is concerned. Surely we should have a fuller statement from the department and from the government as to how the five-year programme that has been laid out in this booklet will accomplish an elimination of the backlog that is herein described.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We expect to do this by the reassessment of the needs, as pointed out in the booklet; and by more direct aid to the municipalities. And there is a redesignation of the roads that should go to the proper authorities. This way we will be able to help the branches of the municipalities that need it.

Mr. Nixon: Is it a part of the plan to take over some of the roads that had normally been considered in the past as county roads, and put them in with the provincial system, and in this way assist in the elimination of the backlog?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: There will be a general realignment of these roads. There certainly will be some that will come into the highway system and there may be some that will go back the other way, and there may be some county roads that will return to the townships.

Mr. Nixon: I have always been a bit surprised at the policy of the Minister and his predecessor particularly, in allowing roads that had been under provincial jurisdiction to revert to the jurisdiction of the county. It seemed to be a retrograde step, when the difficulties at the county level are so obviously pointed out in this very report. The financial responsibilities at the municipal

level, and the counties in general, are so heavy and growing so fast that one of the ways whereby the province of Ontario might assist in this matter is not to allow roads to revert from provincial status to county status. As a matter of fact, I believe the policy should be to take over more and more of the responsibility of building and maintaining the roads that have, until now, been designated as county roads. Perhaps the Minister has some more to say about that.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I do not think, Mr. Chairman, this is quite the right vote for this, but it is all right anyway.

There has been a reassessment of the use of some of these roads. By this means we find that some of them can be upgraded to highway necessity. But, likewise, there are some that have gone down and do not need to be under that. Of course, we are assisting municipalities very greatly over some roads that they have to take back. They are always left in perfect shape for them and they still get their subsidy to look after them.

Mr. Nixon: I do not want to pursue this much further but I am concerned with the municipal responsibilities. I realize that as the roads revert they are supposed to be left in good shape—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Leave out the "supposed".

Mr. Nixon: Well, I am sure they will be. The announcement for the reversion of some roads in my own area, is two years old and the reversion has not taken place yet. Neither has the work that was going to bring it up to standard. I presume—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: They have not taken them back yet though, have they?

Mr. Nixon: No.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We are still maintaining them?

Mr. Nixon: That is correct and I hope that you will keep on maintaining them. I hope that you will build them up to a good standard and keep them, because I realize that the subsidy does go to the assistance of the county roads committee but, surely it would be better if the responsibilities were laid out so that the roads that were provincial highways were kept and maintained in that particular way.

There is one other point that I would like to raise with the Minister on the first vote. It has to do with his relationships with the

planning departments in the government, whether it is in The Department of Economics and Development or in The Department of Municipal Affairs. Now I have been reading carefully about the controversy over the development of the new shopping plaza at the intersection of the Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 27. There was a television programme concerning this, and a good many news reports, and there have been two distinct attitudes taken.

The one attitude is that the Sherway development will be the greatest thing that ever happened to the west end of the metropolitan area; that it will undoubtedly be one of the outstanding shopping centres in the world and for this reason, the shot in the arm that it would give to the developing economy would be valuable—and no government department, whether they have responsibility for planning, or whether they have responsibility for transportation, should interfere.

I understand that the planning problems have been largely overcome or circumvented, but as a part of the decision to go ahead with the development of the Sherwood plaza—and I do not believe that the final decision has been taken—it appears to me that the responsibility of the Minister of Highways is very apparent.

He has announced in his comments this afternoon the large sums that he intends to spend on the Queen Elizabeth Way to bring it up to a better standard. Those of us who drive on this road frequently know that a large length of the road between Hamilton and Toronto is desperately in need of improvement. The part that has been improved to six lanes is excellent but it appears to me that if Sherway goes forward, the extra traffic on that road will, in fact, make it a real bottleneck in the access to the city. I do not believe it can be expanded beyond the six lanes, because it funnels into the Gardiner expressway and the expansion of its capacity appears to me to be impossible.

In other words, if Sherway goes in there, you are really going to allow the provincial system of highways to present a bottleneck in the access to Metropolitan Toronto along the lakeshore. I do not know what part the Minister of Highways or his predecessor has played in the decisions that would permit Sherway to go ahead. I do not believe all of the responsibility rests with The Department of Municipal Affairs or the Ontario municipal board, either, because the Minister has been telling us how expensive the development of our system is going to be this year

and we all know what sums have been voted for the development of the Queen Elizabeth Way in particular, and the expansion of Highway 27, which we expect to take place in the next few years. If this expansion takes place, only at the loss of access to the southern part of the city because of Sherway plaza, then I think the Minister would be doing a very great disservice indeed, if he did not insist that at least his attitude and his responsibilities were looked into carefully before any final decision was made to allow Sherway to continue.

Experts in the field say that there are other areas in the western extremities of the Metro area where Sherway could be located without presenting this bottleneck, so I would appeal to the Minister to assure us that every aspect of his responsibility has been looked into here and that the responsibility he has, to maintain access to the metropolitan area, are not going to be forfeited simply by allowing the decision to go ahead without the Minister exercising his prerogative.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think in answer to your inquiry I might tell the hon. member that it is our responsibility as The Department of Highways to provide roads in the area, and any extra or excess to this which pertains to this development which he refers to we feel should be borne by the developer.

We have only given them any information which we have available. I believe this matter is still before the municipal board and the municipalities concerned, but this is our stand on the affair at the moment.

Mr. Nixon: There is just one thing that I would like to raise along this line. I do not see how the developer can be required to provide the extra cost for the use of the roads, because really you can require him to build little access roads into his property and perhaps any development on Highway 27 or the Queen Elizabeth Way that would be required. We are talking about the whole access to the southern end of the city, and it is just beyond the possibility that a developer would have responsibility for that.

If the decision is made to let him go ahead, and obtain access to the southern part of Metro then I am afraid that we will have made a decision that is going to be very serious in the years that lie ahead.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, on this first vote, you are asking us to spend \$4,298,000 and I do not think I am going to vote for that. Even though we have

a great regard for the new Minister, I think he has got no place to go but up here.

I cannot let this chance go of telling the House that four years ago this past Minister, through his people, fired a young coloured inspector for The Department of Highways because he found discrepancies in your contracting division. He is still looking for a job, and you are asking us to vote \$4 million for a policy of administration which favours discrimination of the employees.

This chap, named Gordon Molock, cannot even get an appointment with the Deputy Minister to review his case. He found a factual discrepancy in highway contracts south of Owen Sound and he was fired because he was doing his job too closely for the department.

I will leave that point there. It is accepted by the people in my area that there has been great discrimination here, and he is still trying to get his job back with the department.

The second case is much more minor, but a man was fired from The Department of Highways in Owen Sound last year. He had built up sick leave and he had six weeks pay coming to him and he cannot get a nickel of it. It is a high-handed method the hon. Minister has inherited, Mr. Chairman. I hope it will change and allow us to vote for the estimates.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I would like to expand a bit on my leader's remarks about Sherway.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member before he proceeds with that, would give the Minister an opportunity to comment on what the member for Grey North said. I would like to hear what the Minister has to say about the Molock case in particular. I am not familiar with the other one.

Mr. Singer: Well, I do not care which we do. We were into the Sherway—

Mr. Sargent: I would like to hear what he has to say anyway.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, if you are satisfied with your answer, there is no use of me saying anything.

Mr. Sargent: Try and smooth it over some way.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No! No question of that. We sweep nothing under the rug on this side.

Mr. Sargent: Maybe not now.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: But I want you to understand the particular case you refer to. It happens I had a letter from these people and I had the thing thoroughly looked into for my own satisfaction. In the first place, there was no discrimination. The cases went to the grievance board. This is the ultimate they could go to, and it was also proven that there were no discrepancies in the case which he referred to.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Minister. If we can furnish you with proof that there was, will you review the case?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We would certainly be glad to look at anything but—

Mr. Sargent: We have a whole file, a foot thick, just to show there was discrepancy. You know this. The former Minister should know this.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Chairman, that has been dealt with in the House on previous occasions.

Mr. Sargent: The way you deal with things, yes.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: This goes back to 1963 which was a year, we might say, that had some certain notable features about it in the fact that there was an event on September 25 that returned this government to office with substantial supporters.

Mr. A. J. Reaume (Essex North): That will not happen again.

Mr. Sargent: We cannot hear you.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The truth of the matter is—and it might as well be placed on the record here and now—Gordon Molock was discharged from the service for insubordination in that he refused to take direction from his superior and move from one position to another.

Mr. Sargent: That was your reason.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I think that it is time that was placed on the record. The whole file was reviewed in intensive detail at the time. As a matter of fact, the matter was referred to Dr. Hill, the chairman of the human rights commission who found no fault with the decision of the department in this particular case.

It was made an issue during the last provincial election, and I can assure the House that the full facts of the case were disclosed to the press. The whole file was made available to

the press and they found that the matter had been dealt with completely to the satisfaction of anybody who believes in proper department-employee relationships. There was absolutely no discrimination in any sense of the word in this situation whatsoever.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, in the last year, four lawyers with this young man came to Toronto to try and get an appointment. I tried to arrange an appointment with the Minister. He would not see us. Mr. Allen would not see us. We have a file that we should give to the press and show you exactly what you did do.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: May I say just one more thing on this? I offered to see Mr. Molock. I sat around for the best part of a full day expecting to receive Mr. Molock, and I received a telegram in my room, mid-evening of the day before he was supposed to present himself, saying that he could not come and attend upon the Minister. He was offered an opportunity to see the Minister, at the time, and he did not turn up.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: What more service could he provide?

Mr. Singer: Now Mr. Chairman, let me get back to Sherway. The Minister's explanation of trying to slough off the burdens onto the developer is a very fascinating one, but it keeps in mind the devious influences in the Cabinet—that the left hand still does not know what the right hand is doing.

Here is a major development in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto that concerns highways and concerns municipal affairs and concerns, non-politically, we are told, the Ontario municipal board. I want to know what consultations have taken place between The Department of Highways and The Department of Municipal Affairs. I think the people of Ontario are entitled to know whether or not you gentlemen speak to each other every now and then; whether or not there is a plan of development for the province of Ontario and in this particular case, a plan for the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto.

It is no secret, Mr. Chairman, that special arrangements were made for the building of Yorkdale, only at that time the arrangements were made perhaps a little more expeditiously because there was a man named Fred Gardiner at the head of the Metropolitan Toronto corporation. I think it is time that we had the government moving as a unit.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: These are assumptions not based on facts.

Mr. Singer: The Provincial Treasurer is awfully sensitive this afternoon. These are things that are based on fact, and the Minister can get as red in the face as he wants and the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman) really does not impress me at all. I know this happened. I know they were separate—Mr. Chairman, I was there and I know there were separate arrangements made to accommodate this development. I do not object because they were for the good of the general area.

But what we find today in the Sherway application are two departments going in completely different directions, and if you listen to the Minister of Highways he does not know what is going on in the mind of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The municipal board is going off apparently on an opposite tangent and then the Minister of Highways gets up and says he thinks the developers should pay for it. Surely there should be a government attitude towards planning and development. There is no co-ordinated government attitude towards planning. There has not been for a long, long time. Fred Gardiner did produce that in some very substantial extent in the metropolitan area but he had the ear of my friend, the now Provincial Treasurer, and the then Minister of Highways. I do not criticize that but I suspect that that easy approach no longer exists.

So what is going on in Metropolitan Toronto, what is going on in the borough of Etobicoke, and what is going on in the minds of the Minister of Highways and the Minister of Municipal Affairs is completely unco-ordinated. The end result, Mr. Chairman, is going to be chaos and confusion and tie-ups in traffic. Surely to goodness we can expect some time that this government is going to get itself up off its comfortable seat and work in a coordinated way to plan the development of the province of Ontario. What the Minister has said in reply to the remarks of my leader is meaningless. When are we going to get a coordinated plan of development? We do not have one now and there is no encouragement at all in the useless words that come from the mouth of the Minister this afternoon. The question is, do we get an explanation or do they just sit there?

Mr. Chairman: The member for Yorkview.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, a year ago during the estimates of this department the then Minister told us that he was setting up a bureau of research in the department, and he moved ahead to set this up. I

wonder whether we have any information today as to the progress of that—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is not what he said. Mr. Chairman, he did not say he was setting up a research bureau—he did not have to. There is a research branch of The Department of Highways to which certain things were referred.

Mr. Singer: Can he speak for himself?

Mr. MacNaughton: He was talking about me.

Mr. Young: Then, Mr. Chairman, I stand corrected. Certain things were referred to the research branch at that time and I understand the branch was going to be expanded to meet whatever was needed in the way of this research. Now I wonder if the Minister could tell us what matters are being looked at, what staff is now working in this particular branch of the department, and what we might expect from it.

Mr. Chairman: Is the member referring to research generally which comes under vote 910?

Mr. Young: Well, 910—I am not sure where it comes, Mr. Chairman. I understand this will be capital disbursements and the other would be a continuous job that is being done by the department—a job of research in connection with highway accidents, in connection with design of highways, the whole idea being to make our transportation on the highways a safer proposition. I would think that it would come here but if it comes in the other place—

Mr. Chairman: Does the Minister have any moneys in vote 910 in connection with surveys and accidents, and so on?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It really does not matter to me, Mr. Chairman, where it comes. I wonder if the member—

Mr. Chairman: I know you are rather anxious to accommodate the members of the Opposition but under our estimates, where does it come, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Under vote 910.

Mr. Chairman: Right. I prefer under the circumstances that you relay it under 910.

Mr. Young: It is a capital investment then?

Mr. Chairman: On vote 901, the member for Parkdale.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister if the government is still losing money on the collection of tolls on the Burlington skyway and on the Garden City skyway? In other words do we make money on this or what is the cost to the government in the collecting of tolls? I would like to make a few remarks after that, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to hear the answer.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am informed, sir, that we have a surplus on the operation of that.

Mr. Trotter: You have a surplus just on the one, or is this a losing proposition? I would like to have some idea what the figures are.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: On the Burlington skyway the receipts over the expenditures were \$840,000. On the Garden City skyway it was \$550,000.

Mr. Trotter: Then, when you say you are going to allow \$509,000—under the estimates, why is it the government has to allow \$509,000 if they are making money? It should be income instead of expenditure.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We have to ask for the money to collect the tolls and to operate it. Then the money that comes in from the tolls goes into the consolidated revenue fund. We just do not show the difference.

Mr. Trotter: The overall profit on the two skyways is about \$1,300,000. This is a profit you have?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is right.

Mr. Trotter: I was wondering if this would not be in consideration of the numbers of people that travel these two skyways, particularly Burlington skyway, the amount of effort that goes into collecting them and, considering the number of people that travel, and considering the convenience to the traveller, if it would not be far wiser to do away with the tolls altogether. We in this province have been relatively free of toll roads and toll bridges. They are a hangover from the past. In my view, at least, I think it would be far wiser for our general travelling public if the tolls on the bridges were done away with. When you consider the amount of work involved in carrying out the business of the operation of the tolls and the amount of money that we eventually get our hands on, it would be far better even in view of the fact of the tourists we have coming into this province, that we could advertise to tourists that this province is toll-free. This could be a

selling point. It may bring benefit but it is still a selling point to the tourists and there are going to be many more thousands in Ontario, I hope, as a result of Expo. They would be attracted to this province because of that; it is a selling item. I think the department should take this under very serious consideration.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think the hon. member's remarks certainly have merit and we are very pleased to have toll-free roads in the province. But one thing you have to understand is that in each of these cases there is an alternative which is good and which the people can travel without toll, and these were two very expensive structures and we do not think as yet that we should do away with the toll. But it is under consideration.

Mr. Nixon: I was just going to ask a question, Mr. Chairman, about the Garden City skyway, with the relocation of the canal. Will it be necessary to continue using that structure indefinitely?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We do not expect the change, as the hon. leader of the Opposition refers to it, to take place for almost ten years, and we expect that the costs will be borne by the federal government because it is their decision to change the canal.

Mr. Nixon: And the department is going to build a tunnel under the new canal?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is the plan.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Is the Minister saying he expects the federal government will in effect pay him for the skyway if—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Any extra costs which will be incurred by us on account of the way being changed, will be borne by them, and this at the moment is their commitment.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, in that connection then, is the federal government actually assisting in the building of a tunnel under the new canal?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: At the moment we are not building one under the new canal. It is the old canal, and they do assist.

Mr. Nixon: Well, you will have to have some new form of crossing for the new canal. Is it in the plan that a tunnel be constructed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: When the new canal is built, naturally it will be an underpass under

the canal and they will pay their share of the expense of that.

Mr. Nixon: Is it expected as a matter of policy that eventually the net revenue from the tolls will pay for the structures, if you maintain the toll system?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I would like to pursue this just for a moment. The Minister has stated that the federal government will underwrite any alternative that is required because of the twinning of the canal. My question is, what is going to happen to the \$18 million or thereabouts which we, the provincial government, put into building the bridge which is going to become a white elephant? And if I may just elaborate on that, it has always struck me as rather strange that if The Department of Highways is going to go into building a structure for \$18 million, there must be at least enough cooperative effort between this department and the federal government to anticipate at least for a few years the kind of development that is taking place.

Perhaps I sound as though I am being wise in hindsight now, but it was not my responsibility to consider the problem. The fact of the matter is that the twinning of the Welland canal is not a new idea. It has been talked about for quite some years, and I find it a little strange in retrospect to find that in the planning within the department here they would not have been aware of the fact there was at least some consideration of the twinning of the Welland canal which may have rendered this structure obsolete almost as soon as it was built. Indeed, now the facts have proven this to be the case. Was there no collaboration with the federal government? Did you have no idea that the federal government was contemplating this?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: At the time this was built, we had no idea. It is not the twinning of the canal, it is the realignment. It is going to be put over a mile away. Our information is that this is quite some time off. We are in constant touch with them, and I may say the relations are most friendly. They understand our problem, and the expense of it is going to be borne by them.

Mr. MacDonald: My point is simply, could you not make your constant touch with them retroactive to the point that the \$18 million loss could have been avoided?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, is the Minister going to answer that? The only point I

wanted to make before we leave this vote is that I see you have under this vote, under salaries, a long list of salaries ranging at \$10,000, \$11,000, \$12,000 and up to \$15,000. The majority, in the \$10,000 class, I assume are mostly engineers? Page 5 of the estimates.

Mr. Chairman: No, it is not on page 5 of the estimates, it may be in the public accounts.

Mr. Sargent: Public accounts, I am sorry.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Engineers and senior administrators and other technical people.

Mr. Sargent: My point is, to inquire if the Minister is having trouble hanging on to his engineers at these salaries?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We are maintaining our level of engineers, but the member should understand that the amount of the salary is the problem of the civil service, and this is where we get the authority to pay the salaries that we do.

Mr. Sargent: Is the Minister in the future going to maintain his present staff with the inroads on engineering demands for personnel now? Can he maintain it at those salaries?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, they are constantly being reviewed by the civil service commission and updated from time to time. We certainly hope that we can maintain it. We are, so far.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, I wanted to speak on that skyway—

Mr. Chairman: On the same point? Yes, all right.

Mr. Bukator: I use that skyway at St. Catharines every time I come to Toronto. I notice you have taken away the toll baskets in which you used to drop the coins, and that the skyway is now manned by people.

I suppose from past experience it would be more economical to have men there taking the token rather than the machines? This is by way of a question. Perhaps the former Minister can answer that.

But the skyway itself. I want to be complimentary to the government for a change. I want to give it a pat on the back, and it does not get that very often from this side of the House. That skyway is likened unto your Gardner expressway here through the city. It is rendering a good service and it

has done so for quite some time, since it has been open, and it will continue to do so for at least ten years. So your write-off is not going to be too costly when you consider it from that angle.

But I was wondering—perhaps the former Minister could answer this, too—you now have two or three tunnels going through when you are in the process of building one in Thorold. You have got together with the contractor, with the federal government and the provincial government and you have the tunnel there near completion. I was wondering how much of the cost of that portion of the tunnel is borne by the federal government. If that question is answered, then I think it would apply to the tunnel at St. Catharines. I have a little bit more to say on that, but I would like that point cleared up.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The amount of that is one-third.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, Mr. Chairman, I do not want to intrude here, but there are two distinctly different situations. In the original circumstances, the plan of the federal government was to twin the locks on the existing Welland canal. Subsequently that plan was abandoned in favour of a new canal along the new alignment.

The agreement between the department and the St. Lawrence seaway with respect to the original concept was simply a cost-sharing consortium that was worked out with relationship to the area or element of responsibility by each of the respective jurisdictions at these various locations. At certain locations where the crossings of the old canal were involved, there was a greater portion of responsibility accruing to the seaway authority than to The Department of Highways. With respect to other crossings it was clear—quite clear—that the responsibility was more directly associated with the responsibility of the department.

These were all put together and the consortium arrangement was worked out. As the Minister has pointed out, this consortium or consolidation of the various situations worked out as far as the tunnels were concerned, to be about two-thirds and one-third—two-thirds accruing to the department because they were extensions of highways, if you like, that had to get under or over the canal, and one-third to the seaway. This was an average arrangement, and it was a very generous one in the opinion of the department and all concerned at that time.

Now, with respect to the new one, it is a different kettle of fish to the extent that I think the probable crossings of the new canal will be imposed on the department to a greater extent than they were before. As such, I think—I do not believe the negotiations have been finalized—but as such the same philosophy, sir, that was associated with the original agreement will be applied to the new agreement.

This is generalizing, of course, but if the same type of very friendly, very satisfactory negotiations continue with respect to the new canal facilities as existed in terms of the original one, I do not think there is any reason to believe that a satisfactory arrangement and negotiation process will not be developed and finalized.

With respect, of course, to the Homer bridge or the Garden City skyway, as it is now called, whether some consideration will be given there I do not know. I would personally like to believe that there will be a residual value left in that bridge that will be considered in the terms of the over-all package that is negotiated. I think this is what the hon. member for York South was interested in. Mind you, when that time comes—it may be eight or ten years—notwithstanding the imposing cost of that facility, it may very well have served a purpose that warrants the expenditure whether or not it continues. I do not think the whole area could have continued to function from a transportation basis without it, so if it serves a useful life of, say, 15 years, it will have benefited the area to an extent that was very, very necessary.

Mr. MacDonald: What is your estimate of the amortization period?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That I cannot tell you off the top of my head but there may be a residual value there and I think it is a point that can be considered in terms of negotiations.

Mr. Bukator: My other question was, if you recall, Mr. Chairman: The Minister has people collecting the token now, rather than the former receptacles. Is it much more economical, the way you are doing it now? Could you give us a figure on that at all?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We found that it was safer and more efficient and we could handle the traffic more easily and faster, by doing it that way.

Mr. Bukator: To follow up on the Garden City skyway, if you will. You are coming

back to the south end of that, where you are going to have your new canal which will run by the airport, very close to the airport, and possibly near that new race track—I forget the name of it—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Garden City race-track.

Mr. Bukator: Then there will be a new canal through there and under that portion you will be building tunnels, I imagine.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is right.

Mr. Bukator: Now, the same—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Coming down.

Mr. Bukator: The same proportion I suppose will be worked out with the federal government on the basis of something like two-thirds for the provincial government and one-third for the federal, for the new tunnel.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We expect that the percentage for the federal government will be greater because they are imposing the new route.

Mr. Bukator: I might enlighten you people across the floor of the House for one moment. They are exceptionally fine people to deal with at Ottawa and they will give you a pretty fair deal. I will talk to the Hon. Judy LaMarsh and she will give me all the details and I will bring it all back to you. But by the way, with this new canal that they are talking about and the new tunnel, have you any idea when that construction is going to start?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This, of course, would be up to the federal government, but we expect that it will probably be up to ten years away before it is finished. But we do not know.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, if I might add a word, they have already started. I would like to advise the hon. member for Niagara Falls they have already let contracts, cleared the ways and they are selling the homes and all.

I might say in answer to the hon. member for York South—is it?—that in regard to the federal government's reimbursing the provincial government for the skyway down there at St. Catharines, each year the federal government has been spending millions of dollars on the old canal. Then all at once they decide to construct a new one. So you can see they change their minds often and prob-

ably they see the necessity of it to eliminate the bends in the old canal.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Morningstar: But each year they have been spending so much money on the old canal, that they decided to make the new channel six miles long.

Mr. Bukator: I realize, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Singer: They have no alternative up there.

Mr. Bukator:—that the new Minister could not be acquainted with a lot of these problems as quickly for the short period of time he has held this position, but the hon. member for Welland tells me that the job has already started. You say it will be ten years before it is completed. I would like to be enlightened a little further on this particular issue before I take up any more of your time.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think we are talking about two different things. The Welland end of it is set. I think you were referring to the Garden City skyway end of it, which will be, we expect, ten years away.

Mr. Trotter: It has taken 20 years on 401; it seems reasonable, ten years away.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Woodbine.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of matters I would like to raise in relation to this vote. The first one is a relatively small one dealing with item 6, in which we are being asked to vote \$5,000 for sundry awards. I want to know what the sundry awards are.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is the item that covers staff suggestions.

Mr. Bryden: I see. You have some sort of suggestion programme, do you, where you give prizes?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: The other matter, Mr. Chairman, I think would come here as appropriately as anywhere. If not, the Minister can direct me to the right vote. It relates to the problem of providing subsidization from the provincial Treasury for subway construction. I know that there are votes later on in which subsidization is provided for highways in municipalities. It has been a complaint of myself and many others for a good many years that subsidization is not provided for subways, although subways obviously are an

important form of transportation which necessitates—

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if the member would wait until I ascertain whether there is any subsidy for subways under this vote.

Mr. Bryden: No, there is not, that is what I am raising.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think that would come under vote 907.

Mr. Bryden: You would deal with it under the municipal subsidies?

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, on a point of information, when discussing safety on expressways. What vote will that come under? The proper guard rails—it would not be under transport? Planning and designing?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would think, Mr. Chairman, that would be under 907, item 1, construction.

Mr. Chairman: Is there anything further on vote 901?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I want to raise one or two questions under the first vote—general administration, presumably including the Minister's legal department.

With regard to procedures in the acquisition of land for highway needs, I am referring specifically to the latest case in which there is considerable publicity in reference to Highway 27 on the west side of the metropolitan area. What puzzles me is that I happen to have in front of me an offer that was made for one of the properties. I put a question to the Minister earlier in this session as to why the average offer made was in the range of \$22,000 to \$23,000 for properties that apparently have a market value of about \$25,000 or \$26,000 and a replacement value of about \$28,000 or \$29,000 and the Minister's reply was that in the department's view this was a fair assessment.

In the specific case that I have, the property owner contends there were three real estate people who were appointed assessors and who came to examine this property. One of them came at night after dark and spent ten minutes just wandering around and went away. So his assessment certainly would not be a very substantial one or certainly one that could be open to rather serious error in terms of missing legitimate items for which the property owner was not going to be compensated. As a matter of fact, in this instance, I think the property owner has countered

with a claim indicating expenses that are not being covered. But within the legal department, I have a specific question in this whole vexing area. I have here the offer that was made to this man; it is filled out on the normal form and is not signed at the bottom.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that this kind of approach is not only an open invitation, it is going to render dead certain that there will be horse trading. In other words you create for yourself the difficulties that you get into. If the department has had the property assessed and you feel that this is what it is worth, surely the man who acts on behalf of the department will say, "Here is the offer and it is signed." So that there is no open invitation to horse trading. As a matter of fact if I were a property owner and somebody came along with that document and it was not even signed, the immediate conclusion I would come to is that the department was not really certain and they were willing to dicker a bit.

An hon. member: They are not really serious.

Mr. MacDonald: My hon. friend's interjection says they are not really serious. That is another way of putting it. I remember in the first year in which I happened to be on the select committee on conservation and we went down to visit the TVA project. One of the things that attracted me about the TVA procedures—and heaven knows they have had a lot of expropriation of land over the years—is that they have a one-price offer.

In other words, apparently they have sufficient confidence in their assessing of the value of land. They make an offer and that is it. Everybody knows there is no horse trading going to be done. There is no sort of open offer that can be dickered with. They know, as is the case in Ontario, that they have procedures for appeal. But at least they know when the offer comes that that is it and they might as well move into the various appeal procedures.

My question to the Minister is, are you not creating for yourselves the kind of difficulties you get into in this horse trading; by making an original offer, presumably from your legal department, which is not legitimately signed and so the property owner is not going to consider it a serious first offer.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It has been the custom to present an offer like that and both people sign. I am informed that there are not any

cases where the department has not honoured the price of contracts that you have there.

I thought it might be of interest to tell the House that last year we had 2,589 property acquisitions and only 25 went to the board—less than one per cent, which we think is a very enviable record. I might say that your figure of an average of \$22,000 or \$23,000 is not right.

Mr. MacDonald: I might say to the Minister that I am accepting the figures that were given by Mr. Thompson who is the spokesman for the group out there. He was quoted on TV and in the press for these figures. I am not in a position to vouch for their validity.

Mr. Nixon: If you want to speak on that—

Mr. MacDonald: Well, if the Minister is finished speaking on it. Your comment was that both parties have signed it. The point I am making is that neither party has signed—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No! I say that when they take that in, both parties will sign it. I mean, the department representative would sign it, but even taking it in as prepared like that, there are no cases on record where the department has not honoured that type of thing.

Mr. MacDonald: What the Minister says may well be true, and quite frankly the department, I think, would put itself in a pretty untenable position if it made an offer and then was not willing to sign it. But my point may well be a psychological one.

I repeat, if I were a property owner and the department came in and said they wanted to buy a property and presented an unsigned offer, am I not legitimately entitled to come to the conclusion that this is not really a serious offer and that your first step is that you want to get into horse trading?

I repeat, I think you create some of the difficulties for yourself and I come back to the TVA procedure. I do not know what the recommendation of the conservation committee is going to be because I have been off it for the past year, but I must say I became persuaded of the wisdom of the proposition of a one-price offer. It is made and it stands. You then move to the appeal procedures if you feel that you are not getting justice.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, I might inform the member that in the area that you are referring to, there are over 60 properties that have been finalized and the people accepted and paid. We think this is a great record.

Mr. MacDonald: But how many?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: One hundred and four. But in the short time we have been asked, it is unusual that we would have that many.

Mr. MacDonald: Unusual that you would have that many left, or that many signed up?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is unusual that we would have that many completed in that short length of time.

Mr. MacDonald: I have only one further comment before I leave it. I am a bit sceptical about the argument that because you finally get people to sign that you really have handled this in the best possible way. I have personal experience with people who want to buy property. I happen to live on a street in York township in which they came in, and I know how they play one off against the other.

I am not saying that that necessarily took place in this instance. Stories are told. You go to one neighbour and you say that so and so has signed and because so and so has signed you sign. Then you find two weeks later that so and so had not signed, but the fact that you have signed is used to try and get him to sign. And so on you go in this game, and some pretty ruthless tactics are used.

I would not like to believe that that happened in The Department of Highways, but a tense atmosphere has been created among people out there. You say you have got 60, but 44 are still unsigned. I have talked with many of them and I have had constituents of mine who are friends of their who have called me up and filled my ear for half an hour on the phone. At this point they are certainly persuaded that they are not getting justice.

All I can say to them is that we have got three or four steps, the conciliation step, the arbitration board and on to the OMB, and the only thing I can advise you is to go alone or go collectively to try to reduce your costs with a test case. I trust they will do that. Meanwhile, you whittle a number down by this game that is played.

It is not only The Department of Highways. It is the whole problem of expropriation which we think we have solved until we discover from continuing experience that it is not really solved.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Again I would like to tell the member that we have not expropriated anything out there, it is strictly negotiation.

This is why the pattern was taken of having the three appraisers with the price established and making this the offer to the people. They have the opportunity of accepting it, and we also give them the opportunity after acceptance of staying there for some time at a rental fee if they want to. But they have just been informed that we need the property by next September.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, this leads very appropriately into the question that I asked the Minister and he answered last Wednesday. He very proudly said we have not expropriated. Now, you told us you had some 2,600 expropriations.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Property acquisition.

Mr. Singer: Property acquisitions, all right.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The number is 2,589.

Mr. Singer: What was the average price of those?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would not know.

Mr. Singer: You would not know! Well, I think it is most important because I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that in those 2,500-odd that he is talking about, he is dealing by and large with the Attorney General's unsophisticated people. He is dealing by and large with little people. He is dealing by and large with people who are unable completely to protect themselves. I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that in his proud boast when the Minister says we have not expropriated we have negotiated, he has used the carrot and the stick approach.

He admitted in his answers to my questions on page 780 of *Hansard* that he acted in a way that the Supreme Court of Canada says legally he has no right to act if there had been expropriation.

Now, it follows from that, Mr. Chairman, that there must have been a dangling, there must have been a sweetening of the pot by the 10 per cent inconvenience charge—

Mr. MacDonald: And always the threat.

Mr. Singer: —with the overthreat that if you do not deal with us on this basis, then we are going to expropriate and then you are going to lose your 10 per cent.

Most appropriately this morning the Minister of Municipal Affairs and his colleague, the Attorney General, got very excited over a proposal in a bill brought forward by the city of Hamilton that \$250 be given to each ratepayer who questions—

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The hon. member was not present at the morning session of the private bills committee.

Mr. Singer: Just be quiet for a bit! You can come in later.

—who is expropriated by the city of Hamilton and wants an opportunity to hire an evaluator in order to get a real idea of value. It is very fascinating that two responsible Ministers of the Crown said, no, no, this is the wrong way to do it. We do not want to arm the unsophisticated citizen with the ammunition that will enable him to challenge the majesty of government.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: We did not say anything of the kind.

Mr. Singer: Interestingly enough, Mr. Chairman, the private bills committee chose to overrule those two gentlemen this morning.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: I never opened my mouth.

Mr. Singer: They chose to overrule those two gentlemen this morning, and it is the opinion, it must be obvious even to those two eminent Ministers of the Crown—

Mr. Sargent: I doubt it.

Mr. Singer: —that the feeling in this House even on the government side is that our expropriation laws are unfair, inequitable and need to be changed.

Now, let me come back to the Minister of Highways. I want to know how he can possibly justify offering a ten per cent inconvenience bonus in the face of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the Drew case. He says, "We justify it because there has been no expropriation, we do it by negotiation." I say, Mr. Chairman, it must follow as the night the day, that this is a bribe, this is a threat, this is the taking of advantage by The Department of Highways of the inability of those people to deal with The Department of Highways on the same basis as anyone else.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Are you against the ten per cent?

Mr. Singer: All right. The Attorney General asks if I am against the ten per cent. I say that if you had the courage to say that the ten per cent forcible taking charge, inconvenience charge, makes sense, have the same courage, Mr. Attorney General, to bring in a statute amending our expropriation laws. There is no statute, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is what I suggested this morning, Mr. Chairman, that there be a general law.

Mr. Singer: Oh, Mr. Chairman, if any hollow words ever lay in the mouth of a Minister of the Crown those words are in the Attorney General's mouth this moment.

Look at the order paper, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member was not there.

Mr. Singer: There is no bill on the order paper brought forward by any Minister over there to change the expropriation laws.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member was not there.

Mr. Singer: It does no good at all to say we need general legislation. This is a cover-up. This is a false front completely to try and cope with the problem.

Mr. Chairman: I would remind the member for Downsview that we are not speaking in expropriation generally but that we are speaking only to the estimates of The Department of Highways.

Mr. Singer: All right. Let me get back to the Minister of Highways. I want the Minister of Highways to tell us—and I think the people of Ontario demand an explanation as to the basis on which he illegally dangles this false carrot in front of the people he negotiates with on Highway 27, and threatens them with the fact that if they do not take the ten per cent, he will expropriate and they cannot defend themselves because they have not got enough money.

This is the charge, Mr. Chairman. He and his colleagues all along the front benches—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Nothing illegal about that.

Mr. Singer: —have no answer to this at all, not a single answer. I say, Mr. Chairman, that in no more obvious department is this whole approach exemplified than in the approach of The Department of Highways. The expropriation laws are unfair, inequitable and do not give the citizen of Ontario, whose property is taken by a government agency, an appropriate opportunity to defend himself. The Minister of Highways is playing this game completely and absolutely, and he and his colleagues in the Attorney General's department and in Municipal Affairs are taking unfair advantage of the citizens of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, if I could have the question now, after all that?

Mr. Singer: No, Mr. Chairman, the question is obvious. If the Minister is not able to stand up and explain the improper, illegal and unfair approach of The Department Highways, then he is not a proper Minister to have in that seat in this government. That is not a question, that is a statement. If he has got an answer, let him give it.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am sorry to see you get so upset because you are such a nice fellow.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Now be careful.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: You are putting a lot of words out here that you really do not believe.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: He was not even there.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I explained to you the other day that we did not expropriate any property and I think that in the case that you refer to, they did recommend that some percentage be paid for the very things that we have done.

As I explained to you the other day, in answer to the question, this money was given because there were certain things that they had in their houses that did not fit in the new place and we felt they should be given something for that. Also, there was refinancing, and there has been a change in the interest charges during the number of years, and they should be allowed something for that.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): The hon. member said it was illegal.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We feel that there was nothing illegal in the thing and we were not trying to tell anybody—and we certainly would not tell anybody—that, if they did not accept, it would be cut off in expropriation because we would not know what the answer to the value would be on expropriation.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, it is a pity that I just cannot get through to the hon. Minister of Highways. He wants to appear to be the soul of reasonableness and the soul of generosity. He knows full well that as the law presently stands he has no right to go contrary to the decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada unless this Legislature so authorizes it. It is all very well for his colleague the Attorney General to say we need

general legislation. My simple plea is this: If you are doing something that is illegal, for goodness sake bring in a statute that will make it legal so that you have that power.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is what I suggested this morning.

Mr. Singer: Now, where is the statute on the order paper? Where is it? There is no notice at all. So what is happening, Mr. Chairman, is this—let me repeat it, because obviously I have not gotten through. If they go to expropriation and there has to be an arbitration that ten per cent cannot be included—it is against the law. So you are dangling it like a carrot, a bribe, and you are telling those people, “If you go to arbitration you will not get it, so settle with us at our arbitrary figure so that you will get it.” It is dishonest, it is illegal, and it is improper.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think you are a little mixed up my friend. I am not quite sure—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The point about it is that you know full well that the amount awarded on expropriation is the amount—and it could quite easily include this ten per cent that we have talked about on negotiation, or more.

Mr. Singer: I wish my hon. friend the Minister of Highways would bother to consult one of the legal advisers on the Treasury benches to get their advice as to the effect of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the Drew case. If he did, then he would realize that you cannot, after you have come to value as determined in the appropriate statutes, add on ten per cent as he is presently doing. The only way you can change it is to pass a new statute. You have not brought a new statute before us and you have no intention of bringing a new statute before us.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has made some comments about remarks this morning, which he was not there to hear, which he has stated very inaccurately. I think I should have the opportunity of correcting those.

What was said this morning by myself in the discussion relating to payment to assist persons to evaluate their land was that the whole matter was being studied by the law reform commission, referred to it by my department on behalf of the government a year ago, and

that a report was expected very soon of the whole matter, of all the factors which should enter into compensation for expropriation. The report should shortly be before us and on that report we could proceed with legislation. I suggested that the principle which was being set forward this morning in the private bill might have some merit, but that I felt—if it had merit—it should be studied and included in general legislation. Now, let us have that clear.

As to this other point, I would say there is nothing illegal in making an arrangement. The courts dealt with an expropriation—although as the hon. Minister has said, it did make some suggestions about compensation. But the Minister has stated and reiterated, this was not an expropriation, it was a bargain, taking into account many factors in relation to the land.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I never appeared against the Attorney General in court, but he is a most persuasive advocate and he can explain away in reasonable-sounding words, even something he does not believe in.

Let me go through this again very simply.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am going to keep on because obviously I am not getting through to responsible Ministers of the Crown. They can barrack as long as they want; I will still continue to make my point if I have to stand here until the House adjourns tonight.

Mr. Chairman: Of course, I can remind the member that unnecessary repetition is not in order in the House.

Mr. Singer: I quite agree, sir, and I accept that, but the only reason I would resort to repetition is if I felt it was necessary. Obviously it is necessary because this message has not gotten through to gentlemen who normally exercise abundant intelligence. On this occasion they are deliberately missing the point. I agree with what the Attorney General said insofar as he went.

Let me deal with his two points in reverse. The second point that he made is: There is nothing improper about offering this in advance of an expropriation. That is quite right, I do not disagree with that at all. But I am suggesting the next step and neither he nor the Minister of Highways has bothered to answer it. The message is obvious, that once you have done this, then you are suggesting to the people to whom you make

this offer, "If you go to arbitration you cannot hope to get that 10 per cent because the law of this country forbids it." So I am saying that you are taking unfair advantage of them, and I think that is very obvious.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): The member said it was illegal.

Mr. Singer: It is illegal, as well.

Now, the second point, Mr. Chairman, and going back to the Attorney General's first point. Yes, it is under study by the law reform commission.

A few days ago in answer to a question posed by my colleague, the member for Sudbury, the Minister listed, I think, 12 items that are under study. My goodness, Mr. Chairman, if this government does nothing else, it studies and it studies and studies and studies, but does not do anything.

The laws of expropriation have been under study by the law reform commission, by a select committee of this House, by the McRuer commission, but we still have the same inept, unfair, improper laws about expropriation in this province as we had eight years ago. The nibbling away and the changes in the time since I have come in the House have been completely ineffective.

How long do you study before you do something? The people of Ontario are not happy with this because they are not getting a fair break. There is nothing that I said either in my interpretation of what went on at the meeting this morning that has changed my thinking one iota. I was not there, but I had a pretty full report on it. What the Attorney General said, insofar as he said it, was quite correct. But he avoided the two important issues. We need new expropriation laws in the province of Ontario, and The Department of Highways is acting improperly.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, before we leave vote 901 I have a couple of remarks I would like to make to the Minister. First of all, a year ago his predecessor reported to us on the secret meeting that he had with the other Highways Ministers in Toronto, the meeting at which the Ontario Provincial Police guarded the doors so that no members of the public would know what took place. Has this Minister had any such meetings this year?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, does the Minister intend to continue with meetings

with the Highways Ministers across the country?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he would, to try to retain his questions under the vote, please.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, surely this is the appropriate vote, the main vote, to ask whether or not the Minister is going to have meetings with the other Highways Ministers across the country?

Mr. Chairman: He has answered that.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: If such a thing is necessary, I assure the member we will do it, but there are no plans at the moment.

Mr. Sargent: Section 5 is the roads publicity, \$202,000; what is the publicity on roads for \$202,000?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, we had special advertising and we had displays at county fairs, mobile units visiting approximately 50 locations throughout the province. This also includes the cost of rental of space and attendants. The major exhibitions were at Toronto, London and Ottawa, and there were larger, more permanent type displays there. Then we had the distribution of the official road maps and pamphlets, we have the skylon at Niagara Falls, we had photography and a motion picture dealing with things and we have had special openings. We had publications such as the DHO News and the road bulletin and the road map, the road to recreation map, the northern road map and the illustrated booklets that we put out covering them which were distributed at these exhibitions.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Chairman, I have a question to ask of the Minister in connection with the trans-Canada highway near Ottawa, Highway 17. Is this the time to ask such a question? I am coming back to a question that has been asked over the years about the roads.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, this would come under vote 907 again.

Mr. Racine: Well, Mr. Chairman, I was referring particularly to Distillers Creek around Cumberland. Would that still belong to vote 907?

Mr. Chairman: I think under the circumstances, that the construction of safety items, guard rails and so on we decided to deal with them under vote 907. Perhaps you will undertake to raise them at that time.

Mr. Racine: Mr. Chairman, there is another area I think that I would like to explore at this time, and that is the cooperation that exists between the Minister of Highways, the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Is there a meeting that takes place occasionally, because there are problems that are naturally of importance to the three departments? I was wondering if at any time those three Ministers get together?

I recall, Mr. Chairman, a meeting that took place in Ottawa a few weeks ago which was chaired by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, and it seems to me that either the Minister himself or his Deputy, Mr. Cummings, who was there at that time, was asked about the transportation problems or the highway problems in the area. I recollect correctly either the Minister or Mr. Cummings said that this was not their problem. This was strictly the problem of The Department of Highways.

Now, it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that there are some problems that should be discussed at that level, and I was wondering whether there was such a committee and whether that committee met at any time to discuss those problems that had something to do with two, three or four different departments of government.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I can assure the member that we meet whenever it is necessary and I can also tell him that at the present time we meet twice a week on general problems such as you refer to.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 901.

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): Mr. Chairman, before we leave this vote I notice the St. Clair parkway commission comes under this vote. I am on this commission and I would like to make a very short report with reference to it if I may.

This commission was set up last May and got under way, I believe, in July. Since that time a tremendous amount of work has been done but I suppose the main thing is that we have established a concept for this parkway, which, while it is a development of park lands as other parkways are, we hope to make unique and to take full advantage of those things which we have on the St. Clair river which may not be in other parkways. The concept that we have is of great magnitude and will, perhaps, take anywhere from 35 to 50 years to develop fully. We believe it is going to be not only something for the people of Ontario, but a tremendous tourist attraction in the future.

We have been engaged also in selecting a motif, which is not an easy job when you get down to it, and a colour scheme which we will use for the future, and the hiring of a manager. We are on the point of hiring a manager at this stage and we hope that he will be with us and ready to go as of April 1 when we come into some funds, if these are approved. The start that we are going to make this year is rather modest because the new manager is going to take some time to be able to understand the concept that we have drawn up and to establish himself in a small and modest way to begin with. We have office space rented. We want to make at least a significant start this year and we intend to take one of the small roadside parks and there set up such things as a viewing station, lookouts, and tree it properly, landscape it properly. Then throughout the rest of the parkway we have significant spots to begin some tree planting, as well as signposting the whole parkway. As you know it extends from the Bluewater Bridge at Point Edward to Ticky Tacky Point, which is not far from Wallaceburg.

We have not taken over the actual roadway itself nor will this formally come into our hands until the new Highway 40 is completed some few years hence, but we have made arrangements to go ahead and develop these same roadside parks. Besides that there has been something over \$750,000 spent by the local municipalities in establishing park land, in getting hold of park land along this parkway, and we hope in conjunction with them to develop it.

The way this parkway is financed is unique in that the municipalities participate. The government, through The Department of Highways, and the municipalities of Lambton county, Kent county, the city of Sarnia and the city of Chatham, are partners in this whole setup. And of course the financing to some extent, I imagine, will be pretty well governed from year to year by what the municipalities may be able to bear. We have had several meetings with the municipalities, with the heads of the municipalities, with their counsels. We have taken them into our confidence, shown them what our concept is, and what our financing programme is to be, and we do hope this year to make a significant start so that when you come to visit our area you will finally see the beginning of the St. Clair parkway.

Vote 901 agreed to.

On vote 902:

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on vote 902 there is a substantial increase in rental equipment. Would the Minister explain to us the extent of the electronic computing services, and whether there is a plan for their further expansion, or are they sufficient now for the needs of the department, and what use is made of this electronic equipment?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might tell the member that these are on a rental basis as he suggests. The equipment is always being updated. There comes a time when it is not sufficient for what we need, so other equipment has to be supplied. I do not think we could ever say that we would have sufficient to maintain the progress that is being made. I might say that the type of work being performed by the branch includes engineering calculation, transportation studies, critical path analysis, accounting reports, personnel reports, management systems and plotting. I also want to say that this is done in our department for other departments of government.

Mr. Sargent: Is this the only computing programme you have in government?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Oh, no!

Mr. Sargent: Well, the Minister said he was doing work for other departments.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We do the scientific work. There are others in other departments.

Mr. Sargent: The point is, how many computing rentals like this do we have in government then?

Mr. Chariman: We do not have that before us. There is only this particular one of The Department of Highways.

Mr. Sargent: You rent this equipment from one of the leading firms?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: On a yearly contract? How long is the contract?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is on a monthly basis and we—

Mr. Sargent: You are spending \$1.7 million in this one department on a computing programme yet you rent this equipment? I have never seen a rental equipment contract. If you had to pay travelling expenses for the people to service that equipment why give them \$10,000 to service their equipment?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The \$10,000 is for our staff to be trained, to take the necessary courses to operate the equipment.

Mr. Sargent: Well, when you buy a computing programme, you buy instructions with it. You need to get something when you pay—

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on the electronic equipment that the Minister refers to, what is the additional \$300,000? Is it a replacement? Has some of the equipment been replaced with new equipment or is this an addition to the functioning of the system?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is more powerful equipment. We are gradually moving, step by step, into more complicated areas so we have to have a change in the equipment.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I submit to the Minister that I am told that in computing, it takes a very, very big business to keep one computer going all the time. You tell us that there is more than one computer programme. They are wasting a lot of money spending \$1.7 million in this one department. Mr. Chairman, this brings into focus the great need for an efficiency survey in this government. Millions of dollars are being wasted on stupid things like this.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The reason we have computers—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would like to tell the hon. member that we do not think it is wasted. We are working two shifts to keep up with the work for ourselves and for other departments of government and there is the possibility of going into three shifts. So, the equipment is certainly being used.

Mr. Sargent: My information on computer programming is that one computer pro-

gramme of this magnitude could run the whole province of Ontario as far as municipalities are concerned. You are using one department to spend \$1.7 million. I suggest that you are very wrong.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would certainly suggest to the Minister that next year, when he presents his estimates, he spend a little bit of time explaining the integration of the computer service into The Department of Highways—what its uses are, how it operates, what improvements it permits the department to make in its calculations and in the studies which it undertakes.

I would also like to know whether or not it is being used by other departments, if there is any allocation of cost to the other departments, how many people are being trained in the government service in this very important field and where they are being trained, and a general assessment of the contribution that the computer programme is making. Certainly it is a field that requires care in its expansion, but must of necessity continue to be expanded, and I think the House is entitled to a more detailed and elaborate description of the use which is being made of this up-to-date equipment.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think, in reply to the hon. member, first of all, I appreciate very much the compliment he paid to me in having me present these estimates next year because I feel so happy about it.

The other thing that I could say is: We would be very glad to give you a complete report of what we could do with all this equipment, and I will try and do that before the end of this session.

Vote 902 agreed to.

It being six o'clock p.m., the House took recess.

ERRATUM

Wednesday, February 22, 1967

Page	Column	Line	Correction
778	1	5	Change to read: Hon. Mr. Bales: Since the problem has now reappeared—



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 28, 1967
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS (Continued)

Vote 903 agreed to.

On vote 904:

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, this may not be the place to bring this up, but the question I would like to ask of the Minister is that, on Highways 6 and 10 leading from Toronto to the north, on three different occasions in the past winter, there have been times in driving that distance when one would never pass a sanding unit or a plough of The Department of Highways. On questioning the OPP—conditions on the highways were such that it was almost too dangerous for any car to be on the highway—I asked the provincial police why they do not have the power, when they are on patrol, to call out the department's sanding trucks and ploughing trucks. To my amazement, there is no liaison. The OPP on their patrol do not have the power to call out the sanding or ploughing trucks on highways. I may be wrong, but I would like the Minister to give his opinion on why this is not so.

Why cannot we have liaison between the maintenance of our highways in hazardous conditions and the OPP? Why does not the OPP have the power to order your trucks into service? It has got to the point where they say it is dangerous for any kind of units to be on the highway. The travelling public can travel, but your department will not go on the highway. I think there should be a liaison between the two units.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): I think there is excellent communication between the OPP and us. They can radio their headquarters and their headquarters can get our equipment.

As to the particular roads you are talking about, I can look into that and let you know. It was Highway 6?

Mr. Sargent: And 10.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, on numerous occasions we are made aware of the hazards of snow plough operations on the highways. Does this come under The Department of Transport or The Department of Highways?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Could I ask the member if he means the flashing lights that are on the ploughs?

Mr. Worton: No, I am speaking, Mr. Minister, of the publicity that is given over the television stations, and so on, in regard to the hazards of maintenance equipment.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That would be under The Department of Highways.

Mr. Worton: Well then, could I have the approximate cost of the publicity given to the different television stations and, in particular the Buffalo station?

Mr. Chairman: I do not see anything under this particular vote.

Mr. Worton: Well, whenever the vote comes up.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might give the member the answer, sir. There is no payment to the television stations for this. It is a public service. They use our films and just show them.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the hon. Minister something about the cost of the salt that is used on the provincial highways. I presume it will be under this vote.

In the past, before he gives an answer, I would like to point out that for the past 12 years I have been here, on each and every occasion that the Minister of Highways' estimates came up, the question of salt on the highways was brought up—the cost that it is to the motorist through the deterioration of their vehicles.

To my knowledge, too, on each and every occasion the Minister of Highways has said that we are experimenting with something else; that they recognize the fact that millions

of dollars worth of damage is done to the vehicles of the province that travel on the King's highways because of the use of salt. On occasions, too, the Minister has said that this of course is a saving; it saves lives. No one denies this, that something is needed to assist the ice in melting besides mother nature.

But I would be interested in having the Minister tell us just what degree of experimentation the department has made with some substitute for the use of salt—with the sure and certain knowledge in his heart that there are hundreds of millions of dollars of damage done to the vehicles in the province of Ontario each and every year, by the fact that no suitable substitute has been discovered up to the present moment.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might point out to the hon. member that, in my introductory remarks I spoke of research. The tests are to continue until May, 1967, and there is an all-out attempt to assess the relative significance of every kind of corrosion. I went on to say that there are all types of research. Special samples of motor vehicle steel have been installed on vehicles operating in the provinces of Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia; this work takes into account the climatic conditions. While it will not be possible to reach firm conclusions until the end of the tests, in May of this year, it may be stated at this juncture that the testing to date has established that atmospheric corrosion which occurs independently of the use of salt is a highly significant matter. A preliminary analysis of the data will be available this July; and a full report in the late fall of 1967.

Mr. Whicher: Well Mr. Chairman, may I ask then how many tons of salt were used in the past year on the highways of the province of Ontario? And also the cost per ton, the average cost.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Last year, there were 291 tons of salt used.

Mr. Whicher: Two hundred and ninety-one—is that all?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: 291,000 tons. This year we are asking for 290,000. The average delivered cost of the salt is \$13.83 per ton.

An hon. member: A lot cheaper than your neck, too.

Mr. Whicher: I agree it is much cheaper than your neck, and I want to tell the Minister that I am sure there is not a member in this

House who does not appreciate the fact that you are studying this problem. But on the other hand, this morning, as an example, I noticed coming up University Avenue—and I realize this is not under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Highways—there was not any ice on the road, but there was what we might describe as the slop which has been created by the use of salt. It could be that this is the way that things should be done for the safety of the public.

On the other hand, I just could not see why salt should be used on occasions such as that because there was no ice.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Traffic would never have moved.

Mr. Whicher: Well, perhaps that is true.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister about this item in connection with the operation of ferries. I think the Minister will recognize already why I want to ask this question.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would like to hear your question.

Mr. Farquhar: I want to ask about the item under the operation of ferries, the cost of operation of ferries. I have two ferries in my riding and one of them I am concerned about. I am wondering how much detail the Minister can provide in connection with the operation of specific ferries?

If there is this kind of detail, could I ask the Minister if he can provide information on the cost of operation of the St. Joe Island ferry at Richards Landing, on St. Joseph's Island?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might tell the member that I do not have the cost separated, I just have the cost of the operation of all the ferries together; but we will get that information for him.

Mr. Farquhar: Well I am sorry about that, Mr. Chairman, because, as you may already be aware, there has been some correspondence to the effect that, related to operating costs, the idea of a new bridge in that area would probably have some merit. I am sorry we cannot get to a figure that I can relate to the cost of a possible new bridge being built. Could I have the information in connection with the cost of operating the St. Joe Island ferry at your convenience, sir?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might tell the hon. member, certainly we will get that information and give it to him as soon as possible.

In regard to the bridge, we have some federal problems to solve where it is a navigable waterway. I might say that we are in communication with them to see if we can resolve some of this. Maybe before too long we might have an answer for you.

Mr. Farquhar: Could I ask the hon. Minister one question in that regard, and I realize we are getting just slightly away from the vote.

Providing the federal government and the Minister of Transport there find it possible to remove the difficulties that—and we are talking in riddles I realize but, if and when he finds it possible to remove these difficulties, is the department considering the construction of a bridge?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is certainly a distinct possibility but we will have to wait and see what answer we get from them.

Mr. Farquhar: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, under this vote—to start, this vote 901 is described as ordinary expenditures. Under vote 904, section 4, we have development roads. We have heard the much touted \$3 million cost of the development road to service the Talisman ski lodge. What was the actual cost of this development road?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think I might point out that the vote—

Mr. Sargent: You are in trouble.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: —the vote we are on here is only the maintenance of development roads. It does not deal with construction.

Mr. Sargent: When will you get to the cost of the development roads?

Mr. Chairman: Under vote 907.

Mr. Sargent: All right; thank you.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Wentworth East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Chairman, I want to read a brief press clipping from the *Toronto Daily Star*, November 17, 1966, merely to bring the Minister and his officials up-to-date. Then I will refer to the point I want to make in regard to the press clipping after I have read it:

Six Newfoundland workers, former members of a road maintenance crew, have returned home after charging they were mistreated at a nearby Burlington camp site, operated by Curran and Briggs construction company of Toronto. The men said last week they were required to be on duty 24 hours a day and because they were working all the time they were making about 33 cents an hour. The company officials, Curran and Briggs, said they paid transportation for the men back to Newfoundland and hired four Ontario workmen to replace them. There were now 10 men in the crew.

Officials of the Ontario labour department said last week that the men's complaints are being investigated. The company said the men are required to spend about five minutes a day checking the machines they operate to ensure that they are ready for the road in case of sudden winter storms. Arrangements have been made for the men to have a 24-hour day off each week.

I understand the member for Halton (Mr. Kerr) was also concerned with this and visited both sites, one at Burlington and one at Bronte, and brought the conditions to the attention of the municipal authorities. Some changes were made in regard to sanitary conditions and living conditions in general in the camps.

But the point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister is: Would he explain to the House just what kind of an operation this is under The Department of Highways? It seems to me to be a very unusual way for a government department of a province the size of Ontario to be carrying on winter maintenance work with contractors who are bringing people in, hundreds of miles from home, and having them exist under these conditions in these times.

Would the Minister make some comment as to the reasons why the department entertains this type of contracting out? I would like to know also just how much the department pays the contractor. What relation would there be towards what they pay the contractor and what the contractor is paying the imported help?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well I am advised that what you are referring to is a contract let by the department for winter maintenance. The only control we have is to see that the maximum wage is adhered to. The inspection of camps, I think, is under The Department of Labour.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister tell me to what extent this type of road maintenance goes across the province? It is not the usual thing in all areas, I do not suppose?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is only more heavily used roads, where we rent the contractor's equipment, where we have not enough of our own to do the work.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Could you tell us what percentage of the total maintenance is charged to outside contractors, other than the departmental employees?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We do not have that information here, but I am advised it is a very small amount of the winter maintenance. We can get that figure for you.

Mr. Oliver: Twenty-five per cent?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I do not think it is nearly that.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Woodbine.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I have another item under this vote but I would like to pursue the matter that has now been raised. We have had great difficulty over the years in persuading the government to adopt a fair wage policy with regard to any kind of contract. Then when we got most of the government persuaded on that point it took the longest time to get The Department of Highways into line. Then we found when they finally did adopt fair wage schedules that were attached to their contracts that they were most inadequate and certainly far from satisfactory. When I hear this story here I begin to wonder if the situation is not even worse than we had thought. There was a contract here—presumably there was a fair wage schedule attached to it that would at least set certain wages that would be presumably higher than the minimum wage in effect in the province. Now what does the department do about relating wages to hours? I was under the impression that you do not in your contracts make any attempt to control hours or limit hours. I think that is a mistake, but you do not do it as I recall those contracts. I believe that the rates are set as hourly rates.

These men claimed that their rates worked out to about 33 cents an hour because they said they were on duty all the time, and I say they are right. If they are on duty they should be paid for every hour they are on duty. Even if doing nothing but smoking a pipe, as long as they are required to be on duty they should be paid. Now, what sort of

performance do you expect from contractors in a situation like this? Does the Minister have on hand information as to this particular contract and the nature of the schedules attached to it? I would imagine it would be a standard type of schedule. How could men be on duty 24 hours a day and apparently get a wage that works out to 33 cents?

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): How could they be on duty 24 hours a day?

Mr. Bryden: Well, it is possible, if the employer requires their presence at the place of work, they are on duty.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Twenty-four hours a day?

Mr. Bryden: If they are required to be there they are on duty. Certainly they are.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What would you know about working on highways?

Mr. Bryden: One of the difficulties is that we have mossbacks around like you who think that interminable working hours are perfectly legitimate in regard to highways. It is high time that we started to develop an attitude that men on highways are entitled to reasonable working conditions as well as anybody else. The Minister of Energy and Resources Management cannot even look after his own department so I would suggest he keep out of this one. Then perhaps we could get further with the Minister of Highways in this matter.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Chairman, here is this newspaper article, and I know of no Parliament in this country except the minority in this House that accepts a press statement as truth of the fact.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, the intervention of the House leader contributed nothing. Presumably this is about as sensitive a spot as has ever been. We have fought for years to get reasonable wages and working conditions on highway and other contracts, but we still get the same sort of diversion when we raise the matter.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, it is up to you as the chairman to see that that kind of argument is out of order. That man knows that we put the minimum wage—

Mr. Bryden: Of course—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: —and I know all about it because I did it.

Mr. Bryden: Of course, I dealt with that twice when the hon. Minister was not here—that after much resistance we have a sort of a half-baked scheme—but the fact still remains, Mr. Chairman, that we are asking the Minister what happened on this contract. If the House leader would keep out of it, considerably more progress would be made. We are perfectly entitled to raise a matter that appears in the press, and ask the Minister what he has to say about it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This is no proof of—

Mr. Bryden: Nobody said there was. Mr. Chairman, will you put the House leader in order?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Bryden: Nobody said the press was any authority for anything. We are asking the Minister for the information, and if the House leader would mind his own business we would make some progress.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, I raised the question and I appreciate the member for Woodbine getting incensed about the content of my question because it is quite valid and I would say to the House leader and the Minister of Energy and Resources Management that this case has been verified to a "T".

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: By whom? May I ask by whom?

Mr. Gisborn: Let the hon. Minister of Highways answer—the hon. Minister will verify what I have said is correct. If what I state is wrong, I will ask the hon. Minister of Highways and his officials to tell me that it is not correct.

It was found that these people, these men, were on a 24-hour basis, living in trailers—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: For how many days?

Mr. Gisborn:—one in Burlington and one in Bronte.

I spoke to the member for Halton on the phone, and he investigated. I spoke to him afterwards and he said it was quite correct and he has had the municipal authorities look into it. The reason they were there on 24-hour duty was in case of a storm. The men raised their complaint on grievance because they were not allowed even to leave the

trailer to go into town. And when they raised these beefs, the member for Halton and the municipal authorities got in touch with the contractor and they made some changes in the sanitary conditions and other living conditions in the trailers, as I said before, and they agreed to give them one 24-hour period off a week, when they could do as they wished.

Now if this is correct—and I want the Minister of Highways to tell me—if this kind of contracting out to look after the winter maintenance of roads in the province of Ontario is correct, then it is very unusual and an undesirable way to have people work in this province. I would think they could look after their own winter maintenance, hire their own people and their own equipment and have the men working regular hours for the regular pay. Certainly if it is correct, they have been violating the hours of work Act in this province because they were not going home—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: How could they go home to Newfoundland?

Mr. Gisborn: That is correct, they were assumed to be at home at that time, but they were on duty 24 hours. I think this is not a very desirable condition in this province and I would like some assurance from the Minister that they will consider changing this kind of operation and to verify whether what I have said is correct or not.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I cannot verify the member's statement. We do not have the information on that contract here, but we will get it. But I presume the men were on call and they were living there; but this is only my thoughts. We will get the details of it and see what—

Mr. Whicher: Why does the Minister not ask the House leader?

I want to ask the hon. Minister, how many men are employed by the department looking after the maintenance of the King's highways?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We do not have that figure because sometimes the man might be on maintenance in the winter and be on construction in the summer.

Mr. Whicher: What is the total number employed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: There are 13,900.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Chairman, vote 904 F—the city of Niagara Falls, compensation for loss of taxes \$12,000.

I have the statutes here of 1941, an Act affecting the Rainbow bridge. Many of you may recall that at that time they built a new bridge across the river and took up a lot of the valuable property from Clifton Hill along the river front to Bender Hill. They tore down buildings such as the Clifton hotel, the Lafayette hotel, the Prince of Wales dance hall and many small stores in between, for which this province is paying some \$12,000 grants in lieu of taxes to the city of Niagara Falls.

I would like to read a portion of that Act, chapter 48:

Whereas it is desirable that the city shall be recompensed for the loss of taxes sustained by the acquisition of the said lands by the province.

It would appear at that time they felt that they ought to pay them grants in lieu of taxes to the tune of \$12,000 which they felt would cover the losses to the city. In this Act also it states that they will pay for no local improvements except that one portion which is \$12,000.

Since the hon. Minister has some reconstruction going on at the Rainbow bridge, I would like to ask if he intends to replace the stores there; if he is going to remodel them, as I understand it, and build a big restaurant also. I might say in passing that these stores will be doing business in direct opposition to stores in that area.

The big restaurant he intends to put in there, where the Canada coach and the Gray coach used to park their buses, is also going to be in direct opposition to the business in that area, and I gather from this Act that there will be no increase in the grants in lieu of taxes. I am wondering whether the Act would hold in a court of law today, since they are reconstructing the whole approach to the bridge—and spending, I would guess, several millions of dollars in that area.

Would it be possible through the proper source to increase that grant in view of the fact that you are building a new structure completely?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might tell the hon. member that this is under review and that is not just an answer to give him an answer.

The other thing is that I think when the reconstruction is complete there will not be quite as many stores as there were before.

One thing that I think he should remember is that these people pay business tax—the people who are renting the properties.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, the Deputy, I suppose, conveyed that a business tax on a structure of that type is a mighty small portion of the tax that is due that city. Now if it is being reviewed and you are at the moment negotiating with the city of Niagara Falls, I would not want to step in between and make this a political issue at this time.

An hon. member: At this time? At this time?

Mr. Bukator: I leave the door open to myself. If it is being reviewed I will accept the hon. Minister's explanation and wait to see what the results might be. But I might say in passing, Mr. Chairman, it is unfair when you stop and figure that on that particular bridge they are only getting \$12,000, and on the Peace bridge, which is nothing in comparison by way of structure and investment in a bridge, they are paying to the town of Fort Erie some \$67,000. Now there is your comparison.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Is there an answer?

Mr. Chairman: On vote 904?

Mr. Smith: Section 5 under this vote, is the agreement of local roads boards—is that the subsidy to those boards?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes it is.

Mr. Smith: Has this been successful in those areas since they brought in the local roads boards? Have they been successful in providing services in areas that had not had this service prior to this?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that it has improved the situation a lot. We are able to pay a larger subsidy by having this type of thing.

Mr. Smith: The hon. Minister is aware, I am sure, of the problems that smaller areas have when they set up a local roads board. There may be 50 or 60 people involved and out of that maybe 35 or 40 are prepared to pay their share and the other 20 are not. Is the department considering any method of setting up these boards so that they can have the legal right to go to the people within an area with the consent of the people in the area? Can they go to the people and say that they must pay?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We will have some information on that for the hon. member in a moment.

Mr. Farquhar: Something further on that same point, Mr. Chairman: A year ago now, the statute labour boards were being gradually changed over into local roads boards, and a good many of them had not been contacted, meetings had not been set up with them to explain the difference between statute labour board and roads board. I am wondering what the situation is now. Have all these statute roads boards people been contacted, and an explanation given to them as to exactly how they set up their meetings, form the local roads boards and so on? I have a feeling that quite a few of them have not had access to the roads boards legislation, the type of grant, what is required of them and so on, even yet.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes, our municipal roads engineers have been around to all of them to explain the situation and I might say now they have the legal right to collect the taxes that are due from the people.

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William): Mr. Chairman, following on from the hon. member who spoke previously, with regard to local roads boards and statute labour boards, is the hon. Minister in a position to tell us the number or approximately the number of what were originally statute labour boards which are now operating under the local roads boards system?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No, I do not have that figure here but I can get it for the hon. member.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Chairman, on July 12 last year after the House rose, there was an article in the *Windsor Star* captioned: *July Completion Pledge Overlooks 38 Crossroads*. This article pointed out that the highway officials maintained stoutly that Highway 401 would be completed "this month"—that is July of last year—while ignoring the fact that there are still 38 roads crossing the four-lane highway without grade separations between Windsor and London alone. It further points out that half the deaths on this 110-mile stretch have occurred at these crossings. How many of these level crossings—

Mr. Chairman: If the member will excuse me, I believe that will come under construction. At the present time we are dealing with maintenance under vote 904.

Mr. Smith: To get back to local roads boards, Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister said they had the legal right to collect these taxes. Now, at the start if there is not a complete agreement among the people in the area, how do they then form the boards? This is the problem I think they are running into in many areas in order to formulate the board in the first place.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: There has to be a certain number of owners within the area, but I cannot tell the hon. member just the proportion. It does not necessarily have to be 100 per cent.

Mr. Smith: But once it is formed and the majority want it or whatever the number is, the rest can be forced to pay by whom? By the department or by the local roads board itself?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It would be by the local roads board; they have this power to collect the taxes.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I have an item that applies to either vote 904 or vote 907, since it deals with municipal subsidies. Since a lot of matters are pending for vote 907, I will raise it now. With respect to Metropolitan Toronto, as I understand the current situation, and the hon. Minister can correct me if I am wrong, if one takes the constituent municipalities of Metropolitan Toronto, subsidies for roads are paid to the city of Toronto on the basis of 33½ per cent and to all the boroughs on the basis of 50 per cent. Am I correct in that, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: Does the hon. Minister have sufficient ingenuity of any kind whatever to give any explanation of this? What conceivable reason can there be for making this difference between the city of Toronto and any of the other boroughs? I am not suggesting the boroughs are getting too much. I am suggesting, however, the city of Toronto is getting too little.

Bear in mind, Mr. Chairman, that before the recent reorganization, Forest Hill and Swansea were villages and they were on the 50-per-cent rate. Because they have been unfortunate enough to be, by a pure political act—and I am using now political in the technical sense—by an act that had nothing to do with road construction they happened to have been put in with the city of Toronto, those citizens there now benefit only to the extent of 33½ per cent. There is no logic in

it that I can see. And I would certainly be happy if the hon. Minister could indicate any logic.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps he could tell us if this would properly come under vote 907, with municipal subsidies under section 4?

Mr. Bryden: There are all kinds of subsidies, Mr. Chairman, so I thought we might as well clean it up here. I will not raise it again under vote 907.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, it is quite all right to have it here. I believe, I cannot just get the date, but at the start of the session this question was asked before the orders of the day. The answer at that time was that we followed the report of the Goldenberg commission and we had granted the additional subsidy to the townships which, in effect, are the boroughs. But there had been no change made for the cities—and this is not only the city of Toronto, it is all cities.

At that time the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) announced the formation of the new Metropolitan Toronto, he also said that we were taking Goldenberg's report and also waiting the report of the Smith commission on taxation, when there would be a complete review of it; but Toronto is the same as every other city. As soon as the bill went into force, we notified the boroughs that they would get the additional subsidy of 50 per cent.

Mr. Bryden: I was aware of the answer that the Minister has just given but what I was asking for now was a logical answer. There is no logic in that answer at all. What is said is that Goldenberg, from his point up on the Mount Sinai, decreed that it will be 50 per cent for the boroughs and 33½ per cent for Toronto. Goldenberg gave no more reason than the Minister did for this differential. In my opinion, that is no answer at all!

I am aware that the city of Toronto proper is on the same basis as all other cities in the province. I am not so sure that other cities should be on that basis but that is not a matter I am going into now. But there is no logical reason for differentiating between the city of Toronto and the borough of York, for example, which is a completely built-up area indistinguishable from the city of Toronto except to those people who are very familiar with the area. There is no basis for making a distinction between Toronto and the borough of East York.

In a borough like Scarborough, where they are still doing a lot of development, I could see that there might be possibly a basis for

a logical difference. There is no basis at all in the other cases, and I just do not see any reason why we have to put up with this sort of answer: that we are doing it because this is the way it was decreed that it be done.

We are now waiting for the Smith report. Mr. Smith, undoubtedly, is a very intelligent man but if he is going to solve all the problems the government claims it is keeping on the shelf until he turns in his report, he is going to be a man of superlative genius.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What has that to do with this vote?

Mr. Bryden: This is part of the answer given. If you would pay attention, you know, we could get a lot more progress; we would not get the thoughtless sort of interjections you are making. I would suggest that the Minister, since he pays no attention, should not bother interjecting because he is really making a fool of himself.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I object to that remark.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I object to that remark by the hon. member for Woodbine. I would ask him to retract it.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, what sort of nonsense are we getting into now? Listening to you. I would suggest that the Minister should not make an even bigger fool of himself than he made a minute ago. If he would just stay out of this matter, we could get it cleared up.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You mean you are the know-all of this House?

Mr. Bryden: By no means. But I am suggesting that you have been in and out, and when you are here you do not listen. You would be much smarter to make no interjections.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You are not even running again.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for Woodbine to direct his remarks to the chair. I would ask the Minister if he will please refrain from interjecting.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: If the hon. Minister will stay in order, even for a moment, I will direct my

remarks to the Minister of Highways as I was doing before this interjection.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Bryden: To say that we will wait until Lancelot Smith and his committee deal with the matter is not a logical answer either, Mr. Chairman. Presumably, there is no logical answer, and if that is so then I would suggest to the Minister that he should consult with his colleagues with a view to getting this discrimination rectified. It may be that it will take a bit of time because, as the Minister has pointed out, all cities—all the municipalities in the province that are technically defined as "cities"—are on the 33½ per cent rate, and they have been unhappy about that for a long time. I can see he has a problem, but still the gross illogicality that has been committed in the Toronto area, I think, makes it imperative that the whole question of municipal subsidization and the basis on which it will be provided be reviewed.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Right. That is just the point.

Mr. Bryden: But you are not reviewing it; you are waiting for Smith to give you a decree.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kingston.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might ask the Minister, through you, if this is the vote where you might bring up what the charges of the counties are towards the cities in connection with roads that are used to bring people from the counties into the cities—or from the cities out to the counties; suburban roads whereby there is a certain percentage based on the equalized assessment of the city. I wonder if this is the vote where I might ask a question on that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It will be all right here, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Apps: Then may I ask the Minister, through you, whether there is any consideration being given to changing the legislation that was in effect last year, whereby in the case of Kingston, the county was in a position to charge a great deal more than they had done previously. They did not necessarily do it, but the power was given in the Legislature. I am wondering if there is any consideration being given to amend that legislation to keep the charges down to what they were before this new legislation was put in.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised there is a new formula being worked out for this purpose.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, the grant structure that the hon. member for Woodbine was talking about, where you get 33½ per cent in the cities, some cities not all, and 50 per cent in others—take the grants on bridges alone—this is a sound argument against regional government. Until the government decides to treat all municipalities the same when it comes to grants, we will not have regional government. May I draw the bridge question to your attention, Mr. Chairman. If you were to build a bridge here in the city again you would get 33½ per cent towards that bridge, but if it were built out in a municipality—such as the member for Woodbine speaks about, and which is not a city—they get 80 per cent from this government. Certainly that is a tremendous spread between the two simply because they call themselves by another name. Towns, villages and townships get 80 per cent for bridges.

An hon. member: There is nothing wrong there.

Mr. Bukator: Certainly there is nothing wrong there but why should the cities be penalized by getting only 33½ per cent? That is the point exactly. I would like your comment again: Is there nothing wrong there?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Bukator: That is one man's opinion and I am glad I do not have to bank on that too much. Mr. Chairman, getting back to the suburban road commission, since we were discussing that. Suburban road commissions will get from the city a half mill so that if the city is assessed \$100 million the county can charge them \$50,000 for fixing up roads away out and beyond that city. Talk about your laws that are antiquated! This is a thing of the past and should not exist.

Many suburban roads ought to be a link between two highways, and taken into the highway system rather than being a suburban road.

Maybe the day will come when the Smith commission brings in its report—we might work on that also—but it is about time that this government looked at these particular issues and looked at them very closely. It does not make sense to me when you see a suburban road running from the city of Niagara Falls, or any other city, away beyond any township and into another village

and the city has to pick up the tab for half of the mills. If they are assessed, again I say, for \$100 million, that city has to pay to the suburban road commission \$50,000 to help maintain roads away beyond that city, for what purpose I do not know.

Mr. D. W. Ewen (Wentworth): Regional government is the answer to that.

Mr. Bukator: Regional government is the answer to the problem if the government could get around to the point where they would treat everybody equally. Just as soon as you become a part of a borough or a larger city, then you are paying extra money because you become a part of a city. But for what purpose? This does not make sense. I suggest through you, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister that the suburban roads commission are doing a good job and they may come directly under the government—the provincial Department of Highways—and maybe they can continue the good job they are doing but I do not know why a city should have to pick up half of the cost of what is done in that area.

I might bring the bridge question to your attention again just to see if some of these fellows who have been mumbling in the background have not heard it. The city gets 33½ per cent for bridges, where a township gets 80 per cent from this same government.

An hon. member: Why?

Mr. Bukator: That is what I would like to know—why?

An hon. member: Grants.

Mr. Bukator: Grants in lieu of taxes are a thing of the past. It is about time that we got down to the business of assessments and paid our taxes according to the manual that the province drafted some few years ago and that they do not apply even in their own business.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bracondale.

Mr. Ben: I would like to have the hon. Minister, first of all, reply to the hon. member for Niagara Falls.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: As I have stated before, legislation is to be introduced changing this at this session.

Mr. Bukator: When?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: During this session.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I was going to wait until vote 907, but as was pointed out by the hon. member for Woodbine, there are two items which deal with municipal subsidies under The Highway Improvement Act and it specifically mentions Metropolitan Toronto in both these items. Therefore I will avail myself of the same opportunity as did the hon. member for Woodbine, and bring up the matter of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto under this item.

Last year, Mr. Chairman, before the present Minister assumed this portfolio, I had made certain statements in this House and an interim report was brought down immediately before the end of the last session. It was indicated that there would be a further and final report. To date that has not been brought down.

Would the Minister please tell this House, through you Mr. Chairman, when this final report will come down? Will he also indicate if he has the figures available, what changes have been made in the relationship that has existed between The Department of Highways and the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto so far as their dealings on the question of subsidies is concerned.

I should also like to know how many reports there were to his department of violations or breaches of contract, which violations should be reported to the department in order for the department to evaluate the ability of contractors to undertake future contracts. How many of these were reported to him in the two years preceding my statement in this House and how many have been reported to him since I made that statement?

There is another matter, about the bridge crossing the Humber River—the bridge on the Frederick Gardiner expressway. That bridge was reported to be in a very bad condition and certain extensive repairs have to be made to it. What is the nature of these repairs—how extensive are they? How much of that expenditure is being contributed by this government?

I shall have a few more questions after you answer those, Mr. Minister, but I do not want to flood you with too many at once.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think the hon. member must realize that these are the questions that he asked before the orders of the day and we are getting the answers to them as I promised. As soon as we have them, we will give them.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, the statements I made regarding the condition of the bridge

crossing the Humber River were made some eight months ago.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Which one?

Mr. Ben: That was the statement pointing out that the bearings were maladjusted, that the two bearing piers were—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Which bridge is the hon. member talking about?

Mr. Ben: The Frederick Gardiner expressway bridge over the Humber River at the Lakeshore. Now there is only one Humber River.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You have not made that clear.

Mr. Ben: The Frederick Gardiner does not run up north; it just runs down along the Lakeshore. This was pointed out in the press, there were photographs showing the condition of this bridge, photographs showing big holes in the bridge structure itself. It showed the pier on which the span rests as having been spreading away from the span itself, so that the bearings were soon going to have nothing resting on them.

Now what action was taken on that by this department?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well Mr. Chairman, might I read to the member the third question which he asked today? "What repairs have been made to the superstructure bridge crossing the Humber River in Metropolitan Toronto?"

I told him that we were getting the answer as soon as we can—it is not that I want to withhold information—but when you take the three questions, there is a lot of research to be done. We will certainly give you the answers.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I would say jumping Humber River catfish eyeballs, if we had catfish in the Humber River. The Minister knew his estimates were coming up. He knew that this was a big issue.

Mr. Bryden: He did not.

Mr. Ben: You mean he did not know his estimates were coming up?

An hon. member: Not today.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: I did not say today. I swear that the hon. members over there are deaf in one ear and have a stone wall behind the other.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Mr. Ben: None of us expected these estimates to come up today, but the fact is that the hon. Minister knew that his estimates were going to come up. He knew that they were going to come up after The Department of the Attorney General.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. May I suggest to the member for Bracondale that the Minister has answered the question in this respect, and as he has indicated in the procedure questions before the orders of the day, he is promising you the information.

Mr. Ben: Well I heard the Minister say that and I heard you make that statement, Mr. Chairman. But I might point out that since the issue was raised in the Toronto press over six months ago—seven months ago—one would have assumed that the hon. Minister would have been prepared to answer this question. He should have investigated this charge when it was made.

Mr. Chairman, we are still dealing with Metropolitan Toronto. Everyone knows that Metropolitan Toronto since World War II has been subject to abnormal growth, which is still continuing and will continue for years to come. And everybody knows that the transportation facilities in this area have not kept pace with this expansion.

An hon. member: That is not so.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I challenge that.

Mr. Ben: All right then; you listen, you challenge it.

Normal expansion of urban areas should take place the way it does around Crawley near London, England, and near Farstra in Sweden. There the roads—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: I took a trip in The Department of Lands and Forests plane.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if the member for Bracondale would permit an interruption for a moment?

I notice that some of our visitors are leaving and I know that the members of this House would like me to say a word of welcome to the visitors who are here tonight, and the young girls in uniform, and to the large number of secretaries that are here, and to the members of the executive of Scarborough North Progressive Conservative association.

Mr. Ben: I hope that Scarborough North Progressive Conservative association appreciate that it was a Liberal that yielded the floor in order that they could receive a welcome from this House.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, before the hon. member continues, might I take the opportunity with your permission to say that we have a large group from the New Democratic Party youth in the gallery, from Hamilton, and we welcome them also.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you very much.

Mr. Ben: And as a Liberal, Mr. Chairman, I am also happy to yield the floor to welcome the people from Hamilton.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: It is a weakness, as I was pointing out, and in England the rapid transit was extended into the suburbs and was completed simultaneously with the expansion of the urban area in any specific direction. Now it is not possible to cope with the ever increasing demand for wider arterial roads and expressways to facilitate the automobile after expansion is completed. Toronto is a prime example of that.

In the face of increased car registrations due to population growth and affluence, it has been proven in the past 20 years that the odds are against such a programme. The original Toronto bypass of Highway 401 was at maximum capacity a few months after it was opened to the public and the Don Valley parkway and the F. G. Gardiner expressway, both under construction for the past 10 years are now at maximum capacity well before they are completed.

Mr. Chairman: I hesitate to interrupt the member but I think he is dealing with capital disbursements and not with maintenance under vote 904. So I would ask him, if he will, to hold those capital disbursements—

Mr. Ben: Well if it sounds so good, Mr. Chairman, that you want the House to hear it again, I will move on.

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I am not questioning your ruling, but as was pointed out by the hon. member for Woodbine, the way these estimates are set up there are two items in the estimates, votes 904 and 907, which deal with grants to municipalities. I grant you that in one instance they deal with maintenance and in the other they deal with con-

struction. However, my particular topic covers both maintenance and construction and I would not relish you ruling me out of order under vote 907 by telling me I should have dealt with the maintenance aspect of these estimates under vote 904.

Mr. Chairman: Let us get on with it.

An hon. member: Let us get on with the business.

Mr. Ben: Well, if you did not have so much hot air there; why did you not get on with it?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Ben: It must also be noted, Mr. Chairman, that the design criterion demanded today by traffic volume for the extension of the Don Valley parkway from Sheppard Avenue to Steeles Avenue and the ultimate Highway 404 to Lake Simcoe, which the province proposes to start constructing after 1970, must be curtailed because the existing \$46-million-or-more parkway is not capable of handling any increased traffic volumes. Neither does the restricted design in the Don Valley parkway make any provisions for future expansion.

The extension of the Frederick Gardiner expressway easterly into Scarborough will be difficult to design, because by the time it is completed in 10 or 15 years, the projected volume of vehicles it will have to carry, coupled with the volume of traffic using the Don Valley parkway connection to the expressway at the Don River, could not possibly be accommodated on the existing Gardiner expressway from Leslie Street to the downtown area.

The Department of Highways recently announced its immediate plans for the complete renovation of the Queen Elizabeth Way from Highway 27 to the Frederick Gardiner expressway. It will be interesting to see the results of these improvements with the free-flowing interchange of Highway 27 to the Queen Elizabeth Way. It could result in yet greater congestion on the \$100-million Gardiner expressway from the Humber River to downtown and points easterly.

It is generally known, Mr. Chairman, that the province is spending some \$100 million to refurbish that section of the Macdonald-Cartier freeway, or Highway 401, across the northern portion of Metropolitan Toronto. An increase in the original estimated cost of this endeavour is one reason why they have had to postpone any start on the much-needed

Highway 404 from the end of the Don Valley parkway extension at Steeles Avenue up to Newmarket and up the east side of Lake Simcoe until after 1970. It was originally scheduled to be completed to Newmarket by 1967.

It is not, however, generally known that after the section of Highway 401 was designed and under construction from Kipling Avenue east to Yonge Street, the design criterion for that section west from Kipling Avenue to Highway 27 dictated by projected volumes in the rapidly expanding Malton and Rexdale industrial area could not be met. Even the computers could not give the answers for this section without changing the assignments for traffic incorporated in the millions of dollars worth of work already being constructed from Islington Avenue to Yonge Street.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Slow down. Slow down.

Mr. Ben: The Toronto *Daily Star* on October 12 carried an article captioned: Oakville to Oshawa Metro by Year 2000: Gardiner—that is referring to Frederick Gardiner. This article on Frederick Gardiner's vision of the future concluded with the following paragraph:

He said both highways and subways will be required to move Metro's traffic, and despite all arguments that people should be derricked out of their cars and put on the public transit system, people will only leave their cars at home when the transit system is a more convenient and economical way to travel.

That was his statement. Every town planner or traffic expert who has studied the traffic problems in Metropolitan Toronto has come up with the same answer, that if a small percentage of the motoring public could be induced to leave their cars at home and use public transit, then the present hopeless task of trying to provide adequate arterial roads and expressways for the balance could be achieved.

Years ago the percentage required to use public transit instead of motor vehicles to achieve the above result was only three per cent. What the percentage would be today can only be guessed at. I concur with Mr. Gardiner in that people will only leave their cars at home when the transit system is a more convenient way to travel. But the transit system, even as it now exists in Metropolitan Toronto, is a more economical way to travel than by motor car, if one takes into consideration the cost of gasoline, insurance, traffic

congestion and parking. Something has to be done to improve the Toronto transit commission's service on its suburban lines feeding and evacuating the existing subway terminals and stations.

While on Metro council I observed that expenditures and highway improvements were based primarily on geographical location. This was determined by political influence since each member of the metropolitan council was obligated to see that the municipality he represented got its proper share of the improvements. But this system did not encourage capital expenditures to the end that it would be of most benefit to all concerned.

The inability, under the former system, of certain municipalities to work together and agree on major traffic improvements in the suburbs of the city of Toronto—such as the Eglinton Avenue East extension, the Spadina Road extension, and so on, drastically needed at that time—led to the formation of the roads department in accordance with The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Act in 1954. From a study of the operations of the metropolitan roads department during the past 12 years, I have come to the conclusion that it has been a failure, that a metropolitan road system could only thrive as a commission free of all political interference.

I am convinced that the political influence of the members of the municipalities is reflected in the annual budget of the metropolitan roads department by numerous changes and adjustments to its 10-year programme. This province pays close to 50 per cent of the increased cost of these changes and adjustments, and later, Mr. Chairman, I am going to give you some specific examples of these changes of which we pay 50 per cent.

The impossible job that must be done is being hindered under the present system rather than facilitated. For example, take a look at the widening of Bayview Avenue and Blythwood to Steeles Avenue. Year after year small portions of this arterial road were widened. One year, Blythwood Road to Post Road; the next year, Post Road to York Mills Road; the next, York Mills Road to Sheppard Avenue; the following year, Sheppard Avenue to Finch Avenue, and finally this year, that is last year and this year, Finch Avenue to Steeles Avenue.

The users of Bayview Avenue certainly must have felt the effect of this prolonged construction policy to widen this artery every year for five years.

If storm sewer installation by the area municipality is a contributing factor to this

piecemeal procedure, then storm sewers should have been installed by the metropolitan corporation and charged back to the municipality at a later date. Can you imagine what effect such a programme would have on the services of the Toronto transit commission, subjected annually to construction, road closures and detours on the same line? How can a motorist be enticed out of his car and into the transit system under these conditions?

If Bayview Avenue had been closed except for local traffic for a year or two and the entire distance from Blythwood Road to Steeles Avenue improved, the savings to the taxpayers to have one large contract rather than five small ones would have been of considerable magnitude. But more important, the Toronto transit commission would have utilized the new facility to give a much more convenient service to the public. Some will say that it cannot be done. I disagree. Abnormal expansion in Metropolitan Toronto calls for abnormal procedures inasmuch as traffic problems are concerned.

I think it is high time that the proper authorities sat down and analyzed just what results we are getting or going to get from the present system and just how much it is costing or going to cost. In my opinion, we are on the wrong course and neither the taxpayers or the metropolitan area nor of this province will be able to stand the pressure much longer. The Department of Highways, the metropolitan roads department and the Metropolitan Toronto transit system ought to be working hand in hand to determine just where on the metropolitan roads system should be spent the lion's share of the metropolitan roads department budget of some \$40 million annually. The Toronto transit commission knows by time study just where the problem areas exist. They can point out where the service of any line can be improved for the convenience of their riders and for the convenience of those who could be induced to become riders and leave their automobiles at home. The benefits of such a policy would be twofold:

1. If the Toronto transit system is improved, many car drivers could not resist using the transit system simply from an economic viewpoint, and with these drivers off the road system the battle against traffic congestion can ultimately be won.

2. It is possible that if the number of Toronto transit commission riders increased under such a programme, the annual deficit of the commission could be eliminated, the

chance of further fare increases could be lessened, and more money would be available to the commission to keep on expanding its subway services.

Through the expansion of the subway services still many more drivers could be induced to use the public transit system with the results I have already pointed out in item 1. The annual budget of the metropolitan roads department would still be expanded for the improvement of metropolitan roads. However, the taxpayers at least could appreciate the improvement which would result, for at the present time they own a transit system that is losing money and they are financing the improvement of a metropolitan road system that is losing ground to traffic congestion and also costing them great sums of money.

I said I was going to give you some examples of where the province's money, and also the money of the taxpayers of Metropolitan Toronto, goes through improper planning.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: To give you an example of how some of the things are carried out in Metropolitan Toronto, and to which this province contributes, report No. 21 of the executive committee, item 32—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Could I ask a question? What is the hon. member quoting from?

Mr. Ben: It is a verbatim report, report No. 21 of the executive committee, item 32, adopted by metropolitan council April 19, 1966.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I thought it was the hon. member's own.

Mr. Ben: Well, rather than bring the volume here, I just typed it out, but I thank the hon. Minister anyway. "32. Contracts for road projects: The executive committee submits the appended reports received from the commissioner of roads, namely:" and I will try to abbreviate it.

It provided for the pavement reconstruction from O'Connor Drive to Leaside bridge—asphalt base, concrete curb and sidewalk, and asphalt wearing course. The contract was given to the lowest tenderer, which was No. 4 among these tenders, for \$82,829. I should point out that the highest bidder was \$106,380. This tender was low by at least \$7,000. This may be of interest to the hon. Minister.

At any rate, Mr. Chairman, this contract was completed, but it was discovered that the

curbs—the gutter ramps, some people call them—could not be used because the sidewalk was so far up above the base of the road that all the owners of the houses abutting on this highway who wanted to use these gutter ramps were smashing their exhaust pipes. The result was that some 50 curb ramps had to be torn up and new curb ramps constructed. Now here are some questions I would put to the hon. Minister, Mr. Chairman:

1. Why were some 50 sections of concrete sidewalk and dropped curb, just completed under contract R-7-66, torn out by metropolitan roads department maintenance forces in September, and replaced?

2. Was it necessary that the taxpayers be asked to pay twice for new concrete sidewalk and concrete curbs, as well as the cost of break-out and removal, at each of some 50 driveways?

3. Would it not be more efficient to design and construct a proper dropped curb and sloped sidewalk in the first instance, to facilitate motor vehicles using these driveways without scraping their mufflers?

4. Just how much additional taxpayers' money was spent in this episode, for which they received no value?

Those are some questions for the hon. Minister.

Here is contract No. R-11-65. It was for Jane Street widening, Foxwell Avenue to Lambton Avenue and it was awarded by the executive committee report No. 30, item No. 11, and adopted by Metro council June 15, 1965. The contract price was \$414,389.78, based on estimated quantities and unit prices tendered. The completion date was supposed to be September 30, 1965. In this case, although there were delays, there were no liquidated damages.

The Minister has gone, but I have taken the liberty of quoting from the report itself. This is executive committee report No. 15, item 48, adopted by Metro council on March 22, 1963:

Increased price of contract No. R-11-65. The executive committee recommends the adoption of the appended report (February 25, 1966) received from the commissioner of roads, namely:

It is a recital that the contract was given to Johnson and Hogan Construction Limited—I have already mentioned that. The next paragraph:

The work is approximately 95-per-cent complete and it is apparent that an increase in the contract price is required. The

value of the work completed to date is \$475,370.06 and it is estimated that a further \$27,000 is required to complete the contract, making a final contract price of \$502,370.06, which is an increase of \$87,980.28 over the authorized amount.

Mr. Chairman, those on the government side who do not pay attention to this, did not catch the import of the statement I was just making, but I am sure the hon. Minister has. I pointed out that originally the contract was awarded at a price of \$414,389.78. At the time this report was presented to Metro council for its adoption, the report stated \$475,370.06 had already been expended. The hon. Minister knows that the commissioner of roads has the power to spend up to 10 per cent over the original contract price without the approval of council. Perhaps if he will do some mental arithmetic, he will get the point that I will be coming to subsequently.

There are four reasons for the additional cost:

1. Piling: The work included the extension of a concrete arch-culvert over the Black Creek. The original arch is sitting on 35-foot-long jack pine piles; therefore, similar piles were specified for the culvert extension. When the contractor started to drive the piles, it was found necessary to drive to a depth varying from 40 to 50 feet to obtain satisfactory resistance. Because of the varying length of piles required, it was necessary to change the type of piling to steel-tube. The steel pipe can be lengthened by welding on additional sections during driving operations to obtain the length required. The steel piles are more expensive and since the contractor had already purchased the timber piles specified in the contract, it was necessary to pay for the supply of these also. The timber piles were later used on a new bridge over Black Creek now being constructed on Eglinton Avenue West, effecting a corresponding saving on that contract. Additional costs of contract No. R-11-65 as a result of a change in piling amount to \$38,600.

2. Sheet piling left in sewer trench: In the contract quantities, an item for the supplying of 3,000 board feet of timber was included to cover the cost of any shoring that the contractor had to leave in the sewer trench for safety reasons. Because of the very sandy nature of the soil encountered, it was necessary to leave approximately 153,000 board feet in place. The additional cost of sheet piling was \$24,000.

As I say the contract originally called for 3,000 board feet in place, and they ended up leaving 153,000 board feet in place, and every time I read these items from a metropolitan council report, it seems to be the universal practice to leave the shoring in the excavation for safety reasons. It is beyond comprehension why, in each instance, it has to be left there.

3. Earth fill from borrow: The pavement widening required that earth be brought to the site and placed on deep ravine slopes. The amount of this material included in the contract was 30,000 cubic yards. This was underestimated and it is now interpreted that an additional 15,000 cubic yards of earth will be required for the completion of the work. The additional cost of earth fill amounted to \$10,500.

4. Asphalt paving: The outlet for the storm sewer which formed part of this contract extended northward beyond the limit of pavement included in this contract. It was considered advisable to resurface the existing pavement in the area of this storm sewer outlet. The additional cost of asphalt—\$9,800.

These four items total \$82,900, and added to this were small increases in some of the other 70 items of the contract.

Of the additional costs outlined above, approximately \$8,000 will be paid by the township of York for the extra sheeting left in the sewer trench, and \$7,000 will be charged to the Eglinton Avenue project for timber piles used there.

I recommend that the contract price of contract number R-11-65 be increased from \$414,389.78 to \$502,370.06; it is a quarter increase.

Funds are available in the Jane Street contract and a breakdown is given:

The township of York portion of storm sewer costs	\$ 29,152.78
Department of Highways, Ontario road subsidy	236,608.64
Metropolitan Toronto (paid by The Department of Highways, Ontario)	236,608.64
	<hr/>
	\$502,370.06

Now the amount of work completed to date, at the figure I mentioned, was 114.7 per cent of the original contract price of \$414,389.78. The Minister knows—and I pointed it out to this House, Mr. Chairman—that the commissioner of roads has no authority to contract or bind a municipality for

additional expenditures which would exceed 10 per cent of the original contract price. He exceeded that 10 per cent—and I think it iniquitous that he have that right, anyway—by 4.7 per cent, without a by-your-leave of anybody.

Now what is the sense, Mr. Chairman, of having council purport to exercise responsibility over their officials and restrict them to expenditures not exceeding 10 per cent of the original contract price, when time after time they do exceed the 10 per cent without the consent of the council. They spend this government's money in the form of subsidies and go to Metro council and ask that they rubber stamp what they have done—and Metro council continually uses that rubber stamp.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East): Why do you not get on the council and straighten it out?

Mr. Ben: I suggest that The Department of Highways tighten up its control of expenditures made by municipalities. I think it should have a more direct hand in the operations of these departments when they show that they are incapable of being trusted on their own.

I do not know what other municipalities this applies to; I daresay it probably manifests itself in many other municipalities, but here the predecessor of the present Minister of Highways had ample evidence that his investigations have revealed sufficient to satisfy him that the metropolitan roads department has not been toeing the mark and has been exceeding authorized expenditures.

Was not the former hon. Minister satisfied last year that there was something amiss in there? Now that the present hon. Minister is in a position to hand out the money, I trust that he will show greater concern to see that the taxpayers' money is not being treated—if you will pardon the expression—like “dirt”, because a great many of these additional payments are for supplying or removing dirt or soil.

Now just how many of these examples do we have to bring to you before the government is going to take some action? I ask the hon. Minister what action has been taken since I presented my speech in the House last year? Surely that is not something that he would have to spend days looking up; it should be under his fingertips, because it was action that was taken as a result of statements made in this House and of evidence produced.

I have statements here giving information that representatives of The Department of

Highways went to one maintenance yard in a municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and an admission was made to them that a front end loader was booked for eight hours every day, because that was the instruction received, even though the front end loader was not used at all.

It was leased on an hourly basis. Now, what action has been taken with reference to that? This department gives subsidies—front end loaders are used for maintenance, so we rightly come under this item—what action was taken on that? Was any action taken to recover that money that was improperly paid out? Where the amount of the rental far exceeded, in some instances by 500 per cent, the amount that was authorized by council, was any action taken in that regard?

Were the pile lengths and types properly investigated by soil boring in design stage? When I examined the Humber bridge I noticed the cause of the trouble was that the bearing walls are parting—they are parting away from the span. They have already moved the location of the cradle bearings once because the span would have slipped off these bearings. Not only is it moving away from the span but it is also moving at right angles to the approach spans.

I ask, how could this happen? And they say, "When you drive piles in this kind of soil, you do not know how far you have to drive them". Now that is utter nonsense and any member here who has a monel ring on his finger, as an engineer, knows that you drive piles until you meet a certain resistance, and you keep driving the piles until you meet that resistance—which means that you have hit rock or stable soil.

If they knew that they were putting a bridge across a river and that they were putting these piers on the banks, then they should have driven further. If this is a situation which arises normally, why has it not happened with all the bridges in the city of Toronto, or in Metropolitan Toronto, or elsewhere? Why was this an isolated incident in the Metropolitan Toronto area? Because it was poorly designed, proper borings were not taken and the money was just thrown into the river.

The same applies here with these piles; they do not have proper engineering and pre-engineering. Would there have been a 50 per cent over-run on the earth supply if there had been proper engineering in the first instance? But it is the practice of this government—just as it is the practice of Metro council to rubber-stamp anything that comes

from the metropolitan department of roads, so it is the practice of this government—to rubber-stamp anything that comes here.

I have already pointed out that there is an average of 20 per cent over-run on all the contracts that have been carried out with reference to the Don Valley parkway and the Frederick Gardiner expressway. Surely, by now, even this government should be suspicious that there is something wrong with their pre-engineering when they are continually out 20 per cent. How much of that over-run was justified? Well, I will give you an example here and you can draw your own conclusions.

This is contract R-1-65, Mr. Chairman, the Pottery Road relocation at Broadview Avenue.

Report No. 17 of the executive committee, item 33, adopted Metro council, April 1, 1966.

This was supplying and placing selected earth fill, approximately 200 feet of 36-inch corrugated iron pipe and fine grading and sodding of slopes for future road alignment to Broadview Avenue. It lists the contractors here, and, I quote:

I recommend that contract No. R-1-66 for the supply and placing of selected earth fill and related works on Pottery Road for future road alignment to Broadview Avenue be awarded to Dineen Construction Limited, who submitted the lowest unit price . . . in an amount of \$58,880.

Then the executive committee reports having awarded contracts to Gazzola Paving Limited, Dineen Construction Limited and Sam Consentino Limited in accordance with the foregoing recommendations of the commissioner of roads.

Now here are some questions I would ask the hon. Minister.

This would on the surface appear to be a small uncomplicated contract, involving the construction of a terraced sidehill embankment with imported fill, with the installation of some 210 feet of 36-inch corrugated iron pipe and sodding of the slopes. That is how it would appear on the surface.

Now would anyone expect to find a letter on file number 1637, Mr. Chairman—1637.10—of the metropolitan roads department from the contractor, Dineen Construction, to the effect that the engineering on the contract by the department was poor and that proper cross-sections of the original ground, prior to the placing of the fill, were not taken? Why should the contractor be permitted to get into the position that he

refuses to accept some 63,000 cubic yards of fill figure, offered by the department, because the original cross-sections were taken with the aid of a clinometer or hand level and were inaccurate, and requests payment for some 80,000 cubic yards in the absence of proper field information?

Was agreement finally achieved by the use of saw-off figures of some 71,000 cubic yards, which figure could not be verified with the use of any mathematical methods in the calculation?

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Chairman, if I might ask the hon. member a question? Would he permit a question?

When he makes reference to the department, is his reference to the Metro roads department, or The Department of Highways department?

Mr. Ben: In this particular instance, I am referring to the Metro roads department because I—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: You know it amazes me. I see people over there opening mouths, yet every time they go up to the members' dining room they have to have a bib put around their ears, and they say I do not know what I am talking about. Good gracious.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Order!

Mr. Ben: I am quoting from authoritative text. I say the hon. member has to be led to his chair because he does not even know where he sits and he says I do not know what I am talking about.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Ben: Now, this disagreement with the contractor as to final quantities for payment can be of great magnitude in the multi-million-dollar contracts—such as contract No. R-1-61 for construction of the Don Valley parkway from Eglinton Avenue to north of Lawrence Avenue—if proper field information is not obtained prior to construction.

Did not the consulting engineers' on-site staff remain on the job for some six months after R-1-61 was completed, at the taxpayers' expense—that is 150 per cent of salaries as per agreement—sectioning and resectioning to determine the final quantity of unclassified excavation which would be acceptable to the contractor? Did the consulting engineers have

field information that would substantiate the final payment figure of 975,234 cubic yards of unclassified excavation on contract R-1-61, or were cross-sections of original ground prior to construction lacking in their field information records? Was not this figure a saw-off acceptable to the contractor even after six months of additional calculations by the on-site staff of the consulting engineers, who were engaged to supervise the work of this contract?

That is an example of poor engineering that you are paying for. As a matter of fact, it is no engineering. Either it is engineered improperly or there was not proper pre-engineering, and you keep on paying through the nose. You have that rubber stamp here and you keep paying, keep paying, keep paying. My goodness, we had a discussion about where the city of Toronto was complaining that it could not raise \$1 million to run special classes in English for immigrant children. For what you wasted because of your inattention to the details of what your department examines, you could have run that special English class for ten years.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 904 please.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: That is all right. Those children always run off at the mouth the way they are. Now there is another example—

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Oh come on now.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Ben: I am not going to give up, boys, not until you are out on your ear the way you should have been long ago.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I think the member is trying to tell us now, under vote 904 section 6, how our provincial government has been subsidizing Metropolitan Toronto and he is using some examples to show that there has been waste of funds or overflow. That is properly under vote 904, section 6. I know it is somewhat—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, he cannot prove this. He is talking about engineers—

Mr. Ben: You want to bet?

Mr. Chairman: Well there are many, many things—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I don't want him to talk about engineers unless he can bring the proof to this House.

Mr. Ben: Do you want a wager? Are you debating this in parliamentary language? Is the hon. Minister finished? I have been throwing proof at you time and time again.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, if I may, if the hon. member could slow down a little. You know it would really help, and I am interested. If he could at least slow down a little bit, or at least maybe table his statement so we could read it.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the hon. Provincial Treasurer. However I think it should be obvious to any observer that the government benches are doing their utmost to impose closure or to muffle me.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No—

Mr. Ben: So I have got to sneak in as much as I can before they object in this House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: If this took place in a parliamentary fashion and the government permitted hon. members of the Opposition to bring forth material which is relevant to the estimates before us and is of interest to the people of this province, then I shall find it unnecessary to go about twice as fast as your GO-transit will ever.

Mr. Chairman: On the vote please, 904.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, just let me give you another example of lack of coordination and lack of planning, and it is the underpass on Eglinton Avenue at Wynford Drive. Metro Toronto council at its meeting on March 22, 1966, approved an overrun on contract R-39-65 for the widening of Eglinton Avenue East from Leslie Street to Jonesville Crescent, not to exceed 124.5 per cent of the original contract price of \$407,753.28. This overrun could have been slightly reduced if the work in the hands of consulting engineers were to be coordinated with the metropolitan roads department's own projects. On May 7, 1966, Metro council adopted report No. 24 of the executive committee which incorporated report No. 9 of the transportation committee, item 2, which reads in the minutes as follows—

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Speak up, we cannot hear you.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Ben: That is where the Tories are sitting. They cannot stand the truth.

The transportation committee recommends the adoption of the appended report April 21, 1966, received from the commissioner of roads, to wit:

2. Engaging of consultants in connection with underpass on Eglinton Avenue at Wynford Drive: Council on April 19, 1966, by the adoption of item 2 of transportation committee report No. 6 approved of the construction of an underpass on Eglinton Avenue East at Wynford Drive. Funds are provided in item 7 of the roads section of the 1966 capital works programme.

And then they provided for appointment of engineers and the appointment was subject to the completion of an agreement containing conditions satisfactory to the commissioner of roads and the metropolitan solicitor.

The point I would like to make here, Mr. Chairman, is that not many days had passed since the time this was up before council and the various phases of construction of a long-life type of additional lane on each side of Eglinton Avenue East at the site of the proposed Wynford Drive underpass had been executed. These included concrete curbs and gutters and eight-inch concrete road base, raised concrete centre mall, etc. If planning, design and construction were more closely coordinated, a section of this new work would not have had to be destroyed at Wynford Drive last year, after a diversion of Eglinton Avenue East was opened around the site. In other words, they put in permanent curbing and road base, and before you might say the cement was cured properly, they came and tore it out again, because—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Shame, shame.

Mr. Ben: The hon. Minister says "shame". I say "shame" too, because it was this department that permitted this waste of the taxpayers' money, not just of the taxpayers of Metropolitan Toronto, not just of the province of Ontario, but both of them combined. And all he can say over there is "shame." That is why he is an hon. Minister without Portfolio; they could not trust him with one.

An hon. member: Oh, that was unkind.

Mr. Ben: Yes, and he speaks so highly of me.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I—

An hon. member: Has the hon. member many more?

Mr. Ben: I have many more, I have a briefcase here full of them. As I pointed out about some hon. members there, they have one deaf ear and the other one is backed by a concrete wall. And I would say that is a concrete statement, it can be backed up.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister promised I was going to have answers to the questions I raised today. I previously intended submitting them in writing as questions before the orders of the day but just as the hon. Minister did not anticipate his estimates to be up tonight, neither did I. I have given the Minister a series of questions.

I trust these estimates will not be completed tonight and I trust that tomorrow the Minister will give the answers to the questions I asked. That should be more than ample time to get the necessary answers, because he should have them at his fingertips—I am sorry, I withdraw that, that is not quite fair—but the Minister's department should have those answers. And if I have impugned this hon. Minister in any way, I want to withdraw such remarks because he has just taken over this department and perhaps the remarks would be better addressed to his predecessor in office. So any time I have mentioned the hon. Minister, would he take it to read The Department of Highways?

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence (Russell): Mr. Chairman, I am not going to try to answer all the questions raised by the member for Bracondale, I presume that they will be handled by the department, but earlier in his remarks and throughout the whole of his remarks there was a tremendous concentration and bias directed very centrally at the problems in his own particular area. Coming from another part of Ontario, I would like to leave no vacuum here when someone speaks in such a concentrated way about their own bailiwick.

In eastern Ontario we do not have quite the millions upon millions that are being spent in Metro yearly on roads. And in eastern Ontario, we do not quite have the number of 401-type highways that you do. And I know that the gasoline tax collected from the great central highways, in fact pays for these highways, but I would suggest—and I suggest this to those who come from Metropolitan Toronto and to the government itself—that if we look at the way in which great highways build great business and develop residential use, which then in turn require great highways. If this policy of concentrating on the city of Toronto is continued in-

definitely, we will be in a vicious circle which will never see some of the parts of Ontario that some of us represent adequately served with highways.

I would suggest to the Minister that he not be mesmerized by the machine-gun fire from the member for Bracondale, but that he do something to break into this vicious circle because I can assure the government and I can assure other members of the House that eastern Ontario will pick up and deliver to this province, by way of tax revenues and other benefits, an ample share of its burden if we could see ourselves in the near future developing a 400-class highway to Montreal, a 400-class highway to the St. Lawrence. The effect upon eastern Ontario would be the same as the effect of 401 and 400 on this part of southern Ontario.

I did not want to have us concentrating too much on the remarks of our friend, the member for Bracondale, with his very, very Metro-oriented approach.

Mr. Ben: Perhaps it is unfortunate there is not more of me because I would then go and clean up the hon. member's riding also.

Mr. Sargent: I take it we are still on vote 904 and I would go along with my colleague in that I think the hon. Minister is doing an excellent job of handling his file in the short period he has had the Cabinet post. But I would say most sincerely, to you, Mr. Chairman, as Deputy Speaker, that when most of us in the Opposition put questions to the Speaker's office that are relevant to us here insofar as highways are concerned and when we wait almost a month trying to get answers, and then I have a question pertinent to highways here then I think I have the right to ask the Minister to answer these questions now, not when he gets around to it because he has ample staff to do it.

He is talking about spending \$1.7 million on a computer to handle these things—and I am asking just simple questions any bookkeeper could answer. In the last month the Minister has had a chance to answer them and he has bypassed them. I asked the Minister about three and a half weeks ago: how much has the province of Ontario paid to the city of Toronto—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: That is under vote 907.

Mr. Sargent: I am talking of subsidies as pertinent to section 6 of vote 904. How much has the department paid to the city of Toronto over the past five years in subsidies, in sub-

way construction and in highway construction? I think I have a right to that answer.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The member is talking about capital subsidies.

Mr. Sargent: I am talking of municipal subsidies and you have \$45 million allotted here. Now, Mr. Chairman, the Minister kindly gave us a gigantic volume here in pink, it should be in red, I think, but it is in pink, and it says in the foreword that he is going to have anticipated expenditures for this fiscal year of \$153,750,000 as compared with \$143 million last year—an increase of \$10 million.

An hon. member: That is capital.

Mr. Sargent: Capital, all right, but on the estimates we are faced with here in the House—the estimates we are asked to approve as against this statement—we are asked to approve the estimates of \$124 million in the estimates book, so there is \$29 million we are not even talking about tonight. Now, when you look it up on the page of the department's estimates, on page 76 there is a total ordinary expense of \$124 million. Yet you ask us in your guesstimation, I would suggest, not an approximation, it is a guesstimation—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Capital programme.

Mr. Sargent: —for a capital programme of \$153 million. So you are missing \$29 million somewhere.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Does the hon. member know what ordinary expenditures mean?

Mr. Sargent: No, I am not a big operator like the Minister is, I would not know that.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Well, the capital vote is vote 907.

Mr. Sargent: But, the point I am trying to get at is—I think any bookkeeper could tell you in the department—how much—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Look at page 77.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order! It was explained earlier this evening that most of these capital items were under vote 907 and I suggested to the members that because there were municipal subsidies under votes 904 and 907, that properly they should have come under vote 907. But at the time it was the wish of the members of the House to proceed with it under vote 904 because some of the members had started, and this is why we had accepted it and dealt with it—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I disagree with you.

Mr. Chairman: Well, the member may disagree but the chair is ruling in this connection.

Mr. Sargent: You see Metropolitan Toronto subsidies is in subsection 6 of vote 904.

Mr. Chairman: I should explain to the member for Grey North, that when he is asking for information under one vote, the assistants have the information under that vote, and if he is asking for information under another vote, then the assistants would have to change to the page under that vote. They have it categorized separately under each vote and they have the information arranged separately under each vote.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I suggest we follow the agenda then. It says in subsection 6: municipal subsidies Metropolitan Toronto. That is what I am talking about; is that all right?

Hon. Mr. McNaughton: Stick with the votes.

Mr. Sargent: What are the figures? I have asked and you did not know three weeks ago, how much the province of Ontario has paid the city of Toronto for the past five years in subsidies on the subway construction and on highway construction. I am talking of subsidies.

Mr. Chairman: If you are talking about subsidies from the standpoint of highway construction then it would properly come under vote 907, section 1; if you are talking maintenance, under vote 904.

Mr. Sargent: All right; what are the maintenance payments then?

Hon. Mr. McNaughton: Mr. Chairman, you should rule this dissertation out of order too.

Mr. Chairman: Well the members decided to cover both at the same time.

Hon. Mr. McNaughton: Well if they do them both at the same time they should be separated.

Mr. Sargent: Well we are talking about maintenance—I think we should have that now.

Mr. Chairman: The question, Mr. Minister, from the member for Grey North, is what is the maintenance subsidy for Metropolitan Toronto?

Mr. Whicher: Ask the Minister without Portfolio.

An hon. member: This is the department with the million dollar computer.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The estimate for maintenance for Metro Toronto for this year—the estimates we are working on—is \$3 million, and the estimate for capital construction is \$15 million.

Vote 904 agreed to.

On vote 905:

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman on vote 905—in the public accounts of last year—we are talking about a budget of \$305 million over all—

Hon. Mr. McNaughton: Four hundred and five million dollars.

Mr. Sargent: Well that shows how much a person can gain from these two books we have to compare. So in the \$405 million, I suggest, there is a great area for hanky-panky going on and I fail to see in these two books, when they are put together, any truck purchases at all. Would the Minister show the House where truck purchases are in this book? I am talking about the public accounts. How do you buy your trucks and your cars?

Hon. Mr. McNaughton: For cash, with any discount we can get.

Mr. Sargent: I am not going to stand here and have any facetious answers. I want to know the answers because people are fed up with the way you are handling this business. Who do you think you are that you can sit there and pull smart remarks like that?

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Sargent: We are talking of millions of dollars at the hands of people who are looking for public patronage and I ask you: how do you buy your trucks and how do you buy your cars. How are they bought and why does it not show in the public account books how you bought them? Where is the amount you spent? I would like to know that please.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We call for tenders for these vehicles and they are open for—

Mr. Sargent: Where is it in here?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is under "equipment".

Mr. Sargent: Well you paid the bill. Where does it show in here you paid the bill?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has answered the question.

Mr. Sargent: He has not.

Mr. Chairman: Will the member let the chair rule please? The Minister has answered the question by saying that it is under equipment, item 4, under vote 905.

Mr. Sargent: I am not satisfied. I cannot see it in the public accounts books. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to table for the House how the trucks are bought, how the automobiles are bought, and if commissions are given to dealers across the various parts of the province. It is time that we had a full disclosure of this great area of milking the public. I am going to make an issue of this and find out, because every day when I come into the House, I wonder when my question is going to be answered. I think it is a contempt of Parliament that we come here from all over the province of Ontario to sit here and to go through every year this exercise in futility. All of us are reasonably intelligent people having had a lot of experience in municipal governments—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is an over-statement.

Mr. Whicher: He did not say you were.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You had better believe it was an over-statement.

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest to you that the hon. Provincial Treasurer walks backward with his face facing the future. That is my assessment of him.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 905 please.

Mr. Sargent: I am going to ask the hon. Minister to provide that information for the Opposition at the earliest possible moment because it is time we knew where we were in this matter.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: In answer to the hon. member's question, might I read him this short statement from our purchasing policy:

Equipment such as trucks, graders, tractors, and so on, is covered by a detailed specification and is purchased by competitive tender. These specifications are developed by the equipment section and are based essentially on performance requirements.

This is the way we purchase this equipment.

Mr. Sargent: That is not the answer I want to know. I want to know in detail, as a member of this Parliament, where you bought the equipment last year, how much you paid for it, and if commissions are being paid to dealers?

Mr. Chairman: Of course the member for Grey North realizes that it would be difficult for the Minister to have the details at this time but there is nothing to prevent the member from placing a question on the order paper requesting information.

Mr. Sargent: For tomorrow, thank you very much.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Just on this point, Mr. Chairman. We have asked on various occasions for accounts to be tabled when there is too much detail to be given in the House. For example, we asked on one occasion for the hon. Attorney General to table all the legal accounts and how much legal firms received, and he did that. Now the hon. member for Grey North has asked that details be tabled about the trucks that have been purchased—who sold them, for how much, and if commissions were paid. Surely the hon. Minister has those records. They should be tabled in this House so that the hon. members of the Legislature, and particularly the hon. member for Grey North, have the opportunity to see those accounts just the same way as we saw the legal accounts here about two years ago. I am asking that that question be answered—will those accounts be tabled, and if so in the next two or three days?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, this is a matter that was dealt with at the public accounts committee a year ago. There was some publicity on the matter. I think it is quite possible to table for the House the whole process of the purchasing policy. But when it comes to the matter of commissions, there are no commissions paid by the government to anybody and this is related to the policy of the companies that supply the vehicles.

Mr. Sargent: Let us find out.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am saying it now, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Sargent: We do not believe you.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well if you do not believe us there is not much point in asking the question. Mr. Chairman, let me simply pursue this again. This was dealt

with exhaustively before the public accounts committee a year ago when The Department of Highways was examined properly by the public accounts committee.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, would you allow me to pursue this matter?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has the floor.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The matter of commissions that are paid on the purchase of vehicles individually or collectively, I suggest, is the business of the companies that sell these vehicles to the government. The government pays no commissions to anyone.

Mr. Trotter: The list of trucks.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Chairman, speaking just briefly to this point, as I understood it the hon. member for Grey North said these things were not apparent in the public accounts. As chairman of the public accounts committee for some three years I would take exception to that statement and I would suggest if we are looking at the public accounts for the year ending March 31, 1966—if he would look at pages H42 to H50 he will find a great volume of material headed "material supplies, and so on." and I would think that if he looked through that—

Mr. Sargent: What page?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Page 42 to page 50. There are "materials, supplies, etc." which includes trucks and equipment totalling some \$85 million listed on those pages.

Well you mentioned trucks for example.

Mr. Oliver: That is for all departments.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: That is for The Department of Highways. We are dealing with The Department of Highways and the public accounts. "The Department of Highways, \$85 million."

The first name that comes to my mind, when I think of trucks, because I come from the city of Chatham, is International Harvester, and I look at the public accounts and I see that during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1966, The Department of Highways of Ontario paid International Harvester Company of Canada some \$319,704.63. Now I ask you, Mr. Chairman, if it is fair to say, as the hon. member for Grey North has said, that there is any attempt to cover up anything when that kind of detail is given in these public accounts.

I further point out that at the meetings of the public accounts committee—and I think, with great respect to the Provincial Treasurer, it was probably two years ago when The Department of Highways was examined thoroughly by the public accounts committee—at that time we looked at a similar document that we have here in front of us in the public accounts, and the members of that committee were given the opportunity, and in fact did so, to call for vouchers supporting any one of the figures in these public accounts. The vouchers were produced and the figures were laid on the table at the public accounts committee; in fact, sir, the vouchers for the cheques were laid on the table. To say that this government is trying to hide how it purchases trucks, or what it has paid a dealer or a company, is simply ridiculous and I do not think those kind of remarks should go by unchallenged in this House.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, this is good. I am glad to see they are thinking a wee bit, anyway. The fact is that anyone who can go through this bunch of—I will not use that unparliamentary word I have got in mind—but this is a disgrace to anyone to try and find any sense out of it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is not hard to find.

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest to you, sir, that maybe we are not very smart over here. Make it easy for us so we can see where there is X amount of dollars spent on Chrysler, Ford, General Motors—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is all there.

Mr. Sargent: Do I have to search through all these to find General Motors? Why cannot you people—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Why not, you have lots of time.

Mr. Sargent: What are you paying your men for?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Sargent: I do not suggest, Mr. Chairman, that there is any hanky-panky, but there is a great area for it. If you have not, there have been lots of instances of your government doing it before, and if you have changed, I am glad to hear it. But in the meantime, let us find out what is going on.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Chairman, just speaking to this point once again, on that

committee on public accounts, I am not aware of what members from the official Opposition sit on that committee this year, but in the past we have had on that committee distinguished members from the Opposition, the hon. member for Sudbury, the hon. member for Downsview and others and I never got the impression during the three years that the members of the official Opposition thought that these figures were presented in an unmeaningful fashion.

Certainly there are improvements which can be made and the members of that committee conscientiously, together with members of the government and members of the NDP, strove to try and present these figures in as meaningful a fashion as possible. I would suggest, through you Mr. Chairman, to the hon. member for Grey North that if he has suggestions as to how these figures can be presented to the House in a more meaningful fashion, he should convey those feelings and those ideas to his hon. members on the public accounts committee. I am sure that they will bring them to the attention of the other hon. members of the committee, and in due course they will be manifested in the public accounts of this province. But it is not right or proper to suggest that there is hanky-panky in the preparation of these figures and I suggest, Mr. Chairman, through you to the hon. member for Grey North, that the hon. member does great disservice—

Mr. Sargent: Oh, sit down.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. McKeough: —to his colleagues in the Liberal Party who went over these figures two years ago.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Chairman, I was just going to say that I have been amused as well as entertained by the ferocity with which my hon. friend from Kent West rises to the occasion. There may not be anything wrong with these figures, but you would swear to heaven with the defence that he has presented that there must be a bit of fire where there is smoke. That was said as a sort of aside.

What I did want to say was this, that the hon. Minister of Highways' estimates are now before the House. The hon. members of the Opposition or of the government have every right to question the hon. Minister in respect to highway policy or highway figures, whether relating to maintenance or anything else, on the floor of this House and it has been done time and time again and I hope it will always be done.

Now it may be—and I will grant that in this case it perhaps is hardly within the purview of the Minister, new to his department and hardly aware that his estimates were coming up today—that he would not be in the possession of all the answers to the rather intricate questions that are asked. But surely it is the prerogative of the Minister either to answer the questions from the information available to him at the moment, or else undertake to the hon. member who asks the question pertaining to his own department, to get that answer and to bring it back to this House at the earliest possible moment.

I would say, Mr. Chairman, I hate like everything to disagree with you, but I think you told my hon. friend from Grey North to put it on the order paper tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: I said he had that opportunity.

Mr. Oliver: Well, for heaven's sake. The estimates of The Department of Highways are now before the House. What sort of a routine is it for an hon. member to put a pertinent question relating to a department whose estimates are before the House on the order paper and wait for six weeks for a reply? The hon. Minister is a reasonable fellow and I am sure if he is given an opportunity, with the mature judgment he has, that he will weigh the situation and come up with the answer; that he will answer the question either now or in the very near future, in the course of a day or so. That is the undertaking that I always understood an hon. Minister would give to anyone who asked questions concerning his estimates.

Mr. Chairman: May I say to the member for Grey South that in suggesting to the member for Grey North that he put his question on the order paper, I said it was if he wanted the detailed information that was not available at this time.

Mr. Oliver: That is—

Hon. Mr. Comme: I might say to both hon. members for the Grey ridings that I repeat again the position which we take in the purchase of this equipment, and it is all done by detailed specifications and it is purchased through competitive bidders. Now when we get back to the public accounts—

Mr. Sargent: —direct from the factory.

Hon. Mr. Comme: Direct from the factory. I will get back to the public accounts that

you referred to, on H-45. I see just one item that comes to my notice—General Motors products of Canada, \$560,643—and I would take it that is all for trucks and this is the way the thing is divided. But I can assure you, as the hon. member for Grey South has said, the hon. Minister without Portfolio is certainly defending this, and I was not even interested until I started to wonder. The thing I am wondering about is this: Is there not a secret kickback perhaps from the manufacturer to the dealer which does not show on the public accounts, on H-45 or on any other page?

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Chairman, I have not entered into this questioning, but I have become a little disturbed because as the hon. member for Grey South has said, the hon. Minister without Portfolio is certainly defending this, and I was not even interested until I started to wonder. The thing I am wondering about is this: Is there not a secret kickback perhaps from the manufacturer to the dealer which does not show on the public accounts, on H-45 or on any other page?

I do not know. I am not familiar with what has gone on before in the public accounts committee or anywhere else, but I am beginning to wonder.

I do not say there is, Mr. Chairman, but I wonder if the hon. Minister can categorically say to us that there is no kickback, that there is no commission paid to any agent in any riding with reference to automobiles or other methods of transportation which are purchased by the government direct from the factories.

If the hon. Minister can say to us that this is so, I think that everybody on this side of the House would be satisfied and this will be over.

Hon. Mr. Comme: In answer to the hon. member, I can very conscientiously say that The Department of Highways pays no commission to anybody for the purchase of these, but I do not know what arrangement or what you are talking about being done by the company, and I do not see how I would have that information.

Mr. Braithwaite: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to pursue this too far. The hon. Minister is new, and I do not say this personally, but I have listened to what has been said tonight and I am really wondering if there is not something going on. I say only that he has not answered the question directly. He says that he does not know, or something to that effect, but does he not have some idea of what is going on? Is there an open competition and bidding for these things?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I stated that to the hon. member and I stand behind it; that is just the way it is done.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on this particular matter, I would like to ask the hon. Provincial Treasurer if he has ever heard of there being commissions paid by the manufacturers?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask that your questions be directed to the Minister responsible for this department.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Provincial Treasurer has been carrying a lot of the freight tonight and—

Mr. Chairman: You can deal with the Provincial Treasurer's estimates when they come before us.

Mr. Sargent: I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Highways—who says that he does not know—has he ever heard of this practice being carried out? This is a pretty serious thing to state, because if you have not heard, you are about the only man in this House who has not.

An hon. member: I have never heard of it!

Mr. Sargent: Now come on! Who said that?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I have never heard of such a thing in my life—

Mr. Sargent: I would like the hon. Minister of Highways to answer my question.

Mr. Chairman: He has already answered it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. A question has been asked and I have heard the answer twice. Do you want repetition—

Mr. Sargent: Yes, sir; I would like to have the answer.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I must say to the hon. member that I do not know what he is talking about.

Mr. Sargent: I will say it again, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Highways if he has ever heard of this practice—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Order! The question has been placed three times and the answer has been given. There is nothing more that the Minister can do under these circumstances, except to give an answer to the question.

Mr. Sargent: He said that I did not know what I was talking about. I want an answer: Has he ever heard of this practice?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Hanky on the one hand and panky on the other.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I asked the hon. Minister of Highways if he had ever heard of this practice being carried out.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I said, Mr. Chairman, that I do not know of this practice and I have had no connection with the manufacturers of automobiles or trucks, in any way, to ask them anything about what their policies were. Ours is above board and open for anybody to look at at any time. It is on a tender basis and we accept the lowest tender with the specifications that we require. I do not think that we can do any more than that.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I want to say first of all that I will accept the hon. Minister's answer and the answer of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs and that of the hon. member for St. George, to the effect that they have never heard of such a situation.

I do recall having read in many periodicals published in this province the situation that pertained in Quebec under a previous regime, where it was compulsory that persons dealing with the government—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This is Ontario.

Mr. Ben: All right — pay a commission—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order in the House. Order! Let us stay with vote 905.

Mr. Ben: —where there were commissions paid by companies dealing with the government to salesmen—of course, the hon. member for Grey North did not stipulate when asking the question whether he was restricting his statement to Ontario or otherwise, and I presume that the hon. Minister and other hon. members of this House in saying "nay" took the question to be dealing only with the province of Ontario. However, I should state, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Why would we discuss anything else but Ontario here?

Mr. Ben: I try to be nice to those guys and I do not know why I bother. I try to be nice to the hon. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What is the matter with you?

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Ben: The fact is that the hon. member for Grey North having read this—as have most of us, although it occurred in another province—was justified in asking whether or not, to this hon. Minister's knowledge, the same situation pertained in this province, and the hon. Minister said that to his knowledge, it did not.

Mr. Chairman: Order! I must suggest to the member for Bracondale that he is becoming repetitive because—

Mr. Ben: Well, am getting to my point—

Mr. Chairman: Order please. We have asked the question three times of the Minister and he has given his answer three times. Now you have asked me to try to direct the activities of the chair and under the circumstances I suggest to you that we are becoming repetitive on the same question.

Mr. Ben: I am not asking the question—

Mr. Oliver: May I ask, Mr. Chairman, do you not think that the hon. member is approaching it from a different angle?

Mr. Chairman: I had not noticed.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: Sir, I do not propose to ask the Minister the same question. If the hon. members on the government side would be a little more acute of hearing they would have heard my interjection to the hon. member for Grey North, to the effect that I had heard the hon. Minister's answer and my telling the hon. member for Grey North what that answer was. So I would hardly be asking that question again, and accordingly, I would ask your indulgence, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: On vote 905, please.

Mr. Ben: Having pointed out, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. member for Grey North had some justification in putting this question, I would now point out to the hon. Minister that such a practice has been carried out in another province.

The hon. Provincial Treasurer has stated that what the company does with its money is none of our business, but perhaps it is. Perhaps your contracts, your tender forms where you call for tender prices—and I accept the hon. Minister's statement that it is by tender, over and above board—could

specify that no manufacturer selling to the government under tender shall pay to anyone any commission or give to anyone a consideration of any kind. It is quite conceivable, Mr. Chairman, that although none of the hon. members on the government benches have knowledge of it, the manufacturers could very well be allocating part of the purchase price paid by this province to that manufacturer and distributing it *pro rata* among their dealers who have not obtained a sale because this government dealt directly with the province.

So what would be wrong—since the hon. Minister says that he does not know that this exists—if your call for tenders specified that it would be an offence to pay out any kind of a commission to anyone, because we ought to be getting the benefit of the price and no one ought to be receiving unjust enrichment. I put that to the hon. Minister.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say there is a very good reason, I am sure, why the hon. member is bringing this point up, because while we certainly accept the hon. Minister's word, the fact is that you do this with insurance agents in the province of Ontario and there is no reason why you would not do it with automobile dealers.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is not true.

Mr. Whicher: You do it and I will stake my seat on it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There is no discrimination.

Mr. Whicher: There is certainly discrimination. Every agent does not get it, you cannot blame us for being suspicious.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The hon. member has a guilty conscience.

Mr. Whicher: I have not a guilty conscience, I happen to have the proof.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes, just try that one.

Mr. Whicher: The hon. Minister should take another walk, he looks a little serious tonight.

Mr. Worton: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have an explanation of the \$300,000 for insurance and claims. What I cannot understand is, if you have insurance, why do you have the claims? Are these two different items?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This item provides for the cost of insurance coverage on automotive equipment, ferries, traffic counters, etc., and

bonding of employees, public liability and property damage claims.

Mr. Worton: Mr. Chairman, does the government department not carry its own insurance in this? Is this insurance allocated to private companies or is it under the government's own jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that we carry insurance against claims from other parties, but we do not carry insurance for fires and damage, etc., to our own vehicles, and this is where this is made up.

Mr. Worton: Mr. Chairman, through you to the hon. Minister, I can understand your having the insurance but why is the word "claims" there also? In other words, if you have insurance, that should take care of the claims. What is the separation dollarwise? In other words, there must be one item for insurance and there must be one item for claims, according to this—it says "insurance and claims."

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Actually this may not be just the answer the hon. member wants, but it is money that is paid to repair our own vehicles which are damaged through collision and such, and things like that.

Mr. Bukator: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister said that when they bought equipment they called for tenders. Is that by public tender for equipment or are tenders invited?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that it is by invitation, but it goes to all the manufacturers in the province who can supply that equipment; or it can be by public tender.

Mr. Bukator: It can be by public tender but they do invite tenders. Now, the government in Ottawa was accused of patronage. Is there a possible chance that the provincial government has also had its friends only tender on it by invitation? Why I make that point is, the Niagara parks commission also buys equipment, but the riding I am in, such as the city of Niagara Falls, has never had an opportunity to tender on trucks or cars. So if you invite them, you would invite a certain few, and how do they get on that list?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We buy these from the manufacturer, we do not buy them from the dealer. If we are asking for a certain make of truck, we know there are four manufacturers in the province that are capable of making that equipment and they all get the opportunity to bid.

Mr. Sargent: Who writes the specifications on it?

Mr. Bukator: Well, I wanted to clear that up because I have heard it so often, and I thought I would bring it out in the open, Mr. Chairman. The invitations for tenders are to the big manufacturers, and it could be Mack and International and so on, is that the way it works? I know perhaps I am asking the new hon. Minister a question that might be—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I could give the hon. member an example: If we want a 10-ton truck, we ask everybody in the province who is capable of manufacturing a 10-ton truck to bid on it.

Mr. Bukator: That is the information the hon. Minister has from his Deputy?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, I happen to know this very exactly, sir, because there is a company which assembles trucks in my own home town. They have never been able to qualify because their price is too high, and I have this story from that man year after year. But it is a fact.

Vote 905 agreed to.

On vote 906:

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East): Mr. Chairman, on vote 906, I was interested last year in the House when we were discussing this GO-transit, because there was quite a discussion on not being able to take the transit system into Hamilton on account of the cost, and that it would be millions of dollars extra to take it that distance. We discovered after the House adjourned that there was a decision made to bring it to Hamilton. I wonder if the hon. Minister could tell me what the cost is in bringing it from Burlington to Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: In answer to that question, we just replaced the trains which the Canadian National Railways were using at present in and out of Hamilton, to combine them with our service. We are not providing a full commuters' service to Hamilton as yet.

Mr. Davison: Last year they asked for only two trains in the morning and two trains in the evening and the decision then was that it would cost too much to do it. Is the situation now that there are still only two trains a day coming into Hamilton or are there four?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We are just replacing what the CNR is taking off.

Mr. Bryden: What does the hon. Minister mean by that, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Davison: Mr. Chairman, actually then the system really is not coming into Hamilton at all; is this what the hon. Minister is telling us?

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence: The trains are.

Mr. Davison: Well, the trains were coming in before. What we want to find out is, is there some new system coming in to Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is much superior equipment, faster operation, more comfortable and everything else, for people to use. We hope if this thing works out that we can produce more to go in there.

Mr. Davison: Could the hon. Minister tell me how long it will take a person to travel from Hamilton to Toronto and also the cost from Hamilton to Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I might tell the hon. member that I tabled all this information two or three weeks ago and I do not have it at hand with me now. The rates and the timetable and everything were tabled.

Mr. Davison: Mr. Chairman, we are discussing the estimates of the hon. Minister's department. I would presume this was one of the important parts of this department and he should certainly have this information with him. I would suggest that if they have not the information then maybe we should adjourn and they can have it for us tomorrow, because I think this is an important subject and I think the hon. Minister should have this information with him.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might say, Mr. Chairman, that the information is all available but I thought in tabling it here that it would be available—

Mr. Bryden: There is one copy of the tabled document.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I would be glad to send the hon. members copies of it. I can get those in the morning.

Mr. Davison: Under the system you would be able to come to Toronto quicker by express bus, and you would be able to come to Toronto cheaper by express bus than under the new setup. Is it going to be such a good setup? Surely the hon. Minister has figures on this?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: According to the information which I have, which I say is not complete; the GO-transit will make the trip

from Hamilton to Toronto in 64 minutes, the Gray coach bus—Queen Elizabeth semi-express—is 70 minutes, and the other bus line is 80 minutes, so it is a little faster.

Mr. Davison: If you check the schedule on the express bus from the terminal in downtown Hamilton to the terminal on Bay Street, it takes exactly 60 minutes because I have often taken it. What we have discovered is that actually as far as Hamilton is concerned we will get no better service than we have with the trains as we have them now. One of the problems in Hamilton is that your trains just leave early in the morning. Will there be any trains through the day making connections with, say, Burlington?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: At the present time we are just replacing the present CNR service.

Mr. Davison: I presume then that it is the same schedule of times—6.30 in the morning and 7.30 in the morning?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, we do not have the timetable here but I will see that the hon. member gets that tomorrow because we have them all prepared.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, the fact is that we never seem to change a vote. All we get is some information as to government policy and motivation—

Mr. Bryden: Not very much of that either.

Mr. Sargent: Not very much of that, but the motivation here is “go-go” and when this commuters’ bill was put through the House the capital cost was \$7 million. We find out that by the spending of \$7 million of all Ontario money, we gain 10 minutes in a commuter service or rapid transit which, in essence, I suggest, was to protect downtown Toronto real estate. We were told at the time the bill went through that we would be asked to spend in perpetuity \$1.5 million per year for maintenance.

Now, sir, the question comes up many times to people who live outside this great metropolitan area—why was not the CNR asked to do this service? Here we have the Minister mentioned collaborating with the CNR equipment, and all these things, but they did not go to Donald Gordon, of the CNR and say “Will you give us the service?” No, they come down and they say, “We will spend \$7 million in capital of all Ontario money to service a select group”.

It is I suggest, Mr. Chairman, a discriminatory move on behalf of the government, to

protect downtown real estate in this final analysis. When we look closely at this whole matter we were told, when this bill went through, that we would spend \$1.5 million a year in maintenance, and here we have a bill for \$2 million this year for maintenance. So I suggest that this whole motivation was a part of big business to protect the high rise buildings in downtown Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What do you know about Toronto?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I resent such stupid remarks from the House leader. He wanders in and out of the House and sometimes I wonder how he gets to be House leader.

Mr. Chairman: Order! I would ask the member to please cool down, to avoid interjections, and let—

Mr. Sargent: Well you tell him to keep quiet then.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 906. Order, please!

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, under this bill you have broken faith with us once again—you say to us, in effect, here is \$7 million from all of the people of Ontario to look after one select area. The motivation I have given you. At that time, in this House, the hon. Prime Minister—I apologize for criticizing him when he is not here—said, and it is a matter of record, that we will give like amounts to the rest of Ontario on the same ratio. It is a matter of record. How much have you given to the rest of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What kind of a statement is that?

Mr. Whicher: That is a question. What is the answer?

Mr. Sargent: How much have you given to the rest of Ontario in your estimates? Not one cent for transportation. Every municipality in this province is losing its shirt on transportation, on the mobility of people. They are all operating on a subsidy basis—they are all operating at a loss, and transportation, every place on this whole North American continent, is a losing experience. Now, you come to us and ask the rest of Ontario to pay the freight for a service that will give mobility to people in this area to help build 70-storey high-rising buildings—55 stories downtown. Vertical transportation—as we have in these buildings—is provided free.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is elevators.

Mr. Sargent: In every other jurisdiction that has rapid transit commuter services, the area which benefits from it pays the whole freight for it. In this province, you are asking the rest of the hard-pressed taxpayers of Ontario to pay for a commuter service to service downtown Toronto. We do not like it.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. member for Bracondale will answer that.

Mr. Sargent: We have nothing, Mr. Chairman, against Toronto getting rapid transit. It is good. It is great as long as we get like treatment across the province. I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Minister, that this hon. Minister of Highways justify to the people of Ontario why he can spend \$7 million in capital and \$2 million in perpetuity for maintenance for a service that we cannot have in Ottawa, Sudbury, and across the province. I suggest it is a real discrimination and that you have not yet shown why you are half a million dollars over the bill as brought before this House.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Hamilton East. Perhaps the Minister will try to answer your remarks at the same time, if it is on the same subject.

Mr. Davison: Well, it is on the transit.

Mr. Chairman: Unless the Minister prefers to answer it at this time.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I might say in answer to the member for Grey North that I know his feelings about this and his great interest in the people whom he represents. I also know that the member for Grey North is a very astute businessman and I do not think he would undertake any deal which he did not think had a fair possibility of succeeding. I think, if he will recall, that this GO-transit system was started as an experiment for the moving of people.

We found that the costs of building more roads in Metropolitan Toronto were getting very expensive so, I would say, the experiment is to be started. I refer to the member's business ability—if he were starting any such programme as this—and I know that he would be the very first person who would pick out an area which was densely populated and which had the best opportunity of succeeding.

Now again, I say this is an experiment and I am very hopeful that this is going to work to move the people in and out of this densely

populated area. In doing that, I am very hopeful that we will be able to have a little more road subsidy for the people that he represents, and I represent. I think that our experiment is going to be something which is successful, and I do not think anyone can say we are doing it right or we are not doing it right.

I announced some two or three weeks ago that the system would go in operation on May 23. When the system goes in operation and has a couple of years running and we gain some experience, perhaps we can produce greater systems from it. We hope to be able to take it into other areas, but if it is not acceptable then our experiment is just something that we have to live with. But we have tried in the most likely area that it will succeed, and I can assure him that if we are able to make this thing go, and spend less down here, we will be able to give you a little more in Grey North.

Mr. Bryden: But will you put in a traffic light at Meaford?

Mr. Davison: Mr. Chairman, under item three, where you talk about feeder bus operations, where would these buses be?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, this again, is for part of the experiment. Now most areas on the GO-transit stations are now served by bus or transit service at varying expense. However, feeder bus routes are being established to serve the Clarkson, Port Credit and Long Branch stations, to offset station elimination at Lakeview and Dixie Road. This is part of the experiment, to see if we can make it better.

Mr. Gisborn: Well, Mr. Chairman, I cannot think of any reason why, at this stage of this session, we have to sit past 10.30 in the evening, but nevertheless, sometimes things happen that you cannot understand.

This question of the commuter system—when it was introduced to the House, I took the position that it was a very good innovation and I understood the type of experiment the government was attempting to make. Certainly if it does the job of taking the cars off the Queen Elizabeth Way, both east and west of Toronto, it will be of some benefit. But there are some questions that must be answered.

If you remember during the debate last year, I said that the mayor of Hamilton had quite a habit of setting up political strawmen himself and then proceeding to knock them down. He made a great attempt, when we

were told we would get no service into Hamilton at all. He said, "I will go down to Toronto and I will make sure that we get those trains extended to Hamilton." He came down to Toronto and of course the headlines were: Copps Wins Battle with the Province; Commuters Extended to Hamilton. What we have got is exactly what we had before, but just a little more inconvenient. Not a bit of benefit for the people of Hamilton.

Mr. Bryden: That is a typical Liberal performance.

Mr. Gisborn: You could get your two trains in the morning. The last one before 2.55 in the afternoon was at 7.50 a.m.; now you have to get up 20 minutes earlier, because your last one is 7.36 a.m. That point is made, that we just get nothing more than we had before.

But there are some implications in that change and I would ask the hon. Minister if he was aware of the brief that the mayor of the city of Hamilton presented to the board of transport commissioners regarding the changeover. The CNR will take off their four trains when the commuter system starts going on to Hamilton and the mayor went before the commission to find out what would happen in case the trial run of the commuter trains to Hamilton was discontinued when it was found they were not paying off. Would they then put the CNR trains back on? I understand they have not got a commitment to this extent.

I would have thought that it would have been this government's responsibility, with its interest in the city of Hamilton, to make sure that this was going to prevail—if they do at some time discontinue those commuters, that the CNR trains will go back on, or the Hamilton residents are going to be left without any train transportation whatsoever. I would like some comment on that situation. The other situation is that I understand that originally they were going to run as far as Burlington, but there has been some change that has not been given much prominence in the last report we had from the hon. Minister, and it is that we are not going to have them extended to Burlington. Oakville is going to be the extension of the full schedule. We are still only going to get the two trains from Burlington to Oakville. I would think that some of the people in Burlington are going to be a little disturbed about this, because I feel sure they are not quite all aware of that situation. I spoke to a couple last week who felt very happy about the anticipation of the

commuter service starting. They would be able to come down on the hour and get their commuter train from the Burlington station and this is not going to be the case. There are going to be the same two trains between Hamilton and Oakville as there were before.

The other question is, I understand that we are going to have what they call the dead-heading situation—that Mimico is going to be the terminal for the commuter system west of Toronto. I do not know where it is going to be east of Toronto, so this raises the question of how does that train get to Hamilton to make its first run out of Hamilton, and vice versa, when it makes its last run into Hamilton in the evening. What happens is they have to run from Mimico into Hamilton dead-head—that is empty—and then pick up their passengers. Then the last train at night finishes at Hamilton and runs back empty to Mimico as the terminal point. There seems to be a lack of common sense in having trains run twice a day to Hamilton and back without any service whatsoever.

Then we have the problem of the employees. The employees in the division have the right to bid for those jobs. There will be this dislocation with the present CNR trains being taken off, and they will have to rebid for those jobs on the commuter trains. The man in Hamilton will have the right to bid for it, but he will not have the same situation he had before. If he worked out of Toronto, he could pick up free transportation from Hamilton to his starting point and all he would miss is the hour of his own time. But now, if he bids for the job and the terminal centre is in Mimico and the Hamilton man exercises his seniority and gets the job, he will have to find his own transportation from Hamilton to Mimico yard and get back there to Hamilton at night. He will either have to do that at inconvenience and cost to himself, or else he will have to move to a new location, and of course no one has to tell the House what that means, a man pulling up roots and moving to a new location and re-establishing himself.

These are some of the questions that should have been given some consideration by this government. I have not seen the document the hon. Minister read to the House a couple of weeks ago. I would like to have a copy, as to what full direction the government has in regard to the operations. Is it turned over completely to the CNR? Are they going to do all the supervising and direction in this system, or is there still going to be some control by the government, so that they would

have some interest in the problems that arise through this changeover? I would like the hon. Minister to answer those three or four questions.

Then to the bus feeder service. I would think that if we are going to be left with just the same number of trains—and if the report does indicate that if the business proves worthy they will extend the system to Burlington, that would be the first step of extension in the second or third phase—then it would be very handy if we had a bus feeder system from Hamilton so that a lot of people in the east end could use the new schedule from Burlington to Toronto by taking a feeder bus in the east end of Hamilton to Burlington. These are some of the questions that arise.

We heard the previous Minister of Highways tell us—and we argued about the full extension to Hamilton last year—that the cost to provide the service completely to Hamilton, from Burlington on into Hamilton, was almost prohibitive. I think he gave us a figure of \$36 million, if I am correct. I understand from some of the engineers that between Hamilton and Oakville they have the finest electronic switching system that can be found in the North American continent. I raised this question with the Minister last year and asked him if he would get someone in his department to do some engineering and give us facts to ascertain that this is the situation, that it is a prohibitive cost, if traffic justifies it, to extend the system on into Hamilton.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might say, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. member's comments are certainly very helpful and they will be considered.

First of all, in regard to the board of transport commissioners and the mayor of Hamilton being there, I was at that hearing myself and the deal—if you want to call it that—or the award, was based on the fact that we would take over the operation of these two trains, night and morning. This was part of the award that was to be given and I do not think that there is any possibility that the board of transport commissioners will let us get out of this deal if something is not done to carry it on for the people in Hamilton.

The arrangement, I think from the very start, was that the full system would run from Oakville in and not out to Burlington.

I might say in regard to the hon. member's remarks with reference to the employees and bidding for jobs and so on, these employees

are under the CNR and it is their usual type of bidding. I know that in my own home town, there are men who are railroading out of Smiths Falls and they have to find their own way there in order to get their trains, and I think this is the usual procedure.

The CNR, as I said, operates these trains; it controls that, but we control the schedules and rates.

Then the hon. member referred to the costs of going into Hamilton. These were figures which were supplied to us by the men of the CNR and I can tell you without any reservation, that if this thing is successful and there is any warrant to go any further, certainly we will continue. As the hon. member suggested, it is a very likely thing that first of all it would run ahead to Burlington and then gradually work farther along.

Mr. Gisborn: I would raise another point with the hon. Minister: In regard to the terminal point, what was the reason that it was determined to be Mimico rather than Hamilton, where it would have changed the whole situation, and where they would have tied up with Hamilton on their last run at night. The Hamilton employees could maintain the jobs that they now hold and they have the service yards there. Do new service yards have to be established at Mimico, or do they have service yards there? There are service yards at Hamilton and if the last train finished up there, the servicing could be done and the first one could come out in the morning. This is a move that neither I nor some of the boys from the brotherhood of trainmen over there can understand—why there is going to be this dead-head trip twice a day from Hamilton to Mimico.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This was part of the arrangement that was discussed with the board of transport commissioners, and again I say this is strictly an experiment. It was felt that this was the best arrangement and only two of the trains are going to do this particular thing. I think you have to give us a chance and live with us for a while and see what we can do with it, and we are certainly going to do our very best. You will see, if the thing is successful, that it will grow; of this I have no doubt. Then of course the employees would be in the position where they would be right at home.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Chairman, in my speech a couple of weeks ago on the Throne Debate, I dealt for a considerable time with this same problem, the problem of public transport for Ottawa. The hon.

Minister said in his introductory remarks that he was waiting for the results of this system in Toronto before doing anything in the other areas. I think this is very unfair and I do not think that the hon. Minister has to wait two, three, four or five years. I think this is the time; this is the year when something should be done for the Ottawa area. I have gone into that problem very thoroughly and have done a lot of studying.

My friend, the hon. member for Russell has attended meetings in Ottawa regarding this problem and I think that a system of this kind could be implemented in Ottawa without a tremendous capital expenditure. It could be implemented in 1967 and that could be done if the government would decide to give a rebate to the Ottawa transportation commission of the amount that it collects today in fuel taxes and in other taxes on the buses. I would suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that something could be done in Ottawa to implement a system of that kind and at the same time I think The Department of Highways could save tens of millions of dollars in the construction of the super-highways that are being planned in the Ottawa-Hull transportation study.

Mr. Chairman, I thought that this was the opportune time to talk about this. I do not see any other vote that would cover this area, but I believe—and I think that this matter is also mentioned in the Throne Speech—that studies will be made in order to facilitate the transportation of people in the province. The Throne Speech mentioned in particular the area of southern Ontario. I believe southern Ontario has the same problems, but I know that Ottawa has a problem and the hon. Minister of Highways possibly could speak about it to the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett) and a solution could be found to this problem in Ottawa. If he would think in terms of possibly a \$500,000 reduction in fuel taxes to the Ottawa transportation commission, possibly the problem of public transport in Ottawa could be solved. Does the hon. Minister have any comment on this?

Mr. Chairman: May I suggest to the member for Ottawa East that the vote before us deals with this specific item in connection with the Toronto area. His question might be better answered under vote 910, "Research and Sundry Engineering Services."

Mr. Racine: Possibly the hon. Minister might like to answer—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, could I be permitted to answer the hon. member for

Ottawa East? First of all, I would like to tell him that The Department of Highways does not have anything to do with the tax on gasoline. We do not deal in that; we just spend the money that is given to us. Again I want to say—in case the hon. member was not in the House at the time I answered the question put by the hon. member for Grey North—that this is an experiment and surely we should have time to see how it will work out. I am sure that it will grow and we will be of assistance to the Ottawa area.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 906:

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the hon. Minister if the hon. member for Grey North was correct when he said that the estimate for maintenance when this proposition was brought before the Legislature last year was \$1.5 million, and that it has jumped to \$2 million already? If the hon. member was correct, that is a very large percentage of increase before the thing even gets going, and it makes one very suspicious as to what may happen in the future.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I am advised that we did not have a figure in the estimates last year.

Mr. Whicher: No, but the then Minister of Highways gave a figure to the House; I remember it well. The estimate was \$1.5 million.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am sorry that I cannot answer that, Mr. Chairman, but I know that there has been an award of wage increases, and so on, to the railroads and I suppose that these are some of the things that enter into it.

Mr. Whicher: I consider that one big increase, before the system even got into being.

I want to ask this question, too: Is it not true that the people of Hamilton and Toronto who will be travelling on this railway are going to get exactly the same services—speaking generally—only now it is going to cost the taxpayers of Ontario an extra \$2 million? Am I correct in that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No, the hon. member is not.

Mr. Whicher: Can the hon. Minister explain why not?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think the hon. member realizes that all the service that was on this line before was the two trains that were coming in from Hamilton.

Mr. Whicher: Did the hon. Minister not say that all that was done was to have them taken over?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is to go into Hamilton but we are running the full service to Oakville and points that I mentioned when I made the announcement re the operation of it. It will eventually be an hourly service and will get down to even better than that, out to areas which we have described.

Mr. Whicher: Does the hon. Minister remember, in the statement that he gave to the House the other day, what the cost was to be to the commuter from Hamilton to Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I already admitted to one of the other hon. members that I did not have that here, but I will see the hon. member gets that because we have the schedule and the rates and timetable are printed. But as the hon. member probably remembers, I tabled that when I made the announcement.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, would the hon. Minister of Highways mind if I asked a question of his predecessor because he is the one who laid this egg, I think. Being so very knowledgeable as he was about this type of rapid transit, he had travelled extensively to find out how other jurisdictions operate theirs. He must have known that the other jurisdictions he looked at charged the capital cost of this to the people who are going to benefit from it, it was charged to the real estate abutting on it. He must know that. Then where does he get the right to charge this to the general public of Ontario, servicing only one area? Having spent the money to send the former Minister there, he found these things out and he said, "No, we will toss the bill to the people of Ontario." Now, what right does he have to do that?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, I hesitate really to rise on this except perhaps to answer the hon. member for Bruce. I think there is a little element of confusion here. He is looking at the total ordinary expenditures for maintenance in the sum of \$2 million. I think previous references were made—the estimated operational deficit, and it can be no more than a projection until the service gets into actual operation, has been estimated at from \$1.5 million to \$2 million and there is really no direct relationship here between the item of \$2 million for maintenance and the figures that have been stated before the House, probably last session, and even perhaps before that. I am assuming—the hon.

member can correct me if I am wrong—this may be the reference he has in mind.

Now the other suggestion that has been advanced by the hon. member for Grey North—and I think it is fair to ask the Minister's indulgence here, because we were identified with this project over a considerable period of time, and it is true, we travelled extensively and we saw the operation—

Mr. Bryden: Who is "we"?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Representatives of The Department of Highways and the Metropolitan Toronto and region transportation study.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I hope that satisfactorily answers the hon. member's question. And certainly we travelled, in the early stages of projection, as far as this rather new and enlightened approach, I think, to mass transportation, and I think it was a fair thing to do. And I say to the hon. member for Grey North, without taking too much of the time of the House to explain it, that the matter was studied by reputable consultants, very knowledgeable in this field, that certain projections were advanced, and that these were the original bases upon which the early considerations were developed.

Then we went to see the actual operations of similar, if not identical, situations in other jurisdictions. But I would have to suggest in fairness to the hon. member for Grey North that what he presupposes here is not an accurate statement. I can tell you that in other jurisdictions the subsidization, if not direct, is indirect to the extent that the fares are substantially subsidized by the central government or by the operating government.

Mr. Sargent: It is the same thing here, on top of the other.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, this is a moot question as to how this thing is subsidized. The basis upon which the subsidy or the deficit, whatever you like to call it—the operating deficit, if it is picked up by the government is subsidization—is one thing, but we have tried to make manifest, on a number of occasions before this House, that the probable economies that will ensue to this type of operation against the very tremendous capital costs of providing freeway facilities for increasing volumes of vehicle traffic, may well be offset.

If they are offset, if the experiment proves that there is a resultant saving in capital costs—and I am one who believes there will be—then I think the sensible thing to propose to this House is this, that those capital savings then become available for the development of facilities in other areas of the province. I think this is a very sensible approach to it. And this has been stated not only to the hon. member but to the House on many, many occasions.

Mr. Sargent: Would the hon. Minister answer a question at this point?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: If the hon. member would let me pursue this just a little bit more, this is the basis upon which the whole operational policy was premised, there could be no doubt about this. Let me point out to the House first of all that freeway construction, interchange construction if you like, to accommodate multiple lanes of freeways, requires a very, very expensive capital expenditure to accommodate volumes of peak traffic maybe four hours a day. Now whether this will eliminate that sort of thing or not, that is a moot question. I doubt if it will, but it may very well relieve it.

If it does, I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the members of the House, that it is with a projected deficit of \$1.5 to \$2 million a year, a very worthwhile experiment in sensible economy, the advantages of which can accrue not only to Metropolitan Toronto, but to the entire province. There can be no doubt about the wisdom of a project like this and I think it has been widely acclaimed and widely accepted. I simply offer that as an explanation and again to indicate to the House the premise upon which this whole experiment or trial was based.

I am optimistic, frankly you can call it "Go, go" if you like around here but "Go, go" it is. I think it will manifest itself in very real economies and savings and a genuine improvement in the traffic facilities of this area. As has been explained here, if the trial works out sensibly, if it proves to be an expedient and sensible thing to do, there is no reason why the benefits cannot accrue to the whole province of Ontario.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I agree with most of what the Minister has stated, but the whole thing boils down to the fact that the motivation is good, the concept is good and we all agree with it, for the mobility of people. But you must have considered this, and you must have good reason for turning it down, with all the millions of dollars

at the command of the CNR, why did you not give them the opportunity to spend all this money on behalf of the people of Ontario? And secondly, I am not opposed—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member's federal government would not do it.

Mr. Sargent: Is that a statement of fact?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: That the government asked them to take on this commuter service and they said an unqualified no?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Certainly.

Mr. Sargent: That is a matter of fact? I do not believe this.

Mr. Whicher: They never even wrote to the federal government, they wrote to the CNR.

Mr. Sargent: So we have, in effect, on this side the Minister of Highways saying we are going to save "X" millions of dollars by taking these cars off the highways and giving people the mobility through rapid transit. We all agree with the principle but we ask you again, why, as the member for Ottawa East says, why are we, the outside people of the rest of the province, asked to pay for this service? As the Minister knows, in other jurisdictions this type of service is paid for by the real estate affected, not those 500 or 1,000 miles away, but the downtown real estate. These are the people who should pay for this and we ask you why you cannot—all right, the deal is set, we are married to it now—but why do you not, in all fairness, say to a bus system in Kingston or in the Soo, or in Fort William, "Your losses are \$100,000 this year, we will pay half of your losses on the same ratio—"

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That will be a great government you people will provide.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, we are asking: you gave the people of Toronto a \$7 million capital gift for mobility of people, which works out to about \$3.50 per head—

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: No use trying to answer that question at all.

Mr. Sargent: Just a moment, you gave them an outright gift of \$3.50 per head. We ask you to give the other cities in this province the same gift you gave the city of Toronto. You have given them \$20 million towards their subway as a gift, you have

loaned them money—\$20 million, unprecedented before in loaning money to a city—but now you compound all this—

Mr. Chairman: Order. I would say to the member that if you think there should be studies made, or research made, for some other areas, then it should come under the research vote. At the present time, we are now dealing specifically in the—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, in the expenditure of this money in this last vote here, I ask you to justify how you can spend \$3.50 per head in the city of Metro Toronto for a total of \$7 million, when you cannot spend the same amount of money in the rest of Ontario.

Mr. Bryden: There is only one station in Toronto.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Chairman, the question that my hon. friend from North Grey has asked is not readily answerable and it would seem to be an excellent opportunity to let us get home, out of here, to enable the government to have time to think this situation over and come up tomorrow with an answer that is plausible, and one that will fit the situation in all its ramifications. Could we not adjourn—it is quarter after eleven?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, I think the former leader of the Opposition and the very distinguished member of this House, has a good point. The problem on the side of the government here, has been to try to find an appropriate time to end this dissertation from the hon. member who has been speaking. It has been so difficult to find a cutting off point. It has been interminable.

Mr. Chairman, I move—

An hon. member: Is the vote carried?

Mr. Chairman: Is there something further on vote 906?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Well, on the conclusion of vote 906, I am prepared to move that the committee of supply rise and report it has come to certain resolutions and—

Mr. Oliver: No, we have not concluded this vote yet.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: What is the trouble now?

Mr. Oliver: Look, we have been expecting the big push to be put into operation before too long. Now is this the start of it tonight?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We want to give the Opposition every opportunity. There is no rush about it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This is a perfect example of obstructing the debate—many of these questions have been asked many times, over and over again, and the same questions answered by the Minister—if that is the way the Opposition wants to conduct the proceedings.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the committee of supply rise and report it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we shall continue these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.20 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, March 1, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We welcome as guests to the Legislature today, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, St. Robert's separate school, Downsview, and in the west gallery, Lansdowne senior public school, Toronto, and John. G. Althouse public school, Islington.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): **Mr. Speaker,** I beg leave to present to the House the annual report of the liquor control board of Ontario for the year ending March 31, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE REGIONAL DETENTION CENTRES ACT, 1965

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Regional Detention Centres Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: **Mr. Speaker,** this bill provides that the requirement that counties entering into agreements for regional detention centres be adjoining, will be removed, so that they do not need to be adjoining.

It also ensures that cities maintaining jails can enter into agreements for regional detention centres in the same manner as counties. The present provision requires also that the representation on the board be two members for each county or city participating, three for the largest. The amendment leaves the number of representatives to be determined by agreement, subject to the largest having at least one more than any other; and the members are to be appointed from any source.

The bill provides also for the payment of construction grants for regional detention centres.

THE JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURTS ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Juvenile and Family Courts Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I might say, **Mr. Speaker,** the amendments provide for the creation of the office of a chief judge of the juvenile and family court who would perform functions corresponding to those of the chief judge of the county and district courts, and the chief magistrate. A further amendment permits and enables the orders for maintenance and alimony, which are now made in the surrogate court, to be enforced by the juvenile and family court judge in the same manner that orders made in the Supreme Court are enforced by the juvenile and family court.

THE MINING TAX ACT

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Mining Tax Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Sopha: This bill is to require the Minister of Mines to table annually in the House the amount of tax paid by each individual mining company under the Act—information which, in my view, he now unlawfully withholds.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Ben: **Mr. Speaker,** the purpose of the bill is to require certificates of roadworthiness upon every sale of a motor vehicle; and, in the case of new cars sold after September 1, 1967; also after each repair or check-up. Provision is made for a log book in new cars in which mileage and repairs are recorded.

I have a question before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker. I discussed this matter with you prior to the sitting.

I understand the Minister of Highways is prepared to answer them because they were transcribed from *Hansard* and given to him. If he wishes I will read them again.

Hon. G. E. Comme (Minister of Highways): As I said to the hon. member yesterday, I took it as notice, and, as he knows, we have been busy in the preparation of the rest of our estimates. I have not these answers today, but I hope to have them very shortly.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Does the Minister consider that there is any inconsistency or any possible conflict of interest in the fact that Mr. John R. Kimber, newly appointed president of the Toronto stock exchange, is to continue for any period of time in association with the Ontario securities commission?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer is "no". Mr. Kimber's appointment to the stock exchange is as of May 1, as I understand it, so the period of time to which reference is made will be until March 15.

It is clearly understood with Mr. Kimber that, during this period he will not deal with any matters where there is any possibility of conflict, nor make any decisions that would be in conflict with his new appointment.

You will understand that these are transitional matters which must be considered during this period for the efficient operation of the commission and I might add that Mr. Kimber is a man of the highest integrity.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, following the question of my colleague, the hon. member for Sudbury, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs this question: In view of Mr. Kimber's appointment to the Toronto stock exchange, could the Minister tell the House whether or not he has been replaced on the Ontario securities commission inquiry into the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the inquiry to which reference is made is a commission inquiry headed by staff members of the commission. Mr. Kimber has not personally been conducting the inquiry. The inquiry will continue under the commission constituted on March 15.

Mr. Singer: By way of a supplementary question, the Minister said that he would have the report for us of that inquiry about March 1. Today is March 1; where is the report?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That does not concern this question; that is another matter entirely. I think I used the date of March 10 in my reference to that matter and that report will be available. I was inquiring about it this morning.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs referring to the appointments to the Ontario securities commission announced yesterday: What is the remuneration to the incoming chairman? What was the remuneration to the outgoing chairman? What is the remuneration to the new full-time vice-chairman? What is the remuneration of the continuing part-time commissioners? And what will be the remuneration to the incoming part-time commissioner?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: There are five questions. The remuneration to the incoming chairman will be \$30,000 a year; the remuneration to the outgoing chairman is \$23,000; the remuneration to the new full-time vice-chairman will be \$20,000; the remuneration to the continuing part-time commissioner is \$6,000; and the remuneration to the incoming part-time commissioner will be \$6,000.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would permit a supplementary question: If Mr. Kimber had been offered, or anticipated that the remuneration would be \$30,000, would he not have stayed in the position of chairman of the securities commission?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I could not answer that question.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Education: In view of the statement by the director of the Royal Ontario museum that the museum is losing top staff because they do not have the equipment with which to work, can the government include some special assistance for the Royal Ontario museum in its 1967 budget?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, I think that the hon. leader of the Opposition understands that the requirements for the ROM for 1967-1968 were submitted to the committee on university affairs as part of the general submission of the University of Toronto. I am instructed that the committee gave separate consideration to the museum budget—

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, that would be the Minister's committee on university affairs, not the—

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, this is the committee on university affairs.

Mr. Nixon: Not the committee of the Legislature?

Hon. Mr. Davis: No, the committee on university affairs gave separate consideration to the museum budget and recommended a grant of \$1.9 million for the next academic year. This represents an increase of close to \$500,000 over the previous session. The government accepted the committee recommendation in this regard, as it did for all other institutions whose submissions were considered. I think it is the desire, Mr. Speaker, of the committee to deal with all universities and their related institutions as equitably as they can. I would be quite prepared to ask the chairman to have the committee reconsider the museum's problem but I can only tell the House that it was considered by the committee. The recommendation is \$500,000 more than last year and this total was accepted by the government.

Mr. Nixon: Supplementary to that, I have no doubt that the Minister knows that when he talks about treating the universities in a fair way he is very sincere; but he may have forgotten that none of the other universities have an institution like the Royal Ontario museum depending on their decisions. Would the Minister consider making a grant directly to the museum, bypassing the university, so that this very important institution in the province can be kept up to its proper status?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would think that if there were any reconsideration it would still be a very intelligent way to proceed to pay the money through the University of Toronto because it is designated for the ROM.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the disclosure at an inquest in Vandorf, that a car involved in an accident in which two men died had been declared unsafe and ordered off the road, what steps does the Minister intend to take to prevent a recurrence of this unfortunate result?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, until the inquest is completed and the coroner's jury has reported I am not in a position to comment.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs. How many applications have been made to the Cabinet during the last ten years to have decisions of the Ontario municipal board reversed in respect to the rezoning of land?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, matters of this kind are dealt with by petition to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and therefore I am not in a position to answer this question. But, by way of attempting to be of assistance to the hon. member, I would respectfully suggest to him that his question should be directed to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts).

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales). I understand he is not here but perhaps I could read it and it would be taken as notice: In view of the appointment of Mr. Jacob Finkelman, QC, to the chairmanship of the public service staff relations board in Ottawa, when does the Minister intend to appoint the new chairman of the Ontario labour relations board?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have two questions, the first one to the Minister of Education: Can the Minister assure the House that revisions of POSAP will be made available within the next six weeks, before students begin to disperse for the summer?

Hon. Mr. Davis: A very brief answer, Mr. Speaker, would be "yes", but I might expand on that a little bit. The alterations to the student award programme are now in the process of finalization. There have been consultations with the representatives of ORCUS as to the preparation of the pamphlet and the other forms. It is our hope to have them ready by this month, perhaps by the end of the month, so that the new forms and all the information will be available to the students well before they will be leaving for their summer vacations or terms of employment.

Mr. MacDonald: My second question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Can the Minister provide me, as indicated in the debate in the agricultural estimates, with a list of the names and addresses of those producers to whom fluid milk quotas were transferred after quotas were unfrozen last April?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, in reply to

the question, I wonder if the hon. member would be good enough to favour me with a copy of the letter which he said he would send to me that had been addressed to him in this very matter. If he would I would be pleased to discuss it further with the milk commission and the milk marketing board. The matter has been under review and the agriculture and food estimates have been supplied to both the commission and the milk marketing board. There is some confusion and a great deal of misunderstanding on the whole matter. I wonder if he would be good enough to give me that letter and I would undertake that we would try to provide him with the answers.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I think we are confusing the letter. Perhaps not, sir; maybe it is the letter the Minister is referring to that was written by the former chairman of the Glengarry milk committee carried in the January 5 issue of the *Glengarry News* readily available in our library. I will send you a copy if you so desire.

In it there is an indication that the chairman of the board indicated that he would make the list of them available. I will send the Minister a copy.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Right. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), but I understand the House leader is going to answer it. It is in seven parts: How many university students were selected to act as hosts at the Ontario pavilion at Expo? How many were male and how many female? How many were bilingual? Who made the selections? What were the qualities and aptitudes that were considered essential? Did any students of Laurentian University apply? If so, were any selected and if not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: In the absence of the Minister of Economics and Development through illness, I have the answer which his department and his office have given me.

The answer to the first question is there were some 2,000 applicants, of whom there were 48 university students; 26 female, 22 male.

The next question here was how many were bilingual: 26 female and 15 male, the languages being French and English. Other languages spoken were, Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, Italian, Spanish, German, Swedish, Hungarian, Hebrew and hand alphabet.

The fourth question—who made the selection—it was accomplished by a panel of four interviewers from The Department of Economics and Development's special projects and planning branch.

The fifth item: What were the qualities and aptitudes that were considered essential? The following seven points were considered as important: whether an Ontario resident; education, grade 13 is the minimum; age, preferably 20 to 26; languages, an asset not a requirement; personality; experience, either working or travelling; appearance; and enthusiasm.

Sixth question: Did any students of Laurentian University apply? Answer, "yes". The panel of four interviewers flew to Sudbury to see all those who had applied; 77 had applied by correspondence—50 came to the interviews, 27 did not appear.

Seventh question: If so, were any selected? And the answer: eight girls were recommended for restaurant positions. Miss Valentina Schipilow of Laurentian University was hired. No others were hired from Laurentian University, on the basis of the over 2,000 applicants, and no one from Laurentian qualified.

However, Marilyn Colgrove, a Sudbury resident attending University of Toronto was hired as a hostess. Terrence Tyers, a Callander resident, attending Carleton University, was hired as a host; and Jocelyn Cote, a North Bay resident, attending St. Patrick's college in Ottawa, was hired as a hostess.

Mr. Sopha: You have to go away from that town to get any place.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, may I make a reference to the Minister of Economics and Development, who became ill yesterday afternoon? The problem was diagnosed as appendicitis. He was operated on this morning and is making good progress.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, we have this long outstanding question to the Minister of Highways, and will now ask it. Has a casual payment in the neighbourhood of \$360,000 been made to the city of Sudbury; or, if not, is it about to be made? What is the statutory authority for this payment? Is this payment connected with the Brady Street underpass? May the council of the city of Sudbury use the moneys for lawful purposes within their own discretion?

Specifically, is there any legal bar prohibiting the council from using the moneys for the rebuilding of the Ramsey Lake road to the university?

If the answer to the foregoing question is in the affirmative, then is any financial assistance contemplated by the Minister for the rebuilding of the Ramsey Lake road?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I brought the answer to this question about four days in a row. I got no notice from your office that it was to be asked today, so I do not have the answers here; but I have them ready. I did have them in the House, as I say, four days in a row.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the Minister would answer them tomorrow, whether the member is here or not.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I will, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: We notice that we have, in the west gallery, a school which I omitted, St. Margaret's school, Toronto; we also welcome them here today.

The member for St. David.

Mr. H. J. Price (St. David): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I should like to draw to the attention of the House that this is St. David's day. This is the national day of Wales, as I think you all know. It was named in honour of their patron saint and is celebrated every year of March 1.

The flag of Wales flies today at Toronto's city hall, in tribute to the Welsh pioneers of this country, for the role they played in the history of our city, our province and our country.

On this occasion, especially in this Centennial year of 1967, I know that all hon. members will wish to join with me, as the member for St. David riding, in sending greetings to the Welsh people throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The fifth order; House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS (Continued)

Vote 906 agreed to.

On vote 907:

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, I think it was back on vote 901 that I attempted to raise a matter with the Minister which you suggested to me should possibly be deferred to this vote.

This relates to the question of paying provincial subsidies for the construction of subways. I do not think it is necessary for me to take any great amount of time to set forth the rationale of a programme of subsidization of subway construction. The government now subsidizes highway construction by municipalities to a quite substantial amount, in the amount actually of 50 per cent for municipalities other than cities, and also 50 per cent for the municipality of Metro Toronto and the boroughs in the Toronto area.

Last night we had what I thought was quite a convincing and rational explanation of the subsidization which the government plans to undertake with regard to the GO-transit system. The argument which the government put forth, and with which I entirely agree—it is not a new argument of course, it has been put forth on both sides of this House many times in the past—is that by a mass transportation system, such as the GO system, it is possible, we hope at any rate, to reduce the amount of expenditures that will be necessary for high-speed expressways. Since high-speed expressways are extremely expensive propositions, it is considered that to put some money into improving mass transportation facilities would result in a saving to the people of the province in the long run.

This argument surely applies with equal force to the development of subways in this metropolitan area, as a means of transporting large masses of people. To the extent that we can develop an efficient system of subway construction it will be less necessary for us to go in for expressway construction.

The government at the present time, as we all know, subsidizes expressway construction in the municipality of Metro Toronto to the extent of 50 per cent of the cost. As far as I know, it has no consistent policy with respect to subway construction at all. In my opinion, this is most short-sighted on its part. As a matter of fact, it is not even using due prudence and economy with regard to the expenditure of its own funds.

The fact, that it subsidizes expressway construction to the tune of 50 per cent, whereas it does not subsidize subway construction at all on any regular basis, naturally creates an incentive on the part of the municipality to emphasize expressway construction in its capital programmes. This, I think, is the costly way of doing it. It will cost the municipality more in the long run, it will cost the government more in the long run, on the basis of essentially the arguments that the government itself put forth last night with regard to the "Go-Go" transit.

Prior to the last provincial election the government, after having flatly refused to even consider subway construction as a legitimate field of subsidization in the general transportation field—for years it flatly refused to do that—announced that it would make a contribution to the construction of the east-west subway in Toronto, which was then just due to get under way. At that time, as I recall it, it agreed to contribute not 50 per cent as it was doing in the case of expressways, but 25 per cent, for the actual construction of the right-of-way. It did not contribute anything to the rolling stock, which is essential to the operation of a subway; my recollection is that it was restricted exclusively to the digging of the hole and the laying of the tracks and that is about as far as it went.

I will say, Mr. Chairman, that that was a welcome announcement as far as the people of Toronto were concerned; but it was still a very niggardly and shortsighted policy on the part of the government to restrict the subsidization to 25 per cent or whatever the precise figure was. I am not sure if it was exactly 25 per cent, but it was somewhere in that range; it certainly was a lot less than 50.

I am hopeful that with an another election in the offing we may very soon get an announcement to the effect that the government will make another contribution to subway construction in Toronto. As the government knows, the municipality of Metro Toronto is now actively engaged in considering plans to extend the Yonge Street subway a substantial distance to the north. It is also faced with the necessity of building other lines.

As far as I know, firm decisions have not as yet been made as to where the other lines will go, but the Spadina subway has been under consideration. There is also consideration being given to subway construction on Queen Street. Both of these projects, I think, are urgently needed, but at any rate, leaving aside long-term programmes for the moment, we urgently need an extension to the Yonge Street subway. This is now being pursued actively and I believe Metro has in mind that, as soon as the east-west subway is completed for the full length that is planned, it will proceed with the other one.

As I say, this government does not seem to act unless there is an election in the offing, so I am hoping that with an election in the offing we will get an announcement of the same nature as the one that we got during the election campaign of 1963; but I hope it will be more generous. I hope it will be more than 25 per cent; I hope there will be at

least a 50 per cent contribution by the government to the extension of the Yonge Street line. I believe something along that line is certain to happen, in view of the way this government operates in developing policies; unless it is that the government has now written off the Toronto area and figures that most of the Tory members there are going to go down the drain anyway and therefore there is no need to try to bribe the electorate in this way.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): The hon. member is going down voluntarily.

Mr. Bryden: Or at least there is no future in bribing the electorate in this way. However, Mr. Chairman, I wish that the government would remove this from the area of election bribery. I think that it should announce a long-term policy of dealing with subway construction on the same level, essentially, as expressway construction. I cannot see how the government could conceivably argue against the proposition since it is quite obvious that every dollar invested in subway construction will save tens of dollars in expressway construction. Sheer regard for the economical use of the province's and the municipality's money would lead to that policy.

I have no doubt that the Minister is not prepared to make any major policy statement on this matter at this moment. I would hope, however, sir, that the government will now consider, after all these years of evasion, subsidization of subway construction as a permanent programme and would lay down a policy with regard to it as to precisely what it will subsidize and the degree to which it will do so.

In that connection, I would urge upon the government that it should consider 50 per cent for not only the right-of-way and the track, but for the rolling stock and the building of the stations and the escalators and all the other capital equipment that is essential to the operation of a subway. It seems to me, if you are going to subsidize, that you should subsidize what is necessary to establish the subway as a going concern. Certainly subways should get exactly the same consideration as expressways. Indeed, I think there is even an argument for saying that they should be given more favourable treatment than expressways just for the reason that in the long run it is the more economical way of doing it and everything possible should be done to

encourage the municipality to lay major stress on subway construction.

At any rate, Mr. Chairman, I would like to put these two questions before the Minister: First, can we expect, at least as an attempt to bribe the electorate, the government to have some sort of a goodie with regard to subway construction to be announced during the coming election campaign? Second, and more important, when can we hope that the government may be prepared to make a full-scale statement on this problem in all its ramifications, and announce a long-term programme rather than simply an election bribe, on this important matter?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Chairman, I am almost afraid to answer the question after the way the hon. member put it; but, just to show him that really it is not an election bribe, last year we contributed \$6 million to the subway construction.

Mr. Bryden: Why was the policy not announced before the last election? It was announced during the actual election campaign.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: We carried out our policy.

Mr. Bryden: I will give you credit, you did not weasel out afterwards.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Right. Well, the other thing I wanted to say is: It happens we have been asked for a commitment when they are ready to proceed with it. In our estimates this year we are setting up an amount of \$4 million, so that we will be able to honour the commitment that we were asked for. I would like to tell the hon. member that the percentage is not 25, but 33%.

Mr. Bryden: All right. I will accept these two points on that. I accept the correction. I had not remembered the precise percentage but, if it is on the basis of Toronto streets rather than Metro highways that the subsidization is being given—and I really cannot see any logic in that at all—I think it should be 50 per cent.

To pursue the other part of the Minister's answer, Mr. Chairman: Is it not a fact that any expenditures that are now being made are in pursuance of the pledge made during the course of his 1963 election campaign? It relates only to the east-west subway, the Danforth-Bloor subway; am I right in that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes, at the time it is only to the east-west subway, but we have

legislation being prepared which will permit us to assist in the other.

Mr. Bryden: Will assistance be available both in regard to Yonge Street and in all further subway construction in Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is a little too broad at the moment.

Mr. Bryden: You see, Mr. Chairman, this is the point I am getting at. The Minister says that they have legislation prepared. I take it that it is not on the books but is just in preparation and will be brought in. Or is it on the books?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It will be brought in.

Mr. Bryden: They have legislation which will be brought in which will authorize them to make another election bribe just before the next election. That will relate to the north-south line. But what I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, is that we should have an announcement from the Minister as to a rational, coherent and permanent policy. The government has a policy with regard to the subsidization of municipal roads, highways and streets. I think that policy may be subject to criticism on details, but at least it is a permanent policy governed by regulations and the municipalities can claim the subsidies provided in the regulations as a matter of right, as I think they should. I certainly do not criticize the policy in its broad principles. I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that the government should adopt a similar approach to the problem of expressway construction; that is the way it should be done.

It is bringing in legislation, I welcome the information, but I am suggesting that it should use that legislation as the basis for a permanent, rational policy on subway construction and that it should be prepared to announce its policy as soon as possible. In fact, I would say immediately. At any rate, it should announce it, and it should put it in regulations so that a municipality will then know precisely where it stands.

Metropolitan Toronto should not have to be in the position that it has to wait for each election before it can get any assistance for any of its subway projects. It should be able to plan for the future on the basis of a firm policy commitment by the government applying to the whole problem, and not just to each segment of the problem which happens to come to the fore at election time.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Etobicoke.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Chairman, I want to make some comments on highway expropriation. Would this be more suitable under vote 909 or under vote 907?

Mr. Chairman: Under expropriations?

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: In connection with properties and acquisitions of properties, we dealt with this yesterday afternoon and evening under the main vote; but we do have a specific vote 909.

Mr. Braithwaite: Thank you.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Chairman, I would like to have some comments from the Minister. The Minister is aware that we have, in our area at the present time, need for the study of urban traffic. I believe that, technically, it is the city's responsibility to see that the results are brought forth as quickly as possible. The time given was October, it is now into March, and I believe that the latest results will now appear in April.

What I am concerned with is the fact that in the west end of our city we have some large industrial manufacturing firms. We have purchased another 300 acres for future industrial development and we are getting tied up, by the fact that we do not have new access roads to Highway 401.

I believe that there are roads at present that could be extended to facilitate the traffic of trucks and transports and so on, to 401, and I would appreciate it if we could have some earlier recognition of this problem rather than wait on this study. I say this because, some ten years ago—

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if the member would excuse an interjection. If the study is before the department, it would be under research vote 910, and I think the Minister would have all the information under that vote.

Mr. Worton: Mr. Chairman, this study does not come directly; it comes under the city. I was just giving the background.

Some ten years ago, Mr. Chairman, I had the late Mr. Siddal of The Department of Highways up to meet with representatives of the townships and the city in my area to discuss this very problem. He made some suggestions and I would appreciate it if the hon. Minister would put forth every effort to see if we can bring this project to an early conclusion.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I believe that I answered the hon. member on this privately, as to the situation of the thing, which he has correct. I may say that our department has been in touch with the mayor of the city to see if they cannot urge the consultants to hurry with this report.

I can assure the hon. member that we have done all that is possible to get it through.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Wentworth East.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister of Highways briefly commented on the anticipated programme for the Queen Elizabeth Way between Hamilton and Glover Road. Now, I understand this is in keeping with the development of service roads, the widening of that portion of the highway, and the development of the overpasses. I will have something to say on that a little later.

I understand—and I only understand it from a press release and perhaps I received from the department some report on this situation after I read it in the press—but it referred to the tenders being called for the widening of Highway 8 from the city limits in Hamilton to the Winona sideroad. I know that this has been in process for some time, but the report goes on to say that the highway will be widened to four lanes, from Highway 20 to a point one quarter of a mile east of Milne Road, and that the easterly portion of the six-mile stretch will remain at its present width. The report reads:

Highways Minister George Gomme said that work should get under way in mid-April with completion scheduled for August 30, 1968.

I have had some contact with the residents on that strip of Highway 8, and they have been quite concerned with the delay because I understand that there was some work done last summer inasmuch as a number of trees have been cut down in preparation for the widening. I wonder why it is going to take until some time in the middle of 1968 to complete this kind of project. It does not seem to be a big project, and there are only four or five miles involved. I wonder why they cannot get ahead with the job immediately, and get it completed before winter of this year. Is there any reason why it has to be prolonged into August of 1968?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that this is strictly summer work and has to be done at that time. It is a large project, involving

more than \$2 million of construction. This is why that length of time is needed.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, I would say to the Minister that there seems to have been a lengthy delay. The *Hamilton Spectator* runs every night an item they call "Hamilton's Yesterdays", and this is from the *Spectator* of February 9, and it gives you some specific happening in 1887, 1917 and 1947; and the one for 1947 says this:

There is a possibility that Highway 8 may be widened to a four-lane road from the city limits east to Saltfleet monument during the coming summer.

This was in 1947, when we were advised they were going to talk about widening this piece of highway.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): In the fullness of time.

Mr. Gisborn: And certainly one might understand the delay at that time, because at that time the riding was held by a CCF member. They could not make up their minds, when it turned back into the Tory hands in 1951 to 1955, that maybe they should get along with that important piece of work down there. So I hope that you could consider this piece of construction and apply all the energies needed to get it completed this summer.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister very specifically about the department's plans for the development and final completion date for Highway 403.

This road is built through the western outskirts of Hamilton and is presently under construction, heading westward, sir, but I am particularly concerned with the completion date and when the structure to carry the new road over the Grand River is timetabled.

I understand also that the terminus of that road would be in Oxford county, very close to where Highway 2 and the Macdonald-Cartier freeway intersect. If he could give me some more specific information about that, I would appreciate it.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is a little difficult to answer the member's specific question, Mr. Chairman. After all, if this work was all to be done in this year, when we know we are going to have the funds voted, we could tell you. But I can tell you this, the work is well programmed and is going to be followed up year after year until it is done, provided

we have the funds every year. But it is very difficult to give the answer just as you want it.

Mr. Nixon: Could you give me a specific date for the department's present plans about the bridge over the Grand River? Or is that in the same category?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is one that we hope to have within the next couple of years.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I noticed in the construction programme for 1967-68, a project is indicated for Wingham. I was very interested in this matter. I have talked to the Minister several times about it and I want to say at this point—

Mr. Chairman: I was wondering—if construction has not actually started, perhaps your remarks would properly come under the next vote, under the planning in vote 908. No construction has started on it?

Mr. Gaunt: No construction has started at the moment, Mr. Chairman. I will abide by your ruling and discuss it under the next vote.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): May I ask the Minister when it is anticipated that the Sudbury-Timmins road will be completed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: All contracts will be underway by 1968.

Mr. Sopha: When will it be completed?

An hon. member: Oh, about 1970.

Mr. Sopha: There are 80,000 people whom I represent who would like to know.

Mr. Chairman: I was going to suggest to the member for Sudbury if the work has not started, perhaps you would like to pursue that on the next vote.

Mr. Sopha: The work has not started?

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. Sopha: The work started several years ago.

Mr. Chairman: Right, it is properly under this vote.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: In my opening remarks yesterday, I said the new Sudbury-Timmins road, King's Highway 144, will be the scene of one of the largest programmes both in terms of physical volume of work and dollar value. The value of the new work alone that is to be awarded in the 1967-68 fiscal year has been estimated at some \$4 million. At the southern end, it is proposed to award two

grading contracts, both south and north of Benny, totalling 16 miles, one of which will include three structures. At the other end, contracts covering 19 miles of grading and three structures will be awarded.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, I have read those remarks. I was not here yesterday to hear them given orally, but I was furnished with a copy and I would like to say this, that perennially I have asked this question of the predecessors of the present Minister. The replies that I got from them were abysmal in their lack of any real factual content that would satisfy the persistent inquiries of the people of Sudbury, and indeed would alleviate the stinging nature of the editorial comment in the *Sudbury Star*, which is a paper that, of course, consistently supports this government, and indeed is one of the last in Canada that supports John Diefenbaker. But I will just pass that over.

The earliest proposal for the building of this road found a genesis in 1924 with the late W. E. Mason, who is always regarded as being one of the earliest promoters of the building of this road. It was held out as bait from election to election, after the return of the Conservative Party to power in 1943, and it was always just one election away.

My friend from Simcoe East will understand the technique that is used.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): Exactly!

Mr. Sopha: Then finally the announcement came that the road would be started and the progress has been, to not attempt to seek a loaded word, the progress has been extremely slow.

That leads me, of course, to point out that it is noted by the people of Sudbury that the progress at the northern end is much more dramatic. A great deal more is done at the northern end than at the southern end, adjacent to this place referred to in the Minister's speech as Benny. And that, of course, is consistent with the profound influence on road building that doubtless has emanated from the position of the Minister of Municipal Affairs in the Cabinet, and the fact that he represents the town of Timmins.

What he has wanted, in roads, to satisfy Timmins in the past, he has got from the government. He has got it, because he sits in the Cabinet council and his voice is a very strong one, no doubt.

First he built the road to Foleyet to connect Timmins with a little wee burg out in the wilderness there. Then that did not

satisfy him, he had that road extended from Foleyet to Chapleau, when good sense—common sense—would have required that the major metropolitan municipality in the north, Sudbury, ought to have been connected with Chapleau first. I have complained before, and I reiterate, that Sudbury, a community of some 180,000 people, taking in the municipalities on the environs, has been balanced, up to this time, on an east-west access of Highway 17 and at the end of Highway 69.

In fact it has had more contact with the southern part of the province than it has with the vast hinterland to the north.

Sudbury being the highly industrialized type of municipality that it is, it ought to be in a position with a network of roads. Its economic tentacles, if that is not too strong a phrase, ought to be reaching out into the northland to the north of it, so that it could maximize the effect of its economic strength.

It is perfectly ridiculous from my point of view that a little wee place, comparatively speaking, like Timmins, should be served by the network of roads that it has been advantaged by—and I make the allegation—by the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner).

He has been inordinately greedy, I would say, in securing those things that he has for his community. Of course, we—perhaps it is risky for me to say this, but we have not had the advantage of having a voice in Cabinet council, because Sudbury has been represented by an Opposition member. We have not been at the very seat of power in order to make our influence felt.

The Prime Minister, of course, in his Cabinet reshuffle, overlooked the member that represents the suburbs of Sudbury, my friend from Nickel Belt, and he selected a neighbour of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, so the north end of it is represented by two people in the executive council.

Mr. MacDonald: Now we have a split in the north.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I doubt if there is a split, but I have been very curious to know why these two men in the executive council, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), are apparently not using their influence to pressure the government into completing this road as speedily as possible. We have never been able to ascertain from any Minister of Highways just what the target date for completion is. As I read the capital works programme that was supplied us, they are going

to build something like eight miles north of Benny. They are going to clear the right of way.

The statement made by the report is that 8.2 miles of clearing on the Sudbury-Timmins highway from 24.4 miles north of Benny northerly. Well, that does not mean that any cars are going to drive over that stretch of highway in the reasonably foreseeable future. The statement made by the Minister of Highways in this thing, prepared for him no doubt by the experts, is sorely unjustified. It is an unjustified statement. Listen to what he says—

The Sudbury-Timmins road will be the scene of one of the largest programmes, both in terms of physical volume of work and dollar value, to be awarded, being estimated at some \$4 million.

Peanuts! Peanuts, if one is talking in terms of dollar value. A lot of my friends that I sit with here do not like indivious comparisons, but just to etch up the thing, what is \$4 million compared to \$14 million a mile at the south end of this city, if you want comparisons—\$14 million for each mile of it. So my declamation of “peanuts” is justified when you start exaggerating things so that you try to pull the wool over the eyes of the unwary, if that is some kind of an election gimmick for the forthcoming campaign.

That gentleman who is running against me is so eloquent in his condemnation of this government. They tell me he leaves people mesmerized when he starts to condemn this government, and the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests, who was at his nominating convention, could hardly withstand the super quality of his exorcisms against the government and the hon. Minister shook with the biblical palsy when he heard him. Wait till you hear him when he reads that—when he starts to seek the favour of the electorate by criticism of the government.

We ask for nothing that is not our due, and having been waiting for 33 years since the proposal was first made, I am entitled to stand here on behalf of all those in Sudbury who want to see the maximization of the expansion of the economic influence of Sudbury to the north satisfied and fostered, and say to you that it is time that this government pulled up its boot straps and had the decency to do what is just and right for the northern reaches of this province. How many generations do we have to come here and allege discrimination against us? You heard the hon. member for Kenora (Mr. Bernier),

when he had the great honour of moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and the quality of his declamations about how that is the forgotten area. Do you think we like to come here and adopt the role of paupers? Before I set out for Toronto after the weekend, I have to put on my worst-looking suit in order to fit the role of beggar. Do what is right and just, and I am entitled to ask.

Perhaps they will get in the debate—these two that sit on the starboard and port of the hon. Minister. And what are they doing in the executive council? They are doing what the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope) is doing. You heard the indictment that came from Port Arthur of him.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 907 please.

Mr. Sopha: That is what they are doing—indictment. It is a sorry record for sitting several years in the executive council not to be able to come into the north and point with pride to some capital construction and say “we did that for you.” It is our children who are going to have the advantage of driving over this road?

I have the privilege of sitting on the land recreation committee of The Department of Lands and Forests that deals with the use of the land on either side of the right of way. From the long-term point of view, we cannot rationally plan the use of that land because The Department of Lands and Forests is not informed by The Department of Highways from year to year what the progress with the road is going to be. They do not know, which denotes a tremendous lack of liaison.

Just to use a comparable situation, in The Department of Highways under the last-but-one predecessor of the hon. Minister—yes it was not the previous Minister, it was Mr. Goodfellow who built the Killarney Road, and I went to the opening of that road—did not even have the sense in that department to put that road on the shores of lakes and take advantage of the beautiful vista of those northern Laurentian lakes. They did not even have that sense. They put it right through the bush. It goes some 20 or 30 miles, and if you want to see a lake on it—and there are hundreds, literally hundreds of lakes—there is one to be seen. At the risk of straining your cervical spine, if you turn around at one point you can see the bottom end of Tyson Lake—you can see the bottom end if you look quickly as you go by.

So at the land use reclamation committee I said they must not make the same mistake in the Timmins road. There are hundreds of lakes along that route and this road must go along the shore of those lakes, especially Onaping Lake, which is about 30 miles long with a beautiful sand beach. One of the reasons for the location of the road, I inform the hon. Minister—and this will be verified by his officials—is that along Onaping Lake it goes over gravel which was infinitely preferable to taking it north of Capreol through the Laurentian shield. Though the mileage is perhaps 25 or 30 miles longer, the route they have taken saves about \$9 million by using that gravel base along Onaping Lake. When that proposal was made to The Department of Highways that they take advantage of it, sir, they were hurt, they were incensed that they should be directed. But finally common sense prevailed and they agreed to route that road along some of those wonderful Laurentian lakes in that area.

But that leaves the ultimate question to which I return. When is anybody in the Sudbury basin or indeed, in Timmins, going to have the advantage of using it? You see, I am entitled to say here, and I do say, that if the same situation of lethargy and indifference prevailed in the southern part of the province, if that prevailed in the Toronto area, you would have the three mighty organs of the metropolitan press, to which this government is so sensitive—the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food treats the *Globe and Mail* as the Bible; it has the validity of the tablets received on Mount Sinai—would thunder and the government would crumble in front of them.

But being 250 miles away, they can overlook our importunings perennially, about when that road is going to be finished. Today I asked the question, and like Pontius Pilate I have not the time to stay for an answer. I will report that once again I asked; I will report that back in my constituency at the great Liberal meeting on the 18th, when the candidate for the House of Commons will be selected, and therefore the next member of the House of Commons will be selected—

An hon. member: Is the hon. member running?

Mr. Sopha: No, I am not running. But I will report that once again I made my request and I am perfectly serious. It is a disgrace and a shame that successive hon. Ministers of The Department of Highways have been

so cold and heartless in attending to the needs of the great northern area of this province, as they have. And an economic disgrace, in that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has always had his way about the roads that he wanted—the one to Foleyet. And now this Timmins highway, of course; he has seen to it, or somebody has seen to it, that Timmins is connected with Gogama. I am told they are already driving over that portion of the road. In other words, the road is being built backwards.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): It is being built frontwards.

Mr. Sopha: Timmins, a little community? Well, I may ask the Minister, how many people are there in Timmins?—45,000? About 45,000 people.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: They are of such good quality the number really does not matter.

Mr. Sopha: No one denies that, but the imbalance is such that a small community gets the advantage of these transportation arteries while the capital of the north, the major industrial centre of the north, once again gets left out. I wish my friend, the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers), was here to join with me, to indicate his own chagrin, because I can tell that at every public appearance where he is present, and I have been there, someone has asked him about that Timmins road. He is asked about it, when it will be completed, what will the government do next year, what are the proposals—and the poor chap is in a constant state of embarrassment. He blushes easily when he reports that he does not know, that he is not able to give any enlightenment.

So I end up by saying I am not really asking for a reply, because unless the reply were definite and specific I am not really inviting the participation of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. He would be too embarrassed to get in because he would have to disclose about the advantages that his community has had. The only thing we can do, at the next contest of the polls, is refer to this negligence on the part of this government; and once again northern Ontario will express its displeasure with the government.

The government would never be elected if the same proportion of members came from northern Ontario as come from other parts. It would not have the confidence of the Lieutenant-Governor, would not be able to muster enough seats to sustain a vote in this House. Did it ever occur to anyone over in the Treasury benches why that is so? They

can elect members down in the western part of the province or down east, but they cannot elect them in northern Ontario in the same proportion.

Well, the answer is plain, as plain as the nose on Pinocchio's face, what the reason is. If you give the member for Kenora another chance to make a speech this session, he once again will tell you. If the member for Nickel Belt gets up here and makes a speech, he will have to begin it as he always does, with his qualifications of lack of enthusiasm for the programmes of this government in the north—as he has to do in the public arena when he is at home.

So the matter rests there. I hope it will have some effect, in the plea for justice for a fair share to reflect the immense wealth that we pour out of the land area that is four-fifths of this province.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Chairman, following the plea which the hon. member for Sudbury has made for the situation in the Timmins road, I would like to ask the Minister a question with respect to the bridge across the river at Fort Frances. Last year I raised this question, it had been raised before by people in this group, and I would like to know what progress has been made toward the completion or at least the planning of the bridge from International Falls to Fort Frances.

This bridge has been there a long time. It was built in 1912, I understand. The Boise Cascade company owns the bridge and is making something like \$250,000 a year on tolls, and more. Plans have been talked about for a great length of time. The people on the Minnesota side claim that they are ready to cooperate with this government in building a bridge and we have had the answer that the lack of cooperation across the border on this side seems to be the thing that is holding up the whole project.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the Minister, through you, about progress in connection with that bridge—whether any plans are afoot, whether there is anything more definite than we had last year?

Mr. Chairman: May I say to the member for Yorkview that perhaps we should ascertain now whether or not it is in the planning stage and, if so, perhaps it would be under the next vote.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is actually under planning, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, does the member mind, the Minister can answer it in the next vote.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): Mr. Chairman, I am not quite sure whether this comes under a Department of Highways vote or not, but the fact that we have a very fine road between Kingston and Toronto has enabled me to take this opportunity to introduce the members of this assembly to a very fine group of young people from the Kingston collegiate vocational institute in the west gallery. They have come up to see some of the sights of Toronto and have come to the Parliament buildings here. Among them they have a prize-winning typist, a champion gymnast, and I thought the members of the Legislature would welcome the opportunity of welcoming them here this afternoon.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Yes. I will yield the floor to the hon. member for Nipissing.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): A short question: Would the hon. Minister tell me how they come to the establishment of what area in a township will receive a development road, and whether it will be done with the cooperation of the township? I would like to ask specifically about the present development in East Ferris township, under part 2 of vote 907.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The development road funds are used to assist counties and townships to further improve their roads. If the opinion is that a road under the jurisdiction of a county or township warrants improvement, but would pose a financial burden to the county or township, and is in the public interest, it may be designated as a development road to carry out the improvements. After the improvements are made, of course, it returns to the township or the county.

Mr. Smith: I would like to ask specifically what is the amount now being spent on this programme in East Ferris.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We do not have that figure available at the moment, but we will get it for the hon. member.

Mr. Smith: Are these projects set up in combination, as an agreement between the township and the department? If so, does the department decide which roads will be built and which roads will be developed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is on request by the township. Of course they have to prove their need, whether they are financially able to develop the roads themselves or whether we would do it for them.

Mr. Smith: In East Ferris there is a road now being developed—I have asked the cost and I suppose it can be provided to me later—but many people in the township thought that this road should not be developed. I understand that there is a great amount of money being spent on it. It is going from one part of Highway 17, around in a circle, to another part of Highway 17. It is servicing only a number of cottage owners and a few permanent residents, and the people of the district are certainly questioning the amount of money that is being spent on that road.

I have spoken to some people in the township who have indicated to me that the department told them that this was the road that they wanted developed, whereas they felt that there were other roads in that township that should have been developed first.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I think, Mr. Chairman, that you will find that the township councils put a priority on the roads which they want and these are usually the ones constructed by the department.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bracondale.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, yesterday in dealing with, I believe, vote 904 or 905—I am sorry, vote 904—I spoke on the metropolitan roads department and drew to the attention of this House what I considered to be a waste of the taxpayers' money.

One of the members of the government benches got up after I did and facetiously said that I was being parochial in dwelling on Toronto's problems. Well, I pride myself that there is at least one of us in this House who comes from the city of Toronto and does get up and draws to the attention of this House, some of the problems that are facing the taxpayers in this metropolis. I do that with pride and not with shame.

Mr. Chairman, yesterday I was accused of speaking too quickly and it appears that many members were unable to comprehend what I was trying to draw to their attention. I have given example after example to support my allegations. I should say that it is proof of the charges that I am raising in this House—although I believe that it was the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) who rose and said, "Prove them".

Well, I submit that I have been "proving them" each time that I have risen to speak. I have been giving actual instances and I have

been quoting from the minutes of the metropolitan council. Now I am going to quote some more, Mr. Chairman, but I am going to speak slowly and perhaps if I speak slowly enough, my words can be absorbed by members on the other side of the House.

Perhaps some, at least, of the Toronto members on the government side will pay attention and have some idea of why the taxes in the metropolitan area seem to be going higher and higher. It is estimated that in this coming year the city of Toronto tax is going to rise six mills. The cost of highways, and the contribution the city of Toronto makes to the cost of highways in this area, has a great bearing on this increase in taxes.

As a matter of fact, I suggest that this government is going to find, when it goes to the electors in the not too distant future, that the main issue here is going to be the high cost of living as a citizen in the municipalities of this province. The metropolitan area is going to take a heavy toll of the government members because of their complete disregard of the welfare of the citizens here.

Mr. Chairman, I mentioned a number of contracts previously. I am now going to deal with contract R-1-64, continuing on with the Gardiner expressway. This is report 32 of the executive committee, item 26, and it is for reinforced concrete and structural steel, elevated structure, from station 397 plus 02.93 to station 457 plus 34.70. I give these citations, Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of the Minister and his advisers.

This matter was put out for tender and the lowest tender was by Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited in the amount of \$7,556,350.64. There were some errors which were corrected in all these estimates, but this estimate was \$421,587.77 less than the second lowest tender which was No. 8 of Kilmer Van Nostrand Limited.

In the language of the trade, Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited, left \$421,587.77 "on the table"—that is the phrase they use—relative to their tender for contract R-1-64.

Now this fact alone—that is, that the lowest tender is considerably below all the other tenders, leads to higher supervision costs and a great chance for a large claim for extras at the completion of the contract.

In this case, Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited—and I will refer to them as Harrison Construction—claimed for extras after the contract was finished in the amount of some \$600,000.

There are some points I wish to stress—first of all, liquidated damages, and if one

refers to a memorandum dated November 26, 1965 sent by the commissioner of roads to the metropolitan solicitor, it stated *inter alia* as follows:

I am attaching a copy of a letter addressed to me under date of November 25, 1965 by Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited, concerning the holdback on contract R-1-64. This a contract on the Gardiner expressway from the Don River to Leslie Street and as you can see is a very large one, \$7,500,000.

The contractor has run into some problems concerning the completion, primarily because of the strike. He has now completed practically all of the work which his company will do. The remainder is waterproofing, paving the deck and installation of lights, all of which are subcontracts. The holdback on this job is very high and if there is any way in which a partial release could be made, it appears to be justifiable.

There are some questions I would put to the Minister and I will try to put them slowly and succinctly, through you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to remind the member, that he had suggested to the House that he would discuss these items under vote 904, the same as the member for Woodbine. I thought that he had completed them under vote 904, and now he is introducing similar material under vote 907.

Under those circumstances, I would have suggested to the member that he wait until vote 907 for his complete remarks; that is all.

Mr. Ben: I accept the Chairman's remarks.

Now, the question is this: What strike caused—

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, why could this not have been dealt with under the one vote? It all happens to fall under this vote; it should not have come up under the 904 vote at all. I am getting the distinct impression that you stopped on this last night, are now coming up for air and will go over the whole thing again.

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think this is a very good point of order and I think it requires an answer for the purposes of the record.

Mr. Chairman, contrary to what has gone on previously, this time the government saw fit to inform the members of the Opposition the order in which the estimates would be

introduced into this House. The order that was given to this side of the House, Mr. Chairman, was as follows: Agriculture, Provincial Secretary, Economics, Attorney General, Highways and then just this week, the hon. acting House leader announced, Tourism, Energy and Resources.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, none of the members of the Opposition anticipated that Highways estimates would be before this hon. House until after the estimates of the Attorney General.

It was unfortunate that the Minister of Economics and Development should take ill, and I am glad to read in the paper that he is recovering, but I do say that it was fortunate for the present Minister of Highways that the Minister of Economics and Development took sick, because unexpectedly and out of order, his estimates came up, while the members of the Opposition had their notes and their material either at home, or the office, or elsewhere. So it was therefore impossible for the members to have all the material here and I had to deal, last night, with what material I had available. It was not until I went home that I was able to get additional material.

Therefore, if you stick to the order that you indicate to us you are going to follow, the hon. Minister of nothing over there—

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Mr. Ben: —would not have to get up on points of order.

Now I am going back to my question, Mr. Chairman.

1. What strike caused the contractors' problems concerning the completion of contract R-1-64 by the specified completion date of October 1, 1965?

2. Was it the carpenters' strike?

3. How much time was lost by Harrison Construction relative to the execution of the work involved in contract R-1-64, due to the carpenters' strike, if any?

4. Did not Harrison Construction make financial arrangements satisfactory to the carpenters union that enabled them to work on this contract throughout the duration of the strike?

5. Why was not Metro council notified or advised that extension of the contract completion date from October 1, 1965 to July 15, 1966, was necessary and asked to authorize the same? Is not this a change in the terms of the original contract?

The liquidated damages that could have been applied to offset the loss of use to the public, and the additional cost to the taxpayers for this 9.5-month or 286-day period, would amount to the sum of \$28,600 calculated at \$100 per day. Added to this was the cost of consulting engineers, on-site staff, and other inspection costs for the same period—which, calculated at a moderate estimate of \$8,000 per month, would amount to some \$76,000.

There remains the question of the premature release of the holdback. Report 56 of the executive committee, item 64, adopted by the metropolitan council on December 14, 1965. Caption: "Release of portion of holdback contract R-1-64".

The executive committee recommends the adoption of the appended report December 6, 1965, received from the commissioner of roads, to wit:

On August 11, 1964, council by the adoption of item 26 of the executive committee report 32, approved the award of contract R-1-64, Frederick G. Gardiner expressway, Don River to Leslie Street, to Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited at a total price of \$7,556,350.64. Approximately \$7,462,544 worth of work, or 99 per cent of the contract, has now been completed. The balance of the work cannot be completed under winter weather conditions; therefore, in a few days time the contractor will be shutting down work until April 1966.

According to the terms of the contract, 15 per cent of the value of the work done is retained until the completion of the contract work. This means a holdback of \$1,119,380 is retained by the metropolitan corporation until the contract work is completed in the spring.

In view of the small percentage of work left to be done I recommend that an amount of \$750,000, which is approximately equal to two thirds of the holdback, be released to the contractor upon delivery of a bond in a form acceptable to the metropolitan solicitor, and with a surety company acceptable to the metropolitan treasurer, saving the metropolitan corporation harmless from any claim for mechanics liens or otherwise arising out of the release of holdback and after completion of such other arrangements as considered necessary by the metropolitan solicitor to protect the interests of the metropolitan corporation.

That was the extent of the item, Mr. Chairman—nothing in here stating that there are going to be claims for \$600,000, in addition to the contract price. No mention made that they do not have to pay this, because they have a firm contract which states that they must hold back 15 per cent. No mention made that The Mechanics Lien Act provides that they hold 15 per cent back. No mention made that it is going to be costing the municipality approximately six per cent interest on \$750,000 because they are paying it prematurely, when they do not have to pay it. Not a word of that.

They already mention a previous report about a strike which, I suggest to this House, Mr. Chairman, in no way affected this particular contract; but these are the type of letters that pass back and forth, these are the recommendations that come down. And this Minister's department pays, basically speaking, 50 per cent of the cost of these contracts.

On May 11, 1966, a letter from the commissioner of roads to Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited:

Consideration has been given to your verbal request for compensation for concrete on the deck of the Gardiner expressway and for crushed stone used for surface roads in the area.

As I mentioned at our meeting, I feel that all aspects of a claim should be dealt with simultaneously since compensation for one item may have a bearing on our decision on other items which are claimed.

Now that is a very significant phrase. It means we may do a little haggling here, old boy.

In view of the fact that we have not yet formally received any claim from your firm, and considering the fact that there has been an indication that such a claim will be made, I am not able to comply with your request at this time. It is my understanding that there are some outstanding accounts which have not as yet been settled with your subcontractor.

We have made one major concession to date, which is the release of holdback. It was our hope that with this release settlements would be made. The situation should be resolved by your formal submission of a claim and I can assure you that we will attempt to resolve this as expeditiously as possible.

Now a few more questions, Mr. Chairman.

On December 6, 1965, was \$7,462,544 worth of work, or 99 per cent of the contract, completed? Was it actually completed? Has this department checked the engineers' certificates? Have you audited them to see whether these certificates in fact represented what was done?

Progress claim No. 16, dated December 7, 1965, was issued to release \$750,000 of holdback to be approved by council on December 14, 1965, based on progress claim No. 15, which was made up of \$6,726,313.46 worth of completed contract items and \$238,105.85 worth of extra work orders, for a total value of \$6,964,419.31.

In essence, Mr. Chairman, 99 per cent of this work stipulated in the contract was not done but only \$6,726,000 of it. The other work which was lumped in there to give an appearance of 99 per cent of the work being done was a claim for extras which did not come within the scope of the contract whatsoever. Did the Minister's department, Mr. Chairman, check these certificates and, if so, what action did they take?

There is a summary of payments [see below]. I will read the numbers for the benefit of the Minister so his staff will not experience too much difficulty checking this.

Anyway there are certificates Nos. 18 and 19; I will just give you the numbers of them and their dates. No. 18 was December 21, 1965, to December 31, 1965—ten days later. That is what the certificate said—that it was a certificate up to a period ten days after its date. Certificate No. 19—May 30, 1966, to April 30, 1966. On completion, the certificate was No. 23, July 15, 1966; it was dated December 2, 1966, and the total of the contract price was \$8,056,036.20.

On the date in question, was not \$7,179,084.26 worth of work actually completed relative to the contract items? And would this not indicate that only 95 per cent of the contract was completed—not 99 per cent, as the report to council indicated, but only 95 per cent based on the original estimated contract price of \$7,556,350.64, not allowing for any over-run on the contract items at completion?

3. Is not the 15 per cent holdback retained by the metropolitan corporation until the completion and final certificates are signed by the contractor, which in this case would have been on or about December 2, 1966? In other words, did they not have to pay \$750,000 one year prematurely, and did this premature payment not cost them an average of six per cent interest, or roughly \$45,000? How much did this government contribute to this little by-play? Did this government contribute 50 per cent of that \$45,000 because Metro council, on a recommendation from the commissioner, wanted to be nice to the contractor who at the same time was claiming an additional \$6,000?

5. Should the metropolitan corporation be constantly releasing partial holdbacks relative to their contracts, contrary to the terms of their contracts, prior to the completion of work and to the detriment of the taxpayer?

6. Does this procedure not give the contractor more time to compile and pursue claims for additional compensation relative to the contract, without having to worry about the loss of interest on the larger amount of holdback which is supposed to be retained by the corporation until these matters are settled?

7. Was this \$750,000 of holdback released in December, 1965, as I stated, not one year ahead of schedule according to terms of the contract, since the completion certificate for contract R-1-64 was not signed until December, 1966?

8. Why should such a major concession be made to a contractor whose performance leaves much to be desired?

As I say, I calculated interest that we take at six per cent because the present Metro borrowing rate—and I stand to be corrected by the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, I believe—is 6.25 per cent, so at 6.25 per cent the amount of interest charged to Metro and The Department of Highways would be some \$46,000.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: May I ask a question? Are you attempting to allude that interest has been paid by Metro in the amount of \$45,000? Is that what you are saying? And

<i>Progress Certificate</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Contract Items</i>	<i>Extra Work Orders</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. 16	Dec. 7, '65	\$6,726,313.46	\$238,105.85	\$6,964,419.31
No. 17	Dec. 14, '65 to Nov. 31, '65	7,179,084.26	263,777.03	7,442,861.29

then you are asking the question as to whether or not The Department of Highways, through its subsidy programme, paid a portion of that \$45,000 interest. Is that what you are trying to say?

Mr. Ben: I have difficulty in following a rhetorical question, Mr. Chairman. In essence what I am pointing out is this. Either the metropolitan corporation, through its taxes, has \$750,000 on hand with which to make this payment, or else it borrows the money on debentures, or else it borrows it for a short term until it obtains the debenture fund. Whichever way you look at it, it cost them six per cent, because if they have the money on hand with which to pay it, and it is not going to be used for a year, they in turn invest it for a short term and they make interest on it. Whichever way you look at it, it costs the taxpayers of Metropolitan Toronto at least six per cent—\$45,000 on that money. Since I do not know just whether or not the government does give grants to Metro to cover that interest rate—they may not—I am asking that of the hon. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Is that the point you are attempting to establish?

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: If you had the answer to that would you be satisfied?

Mr. Ben: That is one of the questions I have been asking.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: At least we would have that one answered.

Mr. Ben: Yes, you could at least answer that one.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: So I can say that that is not an item of expenditure that is subject to subsidies.

Mr. Ben: It bothered me that the taxpayers of Metro had to bear it alone, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: If that is the case it is entirely out of order and I would ask the member to stay with vote 907, if there is no subsidy to it.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, perhaps you did not understand the interchange between the hon. Minister and me. I have discovered that there is no subsidy paid on the interest on the capital charges but there is a subsidy paid on the capital charges. On March 28, 1966, Harrison Construction wrote to Premier

Building Materials Limited, re R-1-64 Gardiner expressway:

Your letter of March 24, 1966, to Mr. R. Laird, has come to my attention. Since your last shipment of concrete to this job, a discrepancy of approximately 2,800 cubic yards has been found between your quantities. Until such time as this discrepancy is straightened out we regret that we cannot pay your account. Your Mr. Cosburn has been informed of this matter.

I ask, how can there be a discrepancy of 2,800 cubic yards? This amount of concrete they are looking for would be in a solid cube approximately 42 feet wide, by 42 feet long, by 42 feet high. In other words I guess it is pretty well close to the size of this legislative chamber. That is the discrepancy in concrete they are looking for—a cube, 42 feet on all sides. That is a pretty good-sized discrepancy, as I say. It would fill a good part of this august chamber. How can they lose that much concrete?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Was there not a later report?

Mr. Ben: Oh yes, it becomes more interesting all the time.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Keep on going then.

Mr. Ben: We find out where this concrete went in a little by-play I am sure you will find of great interest. On April 1, 1966 Premier Building Materials Limited wrote to Metro Toronto legal department again about this contract:

As per our telephone conversation, we wish to confirm that we have supplied the ready-mix concrete to Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited for the above-noted job. Harrison have stated that they are unable to pay the balance of their account in the amount of \$22,155.36 until a shortage is reconciled. Please see attached letter. We know of no such shortage but agreed to wait until March 31, 1966, for our money. Apparently nothing has been settled. In the interim we would very much appreciate anything you can do with regard to protecting our interest.

And they give the details of their account and say, "Thank you for your attention." On May 11, 1966, the commissioner of roads wrote to Harrison Construction:

Consideration has been given to your verbal request for compensation for concrete on the deck of the Gardiner expressway and for crushed stone used for the

surface roads in the area. As I mentioned at our meeting, I feel that all aspects of a claim should be dealt with simultaneously since compensation for one item may have a bearing on our decision on other items which are claimed.

In view of the fact that we have not yet formally received any claim from your firm, and considering the fact that there has been an indication that such a claim will be made, I am not able to comply with your request at this time. It is my understanding that there are some outstanding accounts which have not yet been settled with your subcontractor. We have made one major concession to date, which is the release of holdback. It was our hope that with this release the settlements would be made.

The situation now should be resolved by your formal submission of a claim, and I can assure you that we will attempt to resolve this as expeditiously as possible.

Now, Mr. Chairman, why should compensation for one item have a bearing on the decision on other items which are claimed? Surely each item should be dealt with on its own merits. This appears to be a sort of bargaining in an Arab bazaar.

Is not each individual claim either valid or invalid? Why should horse-trading, as I stated, be relative to the settlement of claims?

Now, progress certificate No. 19, dated April 30, 1966, voucher No. 2153, dated May 30, 1966. Quantity and expenditure chart, item No. 22. [See table below.]

Now you will note that the amount supplied in column (a) was to be 14,560 cubic yards. The amount that was placed was 14,560 cubic yards, but the total quantity completed to date was 14,793.43 cubic yards, or some 233 cubic yards more.

Does not progress certificate No. 19 to April 30, 1966, indicate under item No. 22 of the quantity and expenditure chart, that 644.19 cubic yards more type 'C' concrete was supplied by the contractor than was placed in the forms for the deck slab?

Do not the contract plans for contract No. R-1-64 indicate that the thickness of the deck concrete is to be seven inches?

Does not the quantity of concrete placed in the deck slab under item No. 22(b), namely, 14,793.43 cubic yards, represent the amount calculated by the consulting engineers in the haunches and a 7-inch thick deck slab?

I want answers to these questions, that is why I am giving them slowly.

Does not the 644.19 cubic yards increase in the quantity of concrete supplied in the deck slab under item No. 22(a), represent the amount calculated by the consulting engineers in an extra one-half inch of thickness over the entire deck in the contract?

Is not this payment for supply only of 644.19 cubic yards, or an additional one-half inch of concrete on the deck slab, in part the claim of Harrison Construction (Ontario) Limited, referred to by the commissioner of roads in his letter to that company on May 11, 1966, as "your verbal request for compensation for concrete on the deck of the Gardiner expressway"?

In this payment to offset some of the missing 2,800 cubic yards of concrete the contractors' supplier wants to be paid for?

I have another reference here, section 9, schedule (b) of Frederick Gardiner specifications concrete masonry. Section 9.9 on page 28.

Quantity and Payment.

The quantity of concrete masonry for which payment will be made, will be the volume of plain or reinforced concrete for which no other provision for measurement and payment is made under other sections of the specifications, measured within the neat lines of construction actually placed, as shown in the plans, or as directed by the commissioner, etc.

And I also make a reference to completion certificate dated December 2, 1966—in case you have not got them I have all these things here for you.

It indicates the department does not seem to have knowledge of these completion certificates or certainly does not take the trouble

	<i>Estimated Quantity</i>	<i>Unit Price Bid</i>	<i>Quantity Com- pleted to Date</i>
(a) Supply type 'C' Concrete for Deck Slab Superstructure	14,560 cubic yards	\$13.55	15,437.62
(b) Place Type 'C' Concrete for Deck Slab Superstructure	14,560 cubic yards	\$26.98	14,793.43

to check or audit them. Yesterday I mentioned about the Metro council being a rubber stamp—I think The Department of Highways here probably has its own gang of rubber stamps too.

Completion certificate, item 22. I have already read that, I am not going to read it to you again.

An hon. member: Go ahead, read it again.

Mr. Ben: No, I am not going to read it again, I am hoping the Minister's advisors are taking it into consideration.

Questions: In the completion certificate, quantity and expenditure chart, have not both the quantity completed figures for item 22(a) and 22(b) been increased by 644.19 cubic yards to provide for the payment for the supply and placement of an additional one-half inch of deck slab concrete, contrary to the plans and specifications incorporated in the tender documents of contract R-1-64?

Are not the taxpayers of Metropolitan Toronto, and in fact the taxpayers of the province of Ontario, due to the 50 per cent provincial subsidy being burdened with additional tax load to pay for the supplying and placing of 644.19 cubic yards of concrete in the deck slab of this section of the Frederick Gardiner expressway, which they did not contract for in their tender?

Are not the taxpayers also being stuck with the "dead load" of any additional concrete that might have been placed in the deck slab superstructure of this elevated expressway?

This 644.19 cubic yards increase in items 22(a) and 22(b), at the rate of \$40.53 per cubic yard for supply and place, cost the taxpayers \$26,109.02 as a premium on contract R-1-64. Now, for this department that may be peanuts, but it is not to the taxpayers of Metropolitan Toronto, with their taxes continually going up.

The previous mayor said that every time another expenditure came up it was just going to cost another package of cigarettes per person; I often suspected that there was a conspiracy between him and Judy LaMarsh. Since Judy LaMarsh could not get people to stop smoking through her propaganda, the mayor of Toronto, by continually increasing taxes by an additional package of cigarettes, would get people to cut out smoking. At any rate, this money is important to them in view of the increase, from year to year, in their mill rate. And it should concern the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Extra work order No. 3016 and items 38 and 39. Reference: completion certificate

dated December 2, 1966, quantity and expenditure chart for December, 1966. Items 38 and 39.

No. 38: removal of existing asphalt concrete pavement, 37,000 square yards at a unit price of 27 cents, total price bid \$9,990; quantity completed 61,847 square yards, total price expended \$16,698.69. By the way, we are still on the one contract.

No. 39: removal of existing concrete base-course; estimated quantity, 37,000 square yards at 24 cents per yard; total price bid, \$8,880; quantity completed 66,335 square yards, for \$15,920.40.

The over-run at completion of item 38 was 167 per cent, based on the estimated quantity at the time of tendering, and the over-run at completion of item 39 was 180 per cent, based on estimated quantity at time of tendering.

The questions for the hon. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, are: 1. Was not the contractor paid for the over-run on both items 38 and 39, as in other items of the contract, on the basis of the unit price he tendered relative to the estimated quantities in the tender documents?

2. Do not the contract specifications and general conditions spell out that the estimated quantities may fluctuate, and that the onus is on the tenderer to verify these quantities, and that same may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the commissioner?

3. Does not the value of the over-run on these two items, for which the contractor was paid on the basis of his unit price tendered, amount to \$13,749.09?

Perhaps I should ask these one at a time.

Again—reference: extra work order No. 3016 dated November 29, 1966, over four months after the contract was completed.

Detail of work: overhaul of excavated materials beyond contract quantities, removal of existing asphalt and concrete pavement; tandem trucks, D.8 dozer, floating time, D.9 ripper.

Tandem trucks, it gives the quantities; hours, it gives the unit price. The total price is \$23,347.75.

Reason: material not acceptable at dump close to site.

Now Mr. Chairman, questions of the Minister, through you:

1. Would not the issuance of this extra work order indicate that the contractor has been paid a premium of \$23,347.75, on \$13,749.09 worth of work for which he re-

ceived payment under items 38 and 39 of the contract based on his unit prices tendered?

2. Do not the contract specifications clearly indicate to the tenderer that the provision of a dump site is the contractor's responsibility?

I say the premium on these two items, 38 and 39, cost the taxpayers \$23,347.75 in 1966, last year.

Extra work orders 3018 and 2376, and items 9 and 12:

Extra work order 3018, is dated November 29, 1966, four months after contract completion. [See table below.]

Reason: backfill of sub-excavation on Don Roadway soft spots. Reference: letter, June 17, 1966.

I think the Minister ought to be appreciative I am saving his department all this trouble giving the reference and even quoting from the letters. Obviously they did not do as good a search as they intimated they were going to after I brought this matter up in the Legislature. If they have discovered these things, they are certainly keeping them under a blanket, hidden from public notice.

The letter, commissioner of roads to Metropolitan Toronto chairman, page 10—I might as well get my name in here:

Mr. Ben also claims that the commissioner of roads is permitted to spend additional hundreds of thousands of dollars with no one else's approval. The Department of Highways, Ontario, approves all our extra work orders. The auditors of both DHO and Metropolitan Toronto audit these extra work orders.

My comment: har-de-har-har-har!

Question: This was a letter that the commissioner wrote to the metropolitan chairman. Yesterday I pointed out that, time after time, the commissioner of roads had exceeded the 10 per cent over-run that he was permitted under the rules of council—that is, he is permitted by council to over-run up to 10 per cent of the contract price without getting consent of council—and that he was running over this ten per cent without getting approval of council. His justification for that action

was to state that he was getting the approval on all their extra work orders from The Department of Highways.

Now how The Department of Highways could, without the knowledge or concurrence of Metro council, supersede their instructions is beyond me. Anyway, questions again to the Minister through you, Mr. Chairman:

1. What new streamlined system of approval and audit is The Department of Highways, Ontario, using these days, that would verify and certify the foregoing extra work order number 3018?

2. Does the wording of this extra work order indicate that a premium of 35 cents per ton plus 15 per cent overhead was paid for the supplying of four-inch crushed stone not included in the contract?

3. Is not the quantity on which the foregoing premium was paid specified as 43,206.19 tons?

4. It is conceded that the original contract made no provisions for the supply of four-inch crushed stone, so how did the contractor get paid for the same?

Reference: extra work order number 2376, dated September 10, 1964. Patience, Mr. Chairman, we are getting to the end.

Detail of work: providing labour, equipment and material to supply and place four-inch crushed limestone to road base where directed by the resident engineer; unit price, \$2.74 per ton.

Reason: to correct difficult sub-base conditions on the Don roadway, Leslie Street and Lakeshore Boulevard East.

Reference again: extra work order, summary attached to progress claim number 18 to December 31, 1965, voucher number 4617, Metropolitan Toronto roads department. Extra work order number 2376, four-inch crushed limestone, 14,176 tons at \$2.74 per ton—\$38,842.24.

Reference: extra work order summary attached to completion certificate dated December 2, 1966. Extra work order number 2376; four-inch crushed limestone, 14,176 tons at \$2.74 per ton—\$38,842.24.

<i>Detail of Work</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Unit Price</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Extra for supply of four-inch crushed stone not included in contract plus 15 per cent overhead	43,206.19	35 cents ton	\$15,122.17
			2,268.33
			\$17,390.50

Questions: 1. Is it not obvious that only 14,176 tons of four-inch crushed limestone were used on contract R-1-64 as paid for by extra work order number 2376, at the agreed rate of \$2.74 per ton?

2. In the light of the foregoing, why did The Department of Highways of Ontario and the auditors approve of the premium on 43,206.19 tons of four-inch crushed stone as paid on extra work order number 3018?

3. How did the metropolitan roads department arrive at 43,206.19 tons on which to pay the premium since it is obvious that extra work order number 3018 as worded is inaccurate?

Now quantities and expenditure chart attached to progress claim number 18 to December 31, 1965. [See first table.]

1. Is not the over-run on item 9, or the difference between the quantity completed as of December 31, 1965 and the original estimated quantity, 18,178.25 tons?

2. Is not, similarly, the over-run on item 12 10,851.94 tons?

3. Do not the foregoing over-runs on items 9 and 12, coupled with the 14,176 tons of four-inch crushed limestone used in the contract, add up to 43,206.19 tons?

4. Is it not indicated that a premium of 35 cents per ton plus 15 per cent overhead was paid on not just the four-inch crushed stone

supplied and placed under terms of extra work order 2376, but also on the over-run of stone supplied and placed under items 9 and 12 of the contract, all bought and paid for prior to December, 1965?

I am glad that the Attorney General is here because I think perhaps he should have been here listening to this and investigating it, because obviously The Department of Highways is not.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Whose questions are you reading? I am trying to puzzle that out.

Mr. Ben: I am reading my questions.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Are they yours?

Mr. Ben: They are mine; they are my questions. I continue:

5. What good is a firm contract unit price if the same is subject to revision?

This camouflaged premium cost the taxpayers \$17,390.50.

Extra work order 3020, dated November 29, 1966, more than four months after completion of the contract. [See second table.]

Reason: extension of contract beyond completion date and specifications prohibiting cold weather work necessitated work being done in 1966 at increased prices.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated Quantity</i>	<i>Unit Price Bid</i>	<i>Quantity completed</i>
9 (a) Supply crushed limestone base	26,000 tons	\$2.10	44,178.25
(b) Place crushed limestone base	26,000 tons	.32	44,178.25
12 (a) Supply crushed limestone top dressing	5,000 tons	\$2.30	15,851.94
(b) Place crushed limestone top dressing	5,000 tons	.44	15,851.94

<i>Detail of work</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Unit Price</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Extra for supply and placing of following asphalt items in 1966:			
HL1 supply	9,497.78	.32	\$3,039.29
place	9,497.78	.12	1,139.73
HL6 supply	1,445.08	.32	462.43
place	1,445.08	.12	173.41
			\$4,814.86
Extra for painting guide rail in 1966	11,885 linear feet	.75	891.38
			\$5,706.24

Did you get that? They give them an extension for no reason at all and now we have a claim alleging that this additional cost is because they gave them the extension. I question:

1. By what minute of Metropolitan Toronto council was the completion date of contract R-1-64 extended to July 15, 1966, from specified October 1, 1965?

2. Were not the unit prices tendered by the contractor for the foregoing work covered by items 41, 42 and 79 respectively, firm contract prices?

3. Why should the taxpayers again pay a premium on contracted work just because the contractor did not meet the specified completion date?

The premium cost of this particular aspect was \$5,706.24.

Without going into detail as to how much premium or extra for winter concrete was paid under item 87 for concrete placed during the winter of 1965-1966, or why some of the 1,327,820 board feet of new lumber left in place as timber sheeting or shoring for sewer construction could not have been withdrawn and reused and was paid for under extra work orders 2370 and 3019, at a cost of \$141,308.26, let us summarize.

This is the summary, Mr. Chairman, and I am sure all members on the government side will be pleased: "1. Liquidated damages, \$28,600." These are liquidated damages that were not obtained. "Inspection after completion date, approx. \$76,000." This is the extra cost to the municipality to maintain their engineering staff on site after the completion. "2. Premature release holdback." I was calculating at that time at less than six per cent, which amounted to \$37,500 because I was calculating at five per cent. I have found out since that the municipality is paying 6.25 per cent. "3. Additional thickness deck slab, \$26,109.02. 4. Premium on removal asphalt and concrete pavement, \$23,347.75. 5. Premium on crushed limestone, \$17,390.50. 6. Premium on asphalt and guide rail, \$5,706.24. Total, \$214,653.51." This is only one contract on one project of one municipality in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman, I have asked two years in a row for the hon. Minister to make an investigation of these charges I have made and lay all the facts before this House. It has not been done and, Mr. Chairman, I say that the department's silence is its condemnation and an admission that it has not been looking after the taxpayers' money and it has done away with the old pork barrel philosophy—it

now has a cement barrel philosophy and they are treating the taxpayers and their money like dirt.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that I refuse to accept the last statement that the hon. member has made. He has certain questions on the order paper which pretty well cover the whole of his accusations and they certainly will be answered and I can say that we will get the answers for the other questions which he has asked in his submission.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 907 agreed to?

Mr. E. G. Freeman (Fort William): Mr. Chairman, I have one brief question for the hon. Minister. It has to do with the problem of those people who are employed by the department. I would take it that they are day labourers employed in the transportation of gravel, sand and that sort of thing, in the construction of supplementary highways, and I wonder if the hon. Minister would be in a position to tell us what rate of payment is made to these people. On what basis and how does it generalize across the province?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I do not understand the hon. member's question. I do not see anything about salaries under this vote.

Mr. Freeman: Under item 1, vote 907, "Construction—by Contractors" and "Day Labour". I wonder if this has anything to do with the building of roads where winter work is required and private truckers are employed by the department for the transportation of road materials?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that if it is truckers you are talking about, we ask for bids and pay them that which they bid for, and the labourers are paid the rates as established by the civil service commission for labourers.

Mr. Freeman: I think, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. Minister and his staff do not quite understand the area in which I am dealing. Thousands of yards of gravel and sand and that sort of thing are required to be transported, particularly during this season of the year when the road conditions are such that they can be carried over these roads to repair, or add to, or build on. I would call your attention, for instance, to page 113 of your book—at the bottom of that page—Highway 608 from Highway 61 westerly, a distance of eight miles. There are presently employed in that area some 20 private

truckers, and they are paid as I understand it—I just got this information a few days ago—on the basis of eight cents for the first five miles and six cents for any distance thereafter. Does that help to clear the matter?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Trucking rates that you want to know?

Mr. Freeman: That is right, and who sets the rates and how they compare across the province.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am advised that this is equipment rental and would be on a bid basis.

Mr. Freeman: I am afraid the hon. Minister's advice is not correct. I would hope that probably after your estimates are completed, you would give me your assurance that you will give further consideration to this matter and have it clarified. I realize it might be difficult at this time.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I will do that.

Mr. Freeman: Thank you.

Vote 907 agreed to.

On vote 908:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, before we get into vote 908 is it not the private members' hour? Well, Mr. Chairman, vote 908 is not carried, but does the House not rise customarily at this time?

Mr. Chairman: Unless directed otherwise, vote 908 is before me.

Mr. Bryden: I would put the question to the House leader, Mr. Chairman. Does he plan to follow the standard procedure? It is now 5 o'clock—it is half a minute to five—what is the point of starting on a new vote at this time?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Is there much left on that to do?

Mr. Bryden: We are just starting.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Just starting? Oh?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: moves that the committee of supply rise and report it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to cer-

tain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 11, by Mr. N. Davison.

RESOLVED: That the government should immediately extend hospital insurance coverage to persons in chronic and convalescent hospitals, or in approved nursing homes, who do not require continued medical and skilled nursing care, but whose condition is such that, in the opinion of the medical practitioner, they cannot be returned to their own home or to a home for the aged.

Mr. N. Davison (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West) Resolution No. 11, standing in my name, which has just been read.

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 7 by Mr. R. J. Harris.

RESOLVED: That the Ontario hospital insurance plan should be expanded to provide coverage for the chronically ill and elderly citizens who must be cared for in nursing homes, and arrangements should be made to provide capital grants for the construction of nursing homes to be operated by the public or other non-profit-making organizations.

Mr. R. J. Harris (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. H. J. Price (St. David) Resolution No. 7, standing in my name, which has just been read.

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 12 by Mr. M. Gaunt.

RESOLVED: That Ontario hospital services commission should extend coverage to all aged and infirm persons who are no longer eligible to remain in hospital but require long-term care, and who choose to enter a nursing home, provided that the nursing home is provincially licensed and inspected.

Also that Ontario hospital services commission should extend coverage to disabled children whose disability is so great that they are incapable of caring for themselves.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South), Resolution No. 12, standing in my name, which has just been read.

Mr. Davison: Estimates were tabled before the special committee on aging which indicated that Ontario citizens in the 65-and-over age group would increase in 1971 to 638,900, and in 1976 to 695,952. This is a very large number of people for whom we will be required to provide care to meet the various types and degrees of ills they will face as they grow older. Added to these must be the chronically ill of various ages.

Many, perhaps a large majority, could most satisfactorily be looked after in a nursing home. The kinds of care long-term patients, both elderly and others, need is subject to change. Their mental and physical condition can vary and the affairs of those responsible for their welfare can change, thus affecting their ability to look after someone in need of long-term care.

There is a great need for coordination of the various health services to promote an easy flow from one type of care to another. Hospitals, nursing homes, home care programmes, rehabilitation centres and other services for the elderly and chronically ill should ideally be operated on a coordinated basis.

Due to the lack of an integrated and balanced hospital system combined with the absence of a broad spectrum of care being available to beneficiaries of the Ontario hospital insurance plan, there has been a tendency for the flow of patients to be slowed down. People admitted to active treatment hospitals tend to stay longer than is required because of the inability to secure a bed in a convalescent or chronic facility.

During 1965, the per diem cost in active treatment hospitals in Ontario averaged \$35 per day, while the cost in convalescent hospitals and hospitals for the chronically ill was \$18 and \$16 respectively. Many patients who might be discharged to a nursing home where costs run from \$8 to \$12 per day tended to be kept longer in other hospitals because the patient cannot afford to pay the nursing home cost.

I imagine all the hon. members have had cases of hardship in this connection brought to their attention. A doctor discharged a patient in a Hamilton hospital because he no longer needed active treatment. From this point he was no longer covered by Ontario hospital insurance. Unfortunately he had nowhere to go. There was no one able to care for him at home and he could not afford nursing home charges, so he just stayed on at the hospital and ran up a bill exceeding

\$2,000. The hospital bill incurred in a similar case in Toronto ran to over \$4,000.

Many times a doctor's understanding of the financial position of his patient will cause him to delay releasing the patient from a hospital because he knows the patient cannot afford to go to a nursing home. Even though the patient does not require hospital services, he may still not be able to return to his home and look after himself and may often have no one to give him the needed care at home. The doctor would be well aware that a patient so released would return shortly in full need of hospital services. His release from the hospital under these circumstances would serve no useful purpose and could well hasten need for permanent care.

Our hospitals are crowded, and people who are not emergency cases must often wait a considerable time for a bed to become vacant. Greater use of nursing homes would help to relieve our congested hospitals and provide a transition from hospital to home.

The Ontario hospital services commission presently makes payments on behalf of individuals receiving care in hospitals designated as active, convalescent and those providing care for the chronically ill. In order to be eligible for these benefits, the patient must, in the opinion of the physician, require a level of care being provided in the particular institution. In addition, patients discharged from active treatment hospitals and cared for under an organized home care plan continue to have the cost of their care paid for by the Ontario hospital services commission. Unfortunately, the only organized home care plan I know of is the small pilot plan in Toronto.

Due to the shortage of beds for the chronically ill, some nursing home beds have been approved for use by beneficiaries of the plan. These approvals are withdrawn as beds become available in hospitals for care of chronically ill patients. I believe only 749 beds in 45 nursing homes were covered by OHSC in 1965, or about 12 per cent. During that year, 1,554 patients were cared for in nursing homes under this temporary programme. The average length of stay of such patients was 273.3 days.

The nursing homes that are selected do not differ from many that have not been so designated. Patients and the care they receive do not differ from that given to some other patients who occupy similar nursing home beds but are not beneficiaries of the OHSC. Nursing home care ought to be considered as a natural extension of hospital care and not as a temporary measure to cope with the

shortage of beds for the chronically ill. They represent a facility which provides a different service than that which would be found in a well organized hospital for the chronically ill.

The very fact that the benefits under the OHSC are restricted to the care and treatment received in the three types of hospitals has probably been a factor which has tended to increase the cost of hospital care. Now that we have passed legislation to license nursing homes that meet our standards, surely the next step must be to make their services available to everyone on the recommendation of their physician.

The wealthy can afford to pay for this service and the welfare departments reimburse the nursing home for the very poor. There are, however, many who could not begin to be able to pay for these services but who are not eligible for welfare assistance. These people could and do pay the Ontario hospital insurance premiums and I strongly urge the hon. members to support the resolution before us.

It is my understanding that the Ontario hospital services commission has the responsibility of developing and establishing a balanced and integrated system of hospitals and related health facilities. A nursing home is certainly a related health facility and here we have an organization already charged with providing a coordinated programme of health care. I cannot imagine what is holding us back from making this service available to everyone requiring it or to whom it would be of benefit.

Many communities are now providing meals on wheels. If only we could have the hospitalized person released to a nursing home, from there to his own home, where a home care programme and portable meals on wheels would meet his needs, I have no doubt that such a person would return from the hospital to his normal way of life months earlier than he otherwise would. This is so desirable, first from his own point of view and secondly from the community's point of view.

Our provincial programme should fit into the community's health resources with co-operative arrangements so that it is possible for the patient to move freely from one resource to another as his circumstances require.

Every step must be taken to assist the long-term patient. No service that would retard the progress of a chronic condition, restore lost functions and prevent mental, emotional and physical deterioration should be denied. Benefits under the hospital insurance plan

should be extended to encompass a broad spectrum of care from active treatment through to nursing homes and home care plans. The determining factor as to benefit should be the patient's need for service being provided in any segment of this wide range of services.

The rapid growth in numbers of nursing homes in the past few years is a strong indication of the need for their services. The province of Alberta introduced a nursing home plan in April, 1964, and states that the purpose of this plan is:

To provide care for those who are not well enough to be accommodated in a senior citizen's lodge and yet not sick enough to be in a hospital. The plan, however, is not restricted to senior citizens but is intended for any person requiring such personal services as help in walking and getting in and out of bed, assistance with general bathing, help with dressing or feeding, preparation of special diet, supervision over medications and other types of personal assistance of this order.

The nursing homes which operate under the plan are approved by the local board of the nursing home district in which they are located and are subject to the requirements of The Nursing Homes Act and regulations and to the supervision of the hospitals division of The Department of Public Health which administers the plan in conjunction with the district boards. While we might wish to vary our method of control and payment, there seems to be no reason why this service could not be the responsibility of the OHSC.

The plan in Alberta offers the following services: 1. Accommodation, meals and laundry; 2. Personal services, such as help and supervision in cleanliness, mobility, safety, feeding and dressing; 3. Special diets when necessary; 4. Routine drugs and dressings as ordered by the attending physician; 5. Recreation and entertainment.

The important thing that I want to bring to the hon. member's attention is that the Alberta plan is recognized by Ottawa as eligible for cost sharing under The Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act. If Alberta can obtain this recognition and financial assistance from Ottawa, there is no reason why we cannot if we adopt a similar scheme.

The year 1965 was the first full year of operation of the Alberta nursing home plan and the hon. members might be interested in a breakdown of responsibility of payment [see table at bottom of page 1055]:

These figures clearly indicate the desperate need for bringing nursing homes under the Ontario hospital services commission. I am convinced that once this is done and Ontario has had a year's experience, we will discover that three quarters of those using nursing home facilities will have prepaid their stay through Ontario hospital insurance premiums.

In closing let me repeat, the need for extending coverage to nursing homes is more than obvious—on the basis of relieving the bed shortage in the various other kinds of health facility; on the basis of making substantial savings by providing less expensive facilities for persons whose needs are different; on the basis of lifting the crushing financial burden from those who cannot be cared for at home. Let us delay no longer in making this service available to all the people of Ontario whenever they need it. Let us give our unanimous support to this resolution.

Mr. W. B. Lewis (Humber): Mr. Speaker, will the hon. member for Hamilton East permit a question?

Is the member aware that resolutions 7, 11 and 12 in principle, are identical, and also is he aware that a committee has already been appointed by the commission to study this particular question and will be reporting shortly to the commission?

Mr. Bryden (Woodbine): What has that got to do with it?

Mr. W. B. Lewis: I just asked a question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Would the hon. member permit a question, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Gisborn: Are you in favour of this kind of a programme?

Mr. Harris: With very minor exceptions I agree with what my friend from Hamilton East has said here this afternoon.

Just shortly before coming into the House I had a call from a constituent of mine who is saddled with a \$7.70 per diem charge for her mother who is in a nursing home. She is in no position to make this payment. Also, over this past weekend amongst others, I talked with three widows and a married couple with physical and personal financial problems and these people were aged 82, 74, 85 and 70 respectively.

The matters I discussed with them had nothing to do with nursing care, but none of these people had anything more than a meagre pension. Yet they had lived, worked, paid taxes through two wars and a depression for approximately 50 years, and the thought occurred to me that if anything happened to these people, and it very likely could, in that age bracket, they just have not got the \$8 or \$10 a day to pay for nursing home care. What is going to happen to them?

We are all aware that this subject has been exhaustively debated on numerous occasions, particularly during the Minister of Health's estimates but, as I have said before, we must keep at it. It is the duty of all of us to point out the needs of our people as we see them and to keep pointing them out, until the answers are forthcoming and the situation is resolved.

As far as I am concerned, from the day I was elected over five years ago, I have always maintained that the right to proper health facilities is in exactly the same category as the right to a good education. It is something that should be available to all of us in this society, and not just those few that might be able to pay for it.

Now of course, Mr. Speaker, the big stumbling block in this area, and the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) and others have pointed this out to us on many occasions, is that the federal government's Hospital Insurance Diagnostic Services Act just does not make any provision for this kind of coverage.

Per Cent

Nursing home plan (costs shared by provincial and federal governments under hospital insurance)	73.1
Department of Public Welfare patients	25.1
Federal government patients1
Non-resident patients8
Workmen's compensation board patients1
Private paying patients8

Mr. J. H. White (London South): It is too bad the Liberals do not speak to their hon. friend, the national Minister of Health in Ottawa.

Mr. Harris: Looking at our neighbours in the United States for a moment, it is rather ironical that commencing January 1 of this year, all the citizens of United States over 65 will receive coverage in nursing homes for a period of 20 days free of all charges, and for the next 80 days they receive coverage at \$5 per day. As against this, many of our older citizens in Ontario nursing homes are faced with a per diem charge that they just cannot afford.

Apart from the many newspaper reports and stories I have read about the plight of our older citizens, there is seldom a day that goes by that I do not have a call from a relative or a friend of someone in a nursing home, faced with the responsibility of trying to find this \$8 or \$10, or as my hon. friend mentioned, \$12.

Many times the Minister of Health has explained the place of the Ontario hospital services commission in regard to nursing homes and the two level provincial-federal agreement. This agreement, of course, covers in-hospital care and the federal government has made it very clear that it does not extend to care in nursing homes.

The confusion for the public, comes into the picture when the Ontario hospital services commission just gives temporary approval to a certain number of people in nursing homes and they call these, for this purpose, auxiliary hospitals to provide chronic care and convalescent care.

Certainly as far as I am concerned, chronic care means a lingering or a lasting illness which may go on for a good many years. In the nursing homes that I have visited, a good many of the people, in fact I would be prepared to estimate 80 per cent of these people, fall within the meaning of the word chronic. Yet again they are faced with this \$200 or more for services which they just should not have to pay.

I have made a few investigations at Riverdale hospital and at Queen Elizabeth hospital here in Metro, and you find people in these hospitals that are in the same physical condition as in the nursing homes, and yet, of course, the people in Queen Elizabeth and at Riverdale, are covered, and those in nursing homes are not covered.

In the final report of the special committee of the Senate on aging, we spread that evi-

dence received by the committee, emphasized the extreme shortage there is, in Canada, of facilities designed and equipped to meet the needs of long term patients.

On the one hand we are told that many long term patients are in hospitals when all they need is skilled nursing home care. On the other hand, we learn that lack of nursing homes is causing the bed-ridden to be placed in municipal, or other homes for the aged, which are unable to provide for them properly. A great number of people now in homes for the aged should, because of their physical condition, be in nursing homes. Furthermore it is reported that they are taking up accommodation that is badly needed by other older people in need of domiciliary but not medical or nursing care. And, as things are today, these people just have no place to go.

Mr. Speaker, so desperate is the situation that even nursing homes of such poor quality that, according to the authorities, should not be in operation, have long waiting lists. Nursing homes, as I have pointed out previously, with few exceptions, are just not included under our hospital insurance programme, so unless some of these patients are admitted as indigents and paid for out of public funds, they, or the relatives, again must meet the full cost. It could possibly mean financial ruin for many of these families.

What impressed the special Senate committee most about the whole situation, even more than the scarcity of facilities, is the lack of a clear-cut policy that characterizes our approach to what has been termed, "this grey area" of long term patient care. The fact still exists that, up to the present, there is no clear-cut consensus regarding the answer. A few days ago the final recommendations of the select committee on aging were tabled and on page 11, section 23, as all of you have undoubtedly read, they recommend that due to the serious financial problem we have found of elderly persons who need post-hospital extended care, and who are not, at that stage, covered under the hospital insurance plan, the province should:

1. Immediately extend Ontario hospital insurance coverage to assist aged persons to be cared for, either in hospitals, or in approved nursing and convalescent homes, until they can be returned to their own homes or be transferred to a home for the aged, and,

2. Urge the federal authority to amend The Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act to permit extend coverage for a greater variety of short and long term care needs.

Mr. Speaker, let me say, most emphatically, that we should give top priority to insure that action is taken in this area before this session is over.

In Ontario, we have approximately 540 nursing homes, providing accommodation for a total of some 8,500 patients. Approximately 95 per cent of these are privately-owned, the remainder are owned and operated on a non-profit basis by charitable organizations and by municipalities. I think my friend said 247, but 240 of these homes have already been licensed under The Homes for Special Care Act.

These homes are used to accommodate, and further rehabilitate, patients who have been discharged from Ontario hospitals, patients who no longer need the intensive care available in the mental hospitals, and yet who do require nursing care or possibly have no homes to return to.

Nursing homes licensed under The Homes for Special Care Act accommodate other types of patients as well. And this programme has worked well; in the two years in which it has been operating, some 3,000 patients have been discharged from Ontario hospitals to nursing homes out of the target of 3,500.

Under this homes-for-special-care legislation, which we passed here in 1964, it appears to me that in section 7, subsection (e), the Minister has very broad powers. If I may just quote that section:

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may make regulations with respect to homes for special care for the admission, treatment, care, conduct, control, custody and discharge of residents or any class of residents.

It seems to me that right there with that power the executive council of this government, if it was so inclined, could fill the needs for so many of our people without any further legislation.

As the hon. Minister of Health stated on March 2 last, the homes for special care, and the patients in them, are a very direct responsibility of government. They are patients who have been under supervision and in the care of The Department of Health, some of them for many years, and have been discharged to homes for special care.

Referring again to the select committee on aging that was so ably chaired by my good friend, the member for Durham (Mr. Carruthers), let me just quote from The Department of Health's submission:

As a result of experience gained so far with the homes-for-special-care programme,

certain facts become apparent which may have a significant bearing on the overall problem of long-term care and community health. One stands out clearly above all others, namely the private nursing homes. They are an important part of care services, as they provide over 8,000 beds in this province at no capital cost to tax funds. There is every reason to believe that more effective service can be given by bringing them into a coordinated long-term care programme as an integral part of a carefully designed master plan for health care.

Let me say again, and I am sorry the Minister of Health is not in the House, that I would respectfully ask that this year we produce this master plan and help ease the burden of financial responsibility from so many of our people. And let me just emphasize that my concern is with the elderly citizen who is incapacitated or chronically ill and requires this care which either is not available or, if he gets it, is \$8 to \$10 a day, or more.

In a small way, the government of Ontario has already started working on this master plan. Last session, they enacted The Nursing Homes Act of 1966. This Act was designed to ensure the quality of service provided by nursing homes throughout the province is of a satisfactory standard and that the safety and care of patients was fairly considered.

I think it is reasonable to say that the daily rates in private nursing homes will undoubtedly rise as a result of the improvements the nursing home operators will have to make. We are all aware that the regulations were published last Saturday, I think it was February 18, in the *Gazette*, and there is no doubt about it, with the regulations laid down in there, it will cost these operators a tremendous amount more to operate. Of course that in turn will compound the problem and bring all the costs up.

Last August at the eighth annual convention of the united senior citizens of Ontario, which was held at Carleton University in Ottawa, they commended the government for setting up the select committee of the Legislature on aging. They also commended the government for establishing the office of aging, which has proved of special benefit to older, needy persons; and they passed at that time a resolution that reads as follows:

That the united senior citizens of Ontario petition the provincial government to introduce legislation that will enable the

Ontario hospital services commission to cover 100 per cent of the payment for services rendered to the chronically ill when placed in government approved nursing homes, after the patient has become ineligible for further treatment in an approved general hospital.

Mr. Speaker, this united senior citizens organization is certainly one group which knows much better than most of us what their needs are. I would again suggest to the hon. Minister of Health that he give very serious consideration and prompt action to the resolution these people presented to him not too many months ago.

This situation in Ontario is very complex; if I may, I am going to try to sum it up in my way just for a moment. We have to bear in mind that there are three areas regarding nursing homes which come under some type of government-supported programme. The first area, which I have already reviewed, namely the position of the Ontario hospital services commission, is quite clear. The latest figures show that they licensed—and I do not want to get into a dispute with my friend, because the principle is the same—they licensed 37 nursing homes which cover approximately 400 beds, in lieu of chronic hospital beds. This comes about because of the formula we have where there are 1.5 beds per thousand of population; and the OHSC will, of course, license that number in that area.

In the second area, under The Department of Public Welfare—and I might make an aside and say I was very pleased to see the name of this department changed from Public Welfare to The Department of Social and Family Services. This department, of course, administers The General Welfare Assistance Act, and nursing homes again come into the picture. Throughout the province under this Act there are approximately 2,400 people in nursing homes who come in on a strict need basis, and the federal government in this area share in the programme along with the province and the municipalities. Why we cannot get the federal government to share in some of these other areas is beyond my comprehension.

On this point I might say, Mr. Speaker, to me it would seem much more logical if the administration of this Act was under The Department of Health; because, when a person is sick, no one wants to have the connotation of welfare tied in with it. If they are sick they are sick, and I think they should be under The Department of Health.

The third area, I mentioned a few moments ago, where we have nursing homes is under The Homes for Special Care Act, which is designed to provide coverage for persons requiring special nursing, residential or sheltered care. In this area we find the patients who are decertified. This group consists of 2,897 patients in nursing homes. I want you also to remember there are 475 who are in residential homes. Today we have under this Act 240 licensed homes.

If we just take these figures to see how big our problem really is; if we take the 400 that OHSC covers and the 2,400 that come under The General Welfare and Assistance Act, and take the 2,897 plus the 475 that I have mentioned, we find that this adds up to a total of 6,172 occupants of nursing homes who are already completely provided for financially, and completely covered. This represents 72 per cent of the total capacity of our nursing homes. Therefore we are talking about maybe 2,300 people who are required to pay their own way. If, for just a moment, from that 2,300 we take out those citizens who might be quite willing to pay their own way, and are not concerned about having their premiums paid, we can reduce that figure to something under 2,000 people. This is where our dilemma comes in.

Certainly, I would say to the Minister of Health and to the executive council that surely it is not too difficult to solve a problem that only takes in 2,000 people. I will reiterate that my concern is with the people in my riding who require long-term nursing home care; and they should be able to receive this care in decent surroundings, without fear of loss of dignity or of becoming a pauper.

I appreciate, Mr. Speaker, that throughout this session we have heard a great deal about the cutting down of expenditures. I commend the government for this attitude, but surely this area need with our old people is a top priority. We must relieve the financial worries of the chronically ill or the near chronically ill, or the partially incapacitated senior citizens, and take this burden away from them and away from their relatives.

I strongly urge the Minister of Health and the new Minister of Social and Family Services to make sure that the intent of this resolution is given top priority and written into the legislation before the end of this session.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gaunt: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join with the hon. members for Hamilton

East and Beaches in supporting these resolutions. The intent is almost identical; the wording is somewhat different. The intent, of course, stresses and underlines the fact that in an enlightened society it is incumbent upon that society to look after, in a proper fashion, its older citizens, and these resolutions set out in what I think are rather clear terms, one method or means whereby that particular objective can be met.

I would agree with most of the things that have been said in this connection. I do not want to repeat and so I will endeavour to deal with some of the other areas concerned in this whole matter. Where it is necessary to repeat, I will do so as a method of underlining and stressing what is an obvious need to all of us.

For the past three years I have had the pleasure of placing a resolution on the order paper dealing with this very matter. The Opposition has, continually, over the course of those years pressed the government in this matter to see if the grey area—as the hon. member for Beaches pointed out—could be met, and so we are happy to note this year that one of the government hon. members has placed the resolution on the order paper to do precisely that. I hope that he has gotten to his colleagues, particularly in the Cabinet, to the extent that he can convince them that this is a good thing. I know that the hon. member for Beaches is a very progressive fellow and I am sure that he is certainly all in favour of this type of thing, but I just hope that he can convince his colleagues that it is as good as he thinks it is.

Having said that, I do want to go on and deal with a number of areas in the resolutions. The development of special programmes and projects for the aged in communities throughout Ontario in connection with senior citizen residents, the increase in the old age pensions, day care programmes and so on, have made it possible for older people to remain in the community as long as they are able to care for themselves. The result of this is that those who apply for admission to homes for the aged or nursing homes or any of these care facilities, are almost without exception persons who require nursing care and medical supervision. I give that by way of introduction to stress the point that it is vitally important in our opinion that OHSC be extended to nursing homes, because I think they form a very vital part of the overall health facilities in this province.

As the hon. member for Beaches pointed out, we have come to recognize the nursing home facility to a greater extent by making

provision for licensing and inspection. This was a very bad area—I think that would be the proper term—a few years ago, where the municipalities were involved to the extent that they carried on this function. So we had different standards in each municipality across the province. As a result, many of the nursing homes across Ontario were sort of relegated to second-class, and even third-class health facilities, simply because they did not come up to the standards that one would hope they would. They did not come up to the standards that would provide for care for older people as we think they should be cared for.

However we do have this legislation now and we are into this field of licensing and inspecting of nursing homes, and of course the regulations have come down. They are rather detailed and I think that the observation that this will increase the rates throughout nursing homes in the province is very valid. Obviously it is going to cost the nursing homes a considerable amount of money to meet the standards set out. I am not saying they are not good, I am not saying they are not necessary; all I am saying is that rates are going to be increased as a result of this and so the financial tightrope is going to be even more apparent than it was before, because it is going to cost more money to stay in a nursing home.

Improved coordination of health facilities is urgently needed. I have always maintained that the province has no right to go into new expenditures unless they are making full use of the facilities already in existence and this involves coordination of the various health services already in existence. In my opinion, there should be one agency responsible for the coordination of health facilities in the province. This should be the responsibility of The Department of Health. Functionally, the role could be done by the OHSC.

These resolutions, as I have stated, concern themselves with nursing homes. However, just for a moment, let us examine the existing facilities available to older people and the financial implications attached to some of them. There are hospitals for chronically ill, there are homes for the aged, there are charitable institutions, nursing homes and boarding homes.

The first two do not present any financial problem for the patient involved, but the last three most certainly do. It has been stated tonight that in some cases, financial support is given to people who come into nursing homes but there is still a grey area here and there is, as the hon. member for

Beaches has pointed out, a considerable number of people—perhaps a shade over 2,000 in the province; I think it would be a little higher than that—who are not looked after in any way, shape or form.

Let us look at the charitable institutions for the aged. A good example of this would be Providence Villa here in Toronto. Perhaps it would be fair to say, Mr. Speaker, that my resolution should be extended to include bed care units in homes for the aged under The Charitable Institutions Act, because these institutions do not qualify as a nursing home. The new Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act does not apply, and the aged persons in the bed care unit are not eligible for chronic hospital care under The Ontario Hospital Services Commission Act.

In the case of Providence Villa, and I am sure the same applies to other similar institutions across the province, a decision must be made as to whether people should be refused admission—with a certainty that if that course is pursued vacancies will result—or to accept them knowing that they are in dire need of nursing care, which means that the institution will have to carry a substantial deficit because of the expense incurred in the bed care unit. The per diem cost in the infirmary unit in Providence Villa at the present time is \$8.45. This cost is partially subsidized by The Department of Public Welfare. This is arrived at by a per diem rate based on the previous year's costs. The department will pay 75 per cent of the difference between the pension, if the person is pensionable, and the per diem rate set by the department based on the previous year's cost.

The per diem rate at the present time at Providence Villa is \$4.46 but the per diem cost is, as I have indicated previously, \$8.45, a difference of \$3.99. This means in effect that Providence Villa is running on a substantial deficit if all of its bed care units are occupied. It means also that they are placed in a very difficult position financially. Elderly people are coming almost daily to seek the kind of care they need. These persons have paid their OHSC premiums and are now barred from receiving the care they need because of the interpretation of the term "medical need".

Really, sir, the situation as it applies to people over 65 with no money who enter nursing homes is no better. For nursing services The Department of Public Welfare will share on an 80-20 basis with the municipality an amount up to a maximum of \$170 per month, depending on the amount of money

the people have. For sheltered care in a nursing home under the same circumstances the amount is \$145 maximum shared on an 80-20 basis with the municipality.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that this is unsatisfactory. Most, if not all of the people, have an abhorrence for any of these programmes in which the municipality is involved financially. It has the connotation of relief, certainly the ring of relief, and it certainly is not conducive to fostering dignity among our older citizens. I think it is about time we recognized the heart-breaking problem of the hard-working people who cannot afford the cost of a private nursing home for elderly care. Surely in our affluent society it should be possible to make provision for dignified care in their declining years for those who have contributed so much to the prosperity of our country.

This would be a worthy Centennial project and to that end I would urge the government to extend OHSC coverage to all aged and infirm persons who are no longer eligible to remain in hospital but require long-term care, and who choose to enter a nursing home, provided that nursing home is licensed and inspected. This could also be extended to include bed care units in homes for the aged under The Charitable Institutions Act.

The second part of my resolution covers disabled children who cannot look after themselves and I just want to deal with this particular aspect for a moment. There are many of these children across the province and the only places open to them are the Ontario hospital schools. These are already overcrowded as has been pointed out many times. Most of the time parents take it upon themselves to care for these children until the burden becomes too great. Then the only alternatives are Orillia, Cedar Springs or the clinic hospital at Smiths Falls.

Physically handicapped children could be adequately looked after in a smaller setting than is found either at Orillia or Smiths Falls or Cedar Springs. The logical setting, in my opinion, would be a nursing home which in all likelihood would be close to home, with the result that the child would be much happier and more contented. So would follow that the only reasonable way to handle the situation would be through the extension of OHSC benefits to cover the physically handicapped in the nursing home setting.

In conclusion, I ask the government, Mr. Speaker, to give serious consideration to these matters in the hope that some action might result.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, we pursue this subject endlessly in this House and always, I suggest, with the same sense of futility. We are confirmed year after year in the entirely iniquitous system which this government has devised, distributing inhumanity as it proceeds, and leading to very unhappy effects for individuals and their families. I want to suggest that despite the remarks of the hon. member for Beaches the government's position is entirely untenable and, indeed it has been essentially misleading.

If, in fact, his arithmetic folderol leads one to the conclusion that something less than 2,000 people are involved, then there is no reason in the world for waiting for the federal government to act; the province could assume it tomorrow.

But if, in fact, as I would suggest to him, his figures are really without justification, that the number involved is much greater than 2,000 indeed then the member should persuade his government that in this area, as in other areas, it can act first, begin to make the financial outlay, and wait for federal participation which will inevitably come.

He cannot avoid the issue, as the Minister of Public Welfare avoided it the other day in his response to the leader of the Opposition by saying that—

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): I have never avoided any issue.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: He has to wait for the federal regulations before taking advantage of The Canada Assistance Act, when all manner of provinces across this country have instituted full social assistance without waiting for federal regulations.

The point is, Mr. Speaker, that the sense of injustice is really becoming overwhelming. There is an unconscionable cynicism about this government. It refuses to move, sir, only because the collective voices have not as yet reached a sufficient crescendo. But that crescendo is coming, sir, and it is coming in the proliferation of individual cases that are being pushed to the Minister's attention.

Last Monday morning I was phoned by a thoroughly distraught constituent from the Scarborough General hospital, who described his father lying on a stretcher in the corridor of that hospital waiting for a permanent bed, there being no nursing home available for him. This was an exceedingly sick man,

covered by Ontario hospital services, but he had to occupy this position in the Scarborough General hospital. It is a very relevant point, sir, because in that hospital at the moment—there has been an undue concentration, I think, on the Centenary hospital position in Scarborough—because in Scarborough General at the moment there are always at least 12 patients on stretchers in the hospital corridors.

There are 1,000 people on the waiting list. Imagine a Metropolitan Toronto hospital with 1,000 people on the waiting list—600 for elective surgery, 400 for urgent surgery. There is a 50-bed convalescent unit which they hope to have, but cannot have for precisely the kind of case we are discussing today, because the money is simply not available. Yesterday, if I understand it properly, the Scarborough General hospital faced the fact that it was almost \$1 million below what it hoped to raise in the fund drive and now has to go to OHSC requesting an increase in the bank loan from \$1.4 million to \$2.2 million, and that is a devil of a way to finance hospitals, Mr. Speaker. It is a devil of a way to respond to this kind of resolution, the response to which lies in the expansion of chronic, convalescent, and nursing home facilities.

We go through Highways estimates in the House and no one ever suggests a public subscription; but when we discuss health matters and hospital beds, that is the pass to which this government has come.

In this field—and the arguments are obviously compelling for covering nursing homes with OHSC—in this field there are many classic cases. I want to bring one to your attention, sir: the case of Mrs. W. R. Bolter, who lives in Rexdale, Ontario; it is as follows.

Mrs. Bolter was operated on for cancer in May of 1961, and suffered three post-operative strokes which left her paralyzed on her right side. She was in Our Lady of Mercy hospital in Toronto from July 1, 1961 to July 31, 1965, and received benefits under the Ontario hospital services commission insurance plan.

Despite the fact that she cannot stand or walk without the support of at least one person, and cannot use toilet facilities without assistance, she was cut off benefits when her doctor certified that she would not benefit from further treatment, and was discharged from Our Lady of Mercy hospital on July 31, 1965.

Her husband was unable to obtain home-maker services at once and had to take a week off his job without pay to look after her. Three weeks after her discharge, she was admitted to Riverdale hospital in Toronto and a medical reassessment of her condition indicated that she might benefit from further therapy. She received full benefits under OHSC while in Riverdale.

On August 3, 1966, she was discharged from Riverdale on the grounds that she could be looked after at home and would not benefit from further treatment. Her husband had first been notified on May 10 that Mrs. Bolter's benefits would be terminated shortly—that was the word—and that a daily charge of \$16.40 a day would be demanded if she stayed in Riverdale.

Mr. Bolter cannot possibly afford to pay nursing home charges and would have to give up his job if he attempted to care for his wife at home. Either way, he would soon be on welfare and one can imagine the desperation inherent in this kind of family situation, Mr. Speaker.

On June 16, 1966, the senior medical consultant for the hospital care standards division for the OHSC confirmed that Mrs. Bolter, and I quote from his statement:

cannot stand or walk, wash, dress herself, use the toilet, or get in or out of bed without at least one person to help her.

However, the consultant, Dr. R. S. Peat pointed out that the present law did not permit her to receive OHSC benefits when she no longer required hospital care and had received maximum benefits from the hospital treatment programme. In his letter of June 16, 1966, Dr. Peat canvassed the alternatives and there can be no more authoritative source:

Thought had been given to nursing home care or care in the homes for the aged, especially one of the charitable institutions. Concern has been expressed about the cost of nursing home care for this patient, or alternatively the cost of home-maker services. Mr. Bolter has a full-time job and probably may not qualify for welfare assistance under present regulations, yet his income is understood to be inadequate to meet the nursing home costs on a continuing basis and to maintain his home at the same time. We fully appreciate the magnitude of the problem since this patient will require care on a continuous basis for no further recovery can be anticipated.

In a further letter to his MPP, one of my colleagues, on July 14, 1966, Mr. Bolter outlined the situation more precisely to the member for Riverdale and I quote from Mr. Bolter's letter:

I do not think it is a case of my not wanting my wife home. In all sincerity let me assure you that nothing would delight me more. It is a case of taking proper care of her when she is home and keeping my job. As I have stated many times, I simply cannot afford day care.

I am coming to a close, if I have the indulgence of the House, Mr. Speaker.

On August 10, 1966, Mrs. Bolter was discharged from Riverdale hospital. Mr. Bolter obtained a homemaker for one week and was then obliged to leave a good position with N. L. Baxter Limited to stay home to take care of his wife. After five weeks at home, Mrs. Bolter was admitted to Garden Court nursing home, which charges Mr. Bolter \$7.50 per day for her care. She has been there since September 21, 1966. Up to March 1, 1967, the charge amounts to \$1,207.50.

If that is not a senseless kind of cruelty to mete out to a family instead of extending an obvious insurance plan to cover nursing homes, I do not know what is, Mr. Speaker. If I can end by using the same quote as the hon. member for Beaches: "For forms of government let fools contest" is what the hon. member for Beaches quoted, from Alexander Pope. We do not mind if fools of government contest for forms, Mr. Speaker—the kind of administrative forms that constrict this situation. What we want is a complete alteration in the substance of government; that is what we are pressing, and we will accept no less for the Bolters of this world and all the others involved.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the debate was concluded.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with estimates.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, that would be Highways and then Attorney General?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.05 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, March 2, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1967

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, St. Ann's separate school, Toronto; and in the west gallery, Lansdowne senior public school, Toronto, Lyndwood public school, Port Credit, and St. Martin's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills, presented the committee's eighth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr10, An Act respecting the borough of East York.

Bill Pr30, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr27, An Act respecting the city of Niagara Falls.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch), I beg leave to present to the House the following reports:

The annual report of the Ontario Department of Labour, April 1, 1965 to March 31, 1966.

The 42nd annual report of the Ontario Department of Health for the year 1966.

The annual report of the Minister of Transport, 1965-66.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, with the tabling today of the annual report of The Department of Transport for the year ended March 31, 1966, detailed statistics are also available on motor

vehicle accidents in Ontario for the calendar year 1966.

These statistics illustrate the growing magnitude of the accident challenge. Every year more than 100,000 additional motor vehicles are registered in Ontario and every year the number of collisions goes up.

I prefer to use the word collisions, rather than accidents, in order to emphasize the fact that these occurrences are not inevitable mishaps. They are caused, in most cases, by the carelessness of individual drivers.

The statistics for 1966 show that the number of vehicles registered in the province rose to 2,637,266, and the estimate of total miles driven increased by nearly 1.5 billion, to a record total of 23.7 billion miles.

The number of persons killed in collisions was 1,596, a reduction of 15 from the previous year.

The number of persons injured was 65,210, an increase of 7 per cent. The number of collisions reported was 139,781, an increase of 8.8 per cent.

The statistics give a familiar picture of why and how collisions occurred. Nearly two-thirds of them were in daylight hours. Most of the drivers were apparently in normal condition. Most of the vehicles were apparently in good condition.

The four main causes of accidents were: Drivers who were inattentive, drivers who did not have the right-of-way, drivers who lost control of their motor vehicles and drivers who were going too fast for the road or traffic conditions.

For the individual driver there has been little change in the risk of collisions according to the amount of driving he does. This fact is worth noting since it indicates a measure of progress in the face of the increased complexity and volume of traffic. For every 171,000 miles of driving during 1966 there was a collision reported. Usually it was a minor one, involving a dented fender or something of that nature. In a small proportion of cases, the results were serious. But because there are so very many persons driving so very many vehicles, so very many

miles, that "small proportion" of serious collisions adds up to a terrible toll, taking the lives, as I said, of 1,596 persons and causing injury to more than 65,000.

The Department of Transport is intensifying and expanding its programmes for safety as I shall outline in the introduction of our department's estimates. But the government measures alone cannot be counted on to solve the problem. What is needed is deliberate care and common sense by every individual driver and every individual pedestrian, and an alert avoidance of all unnecessary risks.

I call on the people of Ontario to do their part in meeting this challenge by recognizing and carrying out their personal responsibilities to drive and walk safely.

Mr. Speaker: With the unanimous consent of the House we will revert to introduction of bills. The Attorney General, I believe, had one to introduce.

THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE JURORS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Jurors Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I might have said with respect to the first bill, The Public Trustee Act, that it is simply to bring the accounts of the public trustee within the audit of the provincial auditor. I thought that might please certain members.

Regarding the amendment to The Jurors Act, I think if I simply read my brief notes, that will give the House an indication of the purpose of this Act—there are five sections amending. They arise from recommendations made by the judges, particularly of the Supreme Court, in dealing with juries, and after study by our own staff.

The Act repeals a section which permits a grand jury to be recalled after it has been discharged. There is an amendment permitting the judge to decide on the release of jurors not required at the sittings. There is an amendment permitting a judge to require the attendance of only the number of jurors he thinks will be necessary at the sittings,

and for the replacement of a juror who becomes incapacitated.

There is one amendment permitting the judge to have the jury required at the sittings selected at one time in advance of the cases to be heard.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): May I ask the hon. Attorney General a question? Are the official guardian's accounts under the provincial auditor or are they still separate?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think they are now under the provincial auditor. I am not quite certain of this, and I cannot be absolutely sure standing here. I can check that for the member.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I have questions for two Ministers who are not at the present time in the House, but if I may read them into the record they may answer them at their convenience.

The first one is to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) and in three parts:

Would the Minister detail what responsibilities, if any, D. W. Ambridge, chairman of the Ontario deposit insurance corporation had in the setting up of the voting trust in British International Finance;

Would the Minister spell out the precise terms of reference of this voting trust;

What steps, if any, does the government intend to take to insure the solvency of British International Finance and York-Lambton Corporation?

My second question—

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): If I may interrupt for a moment, the Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs telephoned me about half an hour ago and advised me that he had been detained at a very important appointment and that he would be here later on this afternoon somewhere between three and three-thirty. He was aware of your questions and others, I believe, and stated that if the House so wished, upon his return he would ask that we would revert back to before the orders of the day so that he might provide the answers.

Mr. Nixon: That would be quite all right. I know that the Minister has already indicated that he would have a statement either yesterday or today on this matter and we would expect it today.

The second question is to the Provincial Secretary, and I am inquiring why the price of *Hansard* has increased from \$3 to \$5?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: I do not know and I am sure I cannot advise you in that regard. Everything is going up these days.

Mr. Speaker: The chair can answer that question very well but we will wait for the Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Nixon: Would the chair care to answer?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Last year *Hansard* was reviewed as to cost. The cost for the subscription for *Hansard* has been \$3 for many, many years. In revising our subscription list last year we found out that the \$3 did not pay for postage for one month for sending the *Hansard* out, let alone the cost of the *Hansard*, so we thought in all fairness to bring it a little more into line that we would raise the cost. This matter was discussed by myself and the Provincial Secretary's office and the Clerk's office and it was decided to raise the subscription cost to \$5 which would offset to some part the increased cost of *Hansard* for the many months that it is being sent out. Last year it was approximately seven months.

Mr. Nixon: If I may make a supplementary comment, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that there should be no attempt to make this self-supporting. The information contained in *Hansard* should be available at as reasonably low a cost as possible to the libraries and schools of the province, and we might even compare it with the federal *Hansard* which goes on longer and thicker than ours and is still available at \$3.

Mr. Speaker: Of course the member should understand that there is a free issue sent out to many parts of the province, to libraries and so on. Quite a substantial list. We had a free list whereby many persons' names built up over the years. We eliminated their "so-called" free list and started afresh with the new cost.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, do you anticipate a lessening of cost next year when the member for Woodbine leaves?

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Well, you will be out too, so that should about do it.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, some days ago the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), directed a question to the Minister of Health which was in turn referred to me. The question was as follows:

Having regard to the report in the *Globe and Mail* on Friday last that four women confined to wheel chairs, who are in the 30-40 year age group, are residents of Lambert Lodge home for the aged, what is the extent in Ontario of the shortage of proper accommodation for such handicapped persons not eligible for continued care in chronic care hospitals?

The answer is as follows. In the nature of the case we could have no precise figures as to the number of persons who might seek residential care in a variety of different institutions. There are many forms of institutional care available, including municipal homes for the aged, charitable institutions for the blind, the aged, and handicapped, and also private nursing homes. These expand as demand for admission increases, and there are government grants to allow such expansion. There has been a constant growth in the number of bed care facilities.

I should add that the new rest homes under The Homes for the Aged Act are intended to meet any shortage of accommodation that may exist for adults of all ages.

What can be considered proper accommodation is related to the individual persons involved.

With reference to the four persons in Lambert Lodge, the youngest of whom is 41 years of age and the eldest 51 years of age, I have received the following information from Lambert Lodge authorities:

Upon the advice of the attending physician at the Queen Elizabeth hospital that these patients require only domiciliary care, and that private nursing homes could not provide adequate supervision for them they were admitted to Lambert Lodge. The newly built Bellwoods Park House, a residence for adults with cerebral palsy, is in the process of receiving residents, and two of these Lambert Lodge residents have applied for admission. The other two residents have indicated that they are not interested in leaving Lambert Lodge and will remain as residents of the home.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the House leader which I would like to read and put on the record.

Is the reported statement yesterday of the development commissioner of the city of Toronto, Mr. Walter Manthorpe, before the board of control—that loans without interest will be made by the province to persons whose properties in designated urban renewal

areas are expropriated at prices below \$12,000, with repayment guaranteed through life insurance on their lives—the substance of the programme of the government to deal with the problem of the small homeowner who through expropriation loses his home for the good of the community and thereby faces relocation forecast by the Speech from the Throne on January 25?

Mr. Speaker: Would the member for Downsview ask the questions for the member for Bracondale (Mr. Ben)?

Mr. Singer: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have two questions submitted by the hon. member for Bracondale, and in his absence I would like to address them to the Minister of Transport.

In view of the recommendation of a coroner's jury in Vandorf, does the Minister intend to introduce legislation making it mandatory that used cars can only be sold after they have received a thorough check and certification of fitness by qualified mechanics?

A similar question was asked yesterday and the Minister advised he did not have anything to say until the jury had reported. It has now reported.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, legislation respecting the sale of used cars has been receiving very careful consideration.

Mr. Singer: A second question, Mr. Speaker. What action, if any, does the Minister intend to take on charges that automobiles with serious defects are being shipped to dealers by Canadian automobile plants because inspection procedures have been slashed to obtain faster production?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, the only information I have is from the newspaper report that these charges were made yesterday by auto workers who appeared before the Commons justice committee in Ottawa.

The newspaper reports indicate that these charges were immediately denied by the major Canadian automobile manufacturers. In the light of this, the need for any action cannot be established at this time.

Mr. Singer: This is by way of a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister not sufficiently disturbed by the reports to be conducting an investigation to establish the truth or falsity of the charges?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Mr. Speaker, this is being attended to.

Mr. Bryden: You mean that asking the manufacturers is attending to it?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) asked some questions of me yesterday and I have the answers for him today:

Has the cash payment in the neighbourhood of \$360,000 been made to the city of Sudbury, or if not, is it about to be made? The answer—necessary action is underway to effect payment.

What is the statutory authority for this payment? Section 94 (a) of The Highway Improvement Act.

Is this payment connected with the Brady Street underpass? The answer is "Yes".

May the council of the city of Sudbury use these moneys for lawful purposes within their own discretion? Again the answer is "Yes".

Specifically, is there any legal bar prohibiting the council from using the moneys for the rebuilding of the Ramsey Lake road to the university? The answer is "No".

If the answer to the foregoing question is in the affirmative, then is any financial assistance contemplated by the Minister for the rebuilding of the Ramsey Lake road? The answer to the previous question evidently answers this question.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The seventh order; House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS (Continued)

On vote 908:

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, before members get into the substance of this vote, I wonder if I could ask a technical question? It applies equally to vote 910.

I would like to know why it is that salaries, travelling expenses, consultants' fees and other items of that kind, which I would call ordinary disbursements, are charged to capital.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Because the entire organization is working on capital works.

Mr. Bryden: I would suggest that you change it.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, on vote 908, during the past

year there has been some considerable comment from people who are expert in these matters that the design of some of the expressways, particularly in the metropolitan area of Toronto, have been of a basically dangerous characteristic in design and in execution, which really should have been done away with, considering the experience that we in Ontario have had with highway construction.

Most of the criticism has come from the coroner in the Toronto area, and he has indicated quite clearly that there are specific areas where improvement in design, particularly based on examples in other jurisdictions, could have been carried out.

I understand that some of the responsibility for the basic design is at the Metropolitan Toronto level, but surely since the government of Ontario does participate, not only in design, but very heavily in the subsidization in the building of these roads, that all responsibility is basic in this particular area.

I wonder if the Minister would comment as to what the facilities are in assisting with design, and what his own views are as to the charges levied by the coroner that the new road, particularly the Don Valley expressway is inadequate in this connection?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Of course, Mr. Chairman, that is just one man's opinion, and that is not shared by the department.

Mr. Nixon: If I may say so, he is not just an ordinary man. He does have public responsibilities associated with the examination of deaths that occur on these highways.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I may say that I think we have the best planning engineers available, and I do not know the qualifications of the man referred to at all. I thought that under vote 910, on research, I would say a little about some of the research we have done to help highway safety. Probably that would answer the question.

Mr. Nixon: Along this particular line, planning and design, since these charges have been made by a person supposedly competent in the field—and I would be prepared to say he was competent since he has been set up by the government of Ontario to inquire into the causes of these deaths which have taken place—there should be some statement on behalf of the government that either refutes his charges, or which sets up some means whereby the difficulty can be removed from this particular highway, and in designs that are presently before us.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if it would be satisfactory to the leader of the Opposition if we read it under vote 910 when the Minister has spoken on the particular report that he has in connection with the research on safety methods.

Mr. Nixon: All right.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a comment before we leave this vote. I noticed in the construction programme for 1967-68 there was mention of three construction projects actually designated for the Wingham area. This included the Wingham bypass, which involves itself with two bridges and also the resurfacing of the limits—the east to westerly limits of the town. I have talked to the Minister several times about this particular project. I congratulate him because it is very welcome news in our town. These facilities, especially the bridges, are badly needed.

There were two Bailey bridges there previously and due to the very heavy traffic, particularly in the summer time, this was causing a bottleneck, in addition to the fact that the department incurred very high maintenance costs during that period of time particularly. So I congratulate the Minister and hope this project or these projects—there are three, as I indicated—will get under way very shortly.

Would it be fair to assume that these projects will be started in the spring of 1967?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I want to thank the hon. member for his nice comment, and I may say it was very refreshing that he ended with the nice comments. So often you get nice ones to start with and then it is "but".

However, I wish to inform him that the contract documents for the grading, drainage, granular base and paving of the Wingham diversion, including the two structures over the Maitland River, have been prepared. And it is not our policy to advertise the date of calling of tenders but I can assure the member that it will be very soon.

Vote 908 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Before introducing the next vote, I know the members of the assembly would like me to bring to their attention that we have a Dr. Vürgen Warnke, a member of the Bavarian State Parliament in Germany, who is with us in the Speaker's gallery today.

On vote 909:

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Chairman, I have a few comments I would like to make with reference to the taking by

the department of lands on Highway 27 at Inverdon Road. That is in the neighbourhood south of Richview sideroad, Mr. Chairman, in the borough of Etobicoke.

The hon. member for Downsview mentioned this matter earlier in these estimates, Mr. Chairman, but I think that the question of expropriation is such a serious one that perhaps one cannot mention it too often to the government. I think we all know, Mr. Chairman, that there are roughly 2,000 to 6,000 departments and agencies which have the right to expropriate in Ontario.

Mr. Singer: There are 6,000.

Mr. Braithwaite: All right, we will make it 6,000.

We also know there is no uniformity whatever in this matter of expropriation. And I do not think this is made any more clear than in what is going on now in the Inverdon Road area of Etobicoke. As a matter of fact, I do not blame the present Minister, but I think it would be fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that this is a mess. It seems that a lot of the problems they are having right there revolve around the matter of due compensation.

I have already asked the Minister some time ago as to whether or not his department is prepared to increase the offer or look into reassessing any of the houses that are involved there. He did not seem to be of that opinion at the time. But I thought I would bring it up now, Mr. Chairman, and make a few comments with reference to the actual situation as it applies there and as it applies to The Department of Highways. One wonders whether expropriation is not being applied to the detriment of the public good and whether the laws are not being construed in a most unjust way.

Last month I had a meeting with some 25 of the landowners of that area. They gave me some facts and figures, Mr. Chairman, some documents, which I found to be disturbing and which I thought the members of this House might want to hear about. At this meeting I was told that a group of the landowners had met with officials of The Department of Highways on January 26, 1967, including Mr. H. S. Howden, the assistant Deputy Minister of The Department of Highways.

I have here a memo from Mr. H. S. Howden, addressed to Mr. L. Griffith, which summarizes what went on at that meeting. It happens, Mr. Chairman, that after the meeting Mr. Griffith asked Mr. Howden if he would be good enough to send him a memo

setting out what the landowners had been told, so that they might have an opportunity to study it and to come to some conclusions.

We have often heard second-hand how expropriation goes on. I thought this might be an appropriate time to read into the record the memo from the Deputy Minister, so that we might have an idea of what these people expected to happen.

The memo begins, Mr. Chairman—it is headed up "Committee's Discussion with Department of Highways on Thursday, January 26, 1967." And it is re "Highway 27 and Richview Side Road Project." It says "from H. S. Howden, assistant Deputy Minister." The memo commences:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and the other members of your committee last Thursday night, and I think it was beneficial to both sides. You requested that we summarize for you the meat of the discussion and number off the questions and answers. I will attempt to do that in this communication.

First, I am going to quote directly from the notes which I used in setting forth the department's position:

I would like to stress at the outset that while the word expropriation may be used on more than one occasion in our discussions this evening, it is not intended in any way as a threat to improve the department's negotiating position. You are undoubtedly aware that it is necessary for the department to acquire a few thousand parcels of property for highway purposes each year and we have found that it is generally in the best interests of the department and the affected owners for us to take title to by the deposit of a plan. Proceeding in this way, it eliminates the need for the preparation, execution and registration of deeds, mortgage discharges, etc.

Our plans which accomplish the transfer of title are registered under the relevant provisions of The Highway Improvement Act and The Expropriation Procedures Act. By proceeding in this way we obtain a clear and unfettered title and any interest in the property is immediately converted into a claim against the compensation.

Since it is now known that this property is required it will be obvious that it is necessary for us to decide in the not-too-distant future on a date upon which our plans are to be filed in connection with this particular project. The importance of this date is that it sets the date upon which the value estimate is to be based.

I would like to stop here, Mr. Chairman, and ask the hon. Minister if later on he could tell us whether this plan has been filed as yet.

Proceeding with the memo from Mr. H. S. Howden:

Now I want to make it perfectly clear that by proceeding in this way it does not mean that you must have the matter of compensation settled by the Ontario municipal board at a formal hearing. Every effort will be made prior to, and for some time following, the registration of our plan to come to an amicable agreement with each owner and we hope that it will be possible to arrive at a satisfactory settlement without the necessity of any judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings.

However, there may be some cases where there is a sincere difference of opinion in respect of the amount of compensation to be paid. In such cases, following the registration of the plan, provision is made in The Expropriation Procedures Act for an informal hearing by the board of negotiation. This hearing is usually held on the premises and involves little or no expense whatever for the property owner, unless he wishes to retain counsel on his own behalf. The findings of this board are not binding on either party and the owner or the department is free to proceed to a more formal hearing of the matter by the Ontario municipal board if either or both of them so desire.

I do not think it is necessary to outline at this time all the procedures which we must follow under The Expropriation Procedures Act except to say that we must notify all people having a registered interest in the property within 60 days of registration of a plan if agreement has not been reached. We are obliged to make an offer for the full compensation to all having an interest, within six months of registration of a plan.

I want to talk here for a moment, Mr. Chairman, with reference to the fact that the word "offer" is used here and used several times in this manner.

At least ten days before taking possession of property where agreement has not been reached, we must offer to pay to each person having a registered interest in a property an amount not less than 50 per cent of our estimate of the value of that interest.

All of this information is being given so that you might be fully informed of your rights under the governing legislation. How-

ever, I reiterate that we make a concerted and sincere effort to come to a satisfactory settlement without the necessity of board hearings of any kind. Our record in this regard speaks for itself.

Now, I do not know what he means by that.

We think we enjoy a good reputation throughout the province of Ontario for our handling of these matters, and something less than one half of one per cent becomes the subject of determination by the Ontario municipal board. On this project there are some 120 houses involved. About one third of these are on the first, or northerly part of the construction project, and the remainder, or southerly portion, on the second stage.

The projected construction award dates at this time are June, 1968, and June, 1969, respectively, but it will be necessary to deal with the utilities relocation projects commencing at least six months in advance. This means then that those people having children attending school should be planning to get relocated not later than September 1, 1967.

The date for the commencement of utility relocations has not yet been set out, but it is hoped that we will have this information by the middle of February. You are aware that we have had independent real estate people appraising the value of these homes in the current market. We have set out three opinions on each home and hope to be in a position to start making offers to you not later than March 1.

I would like to stop here for a moment, Mr. Chairman, and interject that the offer reads: "make offers to you".

Now, as Mr. Bond points out, because of the housing shortage in the Metro area, we are exploring the economic feasibility and the practicality of relocating many of these homes if satisfactory arrangements can be worked out. It will be necessary, therefore, to establish definite dates for possession so that a programme of this kind can be carried out in an orderly fashion.

I would like to stop here for a moment, Mr. Chairman, and ask the Minister if he can tell me later whether or not any arrangements have been made for the relocation of these houses.

The following three choices were given you concerning our purchase of your property:

The Department is prepared to make you an offer and consummate a purchase with you within 60 days of the acceptance of such an offer, subject only to such delays as we may encounter beyond our control in dealing with any claims which may not be apparent, but which show up on our search of title;

We will make a deal with you now and pay you 50 per cent of your equity, with a deferred date of closing for some reasonable date to be agreed upon. Under this arrangement you would continue to live in the house and maintain it as your own until the date of closing. You would, of course, be responsible for taxes and utility charges, and so on, until the deal is closed and vacant possession is given.

The department will purchase your property now, close the transaction and rent it back to you as a monthly tenant at the indicated economic rent.

I wonder if I could stop here for a moment, Mr. Chairman, and ask the Minister if he would later tell us what this rent would be.

The third choice is one which, if accepted, would of necessity have to be subject to the giving of 30 days' notice from either party, and from our point of view may not be as attractive to you as the first and second choices. From the department's point of view, we would prefer to settle as many as possible on the basis of the first two choices. We would like each owner to understand that we are performing a service for him in two ways:

We wish to ensure to the fullest degree possible that he receives every cent to which he is entitled as an owner;

We represent an owner also as a taxpayer, and we have a duty in carrying out No. 1 to see that he is not enriched.

We have obtained the individual opinion of three realtors who buy and sell real estate in your area and our offer will be based in an interpolation of these opinions. While you are not legally entitled to compensation beyond the market value in respect of the forcible nature of the sale, we do appreciate that there are other factors such as moving costs, financing charges and other intangibles.

To take care of these things the department will, as a matter of policy, add 10 per cent to our offer which is based on the findings of the real estate people. The offer you receive will include this 10 per cent.

Because of the urgency expressed by your committee we have expedited our work in obtaining approval to the offers to be made and are now in a position to commence calling on the people to negotiate settlement. We have had a meeting with the agents with whom you will be dealing and have apprised them of our discussions with you. It may be that you would wish to have a meeting of the owners before we commence negotiations or, on the other hand, you may have no objections to our commencing negotiations immediately.

We would wish to further the spirit of cooperation and good will which was evident at our meeting last Thursday and in this light would be prepared to abide by your wishes in this regard.

I am arranging for Mr. R. D. Booth to deliver this letter to you [Mr. L. Griffith] personally and to discuss this phase of the matter with you and I trust that we will be able to proceed in the immediate future. In closing, I would again remind you that Mr. Booth is the man in charge of this project and any inquiries should be directed to him either by mail to: Mr. R. D. Booth, assistant property supervisor, Department of Highways, right-of-way division, central regional office, Downsview, Ontario, or by telephone at: 248-3455.

Now Mr. Chairman, as I said while I was reading that memo, the word "offer" is used very often, and although these people were led to believe that the department was making an offer to purchase to them, I have a copy of the agreement of compensation which I believe is the form the department used. I would like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that it is headed up with the official seal of the department; is headed up "Department of Highways"; and is an agreement as to compensation and possession for lands required by the Minister of Highways and it reads:

WHEREAS the Minister of Highways intends to expropriate the land or interests in land in lot 31, concession RPM 752 of the borough of Etobicoke in the county of York as per sketch attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, we [and then it has the names of the owners] John and Elsie Rice of the borough of Etobicoke—

and then the print gets very fine and it says:

—the undersigned, being the owners of the said lands or interests in land hereby agree to accept as due compensation for the land

or interests in land to be expropriated and for any damage necessarily resulting from the expropriation or the exercise of any statutory authority, including any injurious affection to lands not so taken, the sum of \$25,300—twenty-five thousand, three hundred dollars (lump sum).

Now, Mr. Chairman, as Mr. Howden's memo mentioned, this includes the 10 per cent for forcible taking. The agreement continues:

Payment in full for all lands and buildings, including all fixtures and appertances owned by the renters on the above mentioned lot. The vendors agree to pay all public utilities and taxes up to and including the date of closing. Date of closing to be on or before—

and it is left blank

—providing title is clear. It is understood and agreed that the department may hold back the sum of \$500 to insure that all taxes and utility charges have been fully paid. It is further understood and agreed that the vendors are responsible for the building and its fixtures and the keys are personally turned over to a representative of The Department of Highways.

And then there are a few blank spaces and we get down to some more very fine print and it says:

I/we further agree that the Minister of Highways may take possession of the said lands, or interest in lands on or after—

and there is a blank date. And then it goes on:

—and I/we hereby acknowledge that this agreement is not made subject to any promise by any agent of the Minister of Highways, and that I/we understand that this agreement shall not bind the Minister of Highways until approved in writing by or on behalf of the Minister of Highways.

Then there is a place for a witness to sign and on the right a place for the two owners to sign, and there are other things on there which are not pertinent at this time.

These people, as I was saying Mr. Chairman, were led to believe that The Department of Highways was making an offer to purchase to them. An examination of the agreement as to compensation and possession reveals that this is not the case. I might point out that the delegation that saw me on this matter was quite surprised to find out that they were making an offer of sale to the government which might or might not be accepted by the Minister.

Further, the fine print at the bottom is not as clear or as easily understood as one might think. Each and every landowner who was at that meeting firmly stated that they were told that The Department of Highways was making an offer to buy their lands at a price to be determined after appraisal. I would like to hear the Minister's comments on the use by his department of such a form. To my way of thinking it appears to be misleading.

Another matter which disturbs many of the landowners was the question of the 10 per cent extra which they were being allowed. The agreement as to compensation and possession sets out a figure which includes the said 10 per cent. Now that is the \$25,300 which is in the particular agreement that I read into the record. I am informed that each and every one of these people, in spite of what they were told at the meeting by the assistant Deputy Minister, was threatened that they would lose this 10 per cent if they so much as disputed the amount offered. I think this is a shame and an out-and-out use of pressure.

One of the land owners told me that a Mr. T. P. McGlynn, a property agent for the department, first came to her home on January 10 and without a word of warning told her that her property was frozen and that she could not sell it to anyone else. He refused to answer any of her questions, and had her very upset. His only attempt at co-operation was to give her his business card bearing the crest of the Ontario government—and I might mention at this point, Mr. Chairman, that several of these people who are being dispossessed by the department are new Canadians, and a card bearing the seal of the Ontario government to them is a most important thing. It might not be to the members of this House, but these people were indeed worried. As a matter of fact, several of them signed because of this card. They thought this was the government and they had to.

This particular lady that I was talking about was told that she did not need a lawyer or any outside help as the property would be appraised by three people whom the government would send. Then, and only then, the department would make what he—Mr. McGlynn—called an offer. She was told to list the extras in the house, such as broadloom, drapes, etc. as the department had intended to rent the property after it bought it from her.

I have already asked the Minister for some idea of what that rent might be.

It would seem to me, Mr. Chairman, that the property agents and appraisal supervisors are much too overbearing and officious in the way they attempt to frighten these people into signing what in reality is an offer to sell. Perhaps the Minister might be able to tell us what the approved departmental procedure actually is in these cases. I am certain that intimidation is not condoned by his department, or by himself. I have to make that assumption.

As to the question of an agreeable price being arrived at as mentioned in Mr. Howden's memo, I would refer the House to an article in the *Toronto Daily Star* dated January 16, 1967, where Mr. H. S. Howden, the assistant Deputy Minister of Highways, is quoted as saying:

Certain homes will be needed before others, but everyone will be given a fair deal.

From what I understand, nearly all of the houses on Inverdon Road have been assessed by some process of osmosis at about \$23,000. There does not seem to be any marked difference if a person has fixed his home up, improved the landscape, etc. I would like the Minister's comments on the question of how the prices to be paid by the department were arrived at and how they all seem to be around the same \$23,000 figure.

Getting back to Mr. Howden and his talk about a fair deal, I noticed in the *Etobicoke Press* on Thursday, February 23, 1967, that Mr. H. S. Howden is quoted as saying that the department is not prepared to do any more talking about money. That seems to be a quite definite statement. From what I understand there has been no negotiation or adjustment. In spite of what the memo that I read into record earlier said, you take it or you lose the extra 10 per cent. Now that is not my idea of being fair.

I would appreciate hearing what the Minister has to say on the method of negotiation of his property agents.

It seems, Mr. Chairman, that the main complaints of the Inverdon Road area land owners, in connection with the expropriation have been:

First, that the field men for the department "bargain" as sharply—even more sharply—than if they were acting for private buyers. As I mentioned—the owner is advised that his property is being seized but that he will be compensated for his loss. He then has the alternative either of accepting what a bureaucratic official offers as a fair and adequate price; or if unsatisfied, of engaging at his own

considerable expense in a battle with municipal or other authority. In this regard, about the only bit of advice I could give anyone at that meeting was: "Never, never accept the first offer in an expropriation." Some of the land owners of the Inverdon Road area are angered and worried sick to death by the pressure to sell being put on them by the agent for The Department of Highways.

The second main complaint is that the common purchase price of going value, plus 10 per cent, is not realistic and particularly that it does not give owners enough money to buy equivalent property, let alone proper compensations for the inconvenience of being forced to move from their property.

Ontario's Expropriation Procedures Act states the "due compensation" must be paid to the owner of the confiscated property. The Act does not define the meaning of the word "due". The questions then arise: does it imply reparation to the owner for improvements and special values inherent in a property? Does it cover moving expenses? Does it cover items such as rental losses, fixtures, legal expenses involved in refinancing a new mortgage, and so on?

Here, the expropriating authority, The Department of Highways, has interpreted the law to mean the current market value of the owners' property.

I might point out here, Mr. Chairman, that the way prices of land and houses are rising in Etobicoke, by the time these people get their money they will not be able to buy a shack.

We all know that it is very difficult to define "market value." For instance, how does one determine precisely what market value is today when there are few houses of a particular type being sold. Land values are skyrocketing, as I mentioned earlier. What is fair one day may, in Metro, be ridiculously low in a month or two. I would be first to admit that there might be the odd individual who feels that as soon as The Department of Highways requires his land, then because it is a public authority, it should have a bottomless purse and it should pay through the nose for the lands. However, that is not, to my way of thinking, the attitude of the average citizen.

The average homeowner, Mr. Chairman, in Etobicoke, merely says, "I do not really want to sell my land, but if I have to for the public good, then I should at least end up after the expropriation or taking is completed, in a situation comparable to that which I am in now. Also, I should be paid for any suf-

fering or dislocation or other problems or expenses I may incur."

Since the Act does not define due compensation, the interpretation of this law is subject to variations. To my way of thinking, The Department of Highways should help the householder, these little people, in Inverdon Road, in dealing with expropriating agencies. The government should help these people. This help should include legal aid, free estimates of fair value and a mandatory exchange of figures by both sides.

Thus, the expropriating authority, The Department of Highways in this case, would have to reveal what it really felt the land was worth; and I think that nobody has told these people what their houses are really worth, Mr. Chairman. The homeowner, on the other hand, would have to furnish the expropriating authority with his estimates. Then and only then, I submit, could a fair price be arrived at. And I know that these people in Etobicoke are looking for justice, Mr. Chairman, and I do hope that the good Minister and his department are going to do something about this.

To go to the root of the problem of expropriation, one must examine the underlying question of the conflict between the public interest and the public moral obligation. Mr. Howden mentioned this in his memo.

On the one hand, there is the duty of the public servants to spend public dollars as carefully as possible. On the other hand, there is the responsibility of the community to see that the people who are uprooted in the community interest do not suffer.

As can happen with public servants, there is little question that our expropriating agencies have tended to observe the first as the most important, except on occasions when there has been a public clamour.

Now these people have had public meetings and have attempted to make a public clamour. I do hope, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister and his department give some thought to the interests of these people, as well as the interest of the public good.

My submission is that there should be a coming together or merging of the public financial interest and the public moral obligation so that sharp tactics are unnecessary. I would submit that firm standards or criteria would go a long way towards smoothing the path of expropriation, both for the expropriating agency—here the highways department—and for the landowner. By that I mean that if the statutes of the land spelled out the

rights of the expropriated owner and the proper basis of determining compensation, more uniform compensation awards would result and costly litigation would be precluded.

I have already mentioned the multitude of expropriating bodies and the many statutes under which they can act. Further, we all recognize the right to expropriate for the public good. However, I am certain that it is apparent to all that the expropriation procedures of the province of Ontario are gradually leading to an erosion of the individual rights of a property owner.

To my way of thinking, surely the time has come for a uniform Act dealing with all expropriations in Ontario.

I will close with my suggestions as to what such an Act should include and I think, Mr. Chairman, I would like to call it a "Bill of Rights for the Expropriated":

1. A provision for a hearing before the expropriation in appropriate cases;

2. A special tribunal should be appointed by the government of Ontario to be responsible for the assessment of compensation in expropriation cases;

3. Payment of just compensation in a manner that is readily comprehensible. Such compensation should include a provision for payment for alternative accommodation if the money offered will not provide an equivalent home for the person whose land is taken. In no case should the taking of the lands impose any financial loss on the owner. Also, a substantial payment should be made at the start of the expropriation to permit the owner to look for alternate accommodation, and to my way of thinking this should be in the neighbourhood of 85 per cent;

4. Provision should be made for the protection of the landowner against a decrease in the value through the threat of expropriation;

5. Where expropriation has rendered the land of his neighbour valueless, that neighbour should be able to call upon the expropriating authority to take it, as well, under the above-mentioned conditions;

6. Interest-free loans should be made available for hardship expropriation cases;

7. Lastly, landowners should be accorded a practical, functional means of appeal against compensation offered. Assistance with legal advice and evaluation advice should be provided at the cost of the expropriating authority.

I think this is one of the major problems we are having right here in Etobicoke, Mr. Chairman, that these people cannot afford the cost of legal advice. They cannot afford evaluation, which I understand can run into the thousands of dollars, depending on the house.

Being turned out of your home is a bitter blow. Being given only a token repayment which amounts to little more than misery money merely rubs salt in the wound. If the government cannot afford it, it should not expropriate. If it does not understand, it is time it did.

Now Mr. Chairman, I would like to have some answers from the Minister on some of the questions I have raised here. I think that these people in the Inverdon-Highway 27 area deserve to know just what the Minister does condone and what he thinks of what his department is doing there. I think I speak for the rest of the members of my caucus when I say that the whole method of expropriation is not being carried out properly in Ontario and is in need of change.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to compliment the member for Etobicoke on his very excellent presentation. When he talks about the expropriating laws of the province and recommendations for change, the only thing that I can tell him in regard to that is I will see that these are passed on to the Attorney General—

Mr. Bryden: That is hopeless, that is the same as saying nothing will ever be done.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: —and the law reform commission who will certainly take them into consideration.

Mr. Bryden: The law reform commission is the great wastepaper basket where the government gets rid of its problems.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): The judge will be glad to hear that.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): They do not care about judges.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Bryden: This is where you put all the problems you do not want to deal with.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I am sure Mr. Justice McRuer will be glad to learn what—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, I assume that the Minister has finished his reply.

Mr. Chairman: No, the Minister has not finished his reply. There were many interjections.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is right, Mr. Chairman, and if I can, I will try and answer all the questions which the member asked, but there may be some that I did not get down here.

First of all he asked about a plan being filed, and that has not been done. That is only necessary before we go before the board.

The next question, I believe, was on the relocating of the houses. There has been no plan for that, although we have been successful in assisting some of the residents to relocate in other homes.

As to the rent, I cannot answer that, because—

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Batting 100 per cent up to now.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I can assure the member that it will be a fair rental, as is usual in the area. The reason we have made this offer to them is to allow them to have the money so that they could go and buy or build new property and have the use of their present homes until we require them.

In all sincerity, I believe we have made an offer to each of these people and there was no ultimatum attached to it at all. As we have explained on different occasions, there were three independent appraisers and I believe you brought that into your submission. These were competent people and we took these values with the 10 per cent of which so much has been talked about for the displacement and rearrangement of equipment and refinancing and all these necessary things.

Mr. Braithwaite: Could I interrupt while we are on the offers?

I wonder if the Minister could give me his interpretation of the form? I have one here, if you would like to see it. I am wondering whether or not they use some other form besides the one I have mentioned here, because I have detailed for the record the form. This is your "Agreement as to compensation and possession."

Is this what the Minister means when he says "offer", because the point I have been making is that the people are the ones who are making an offer of sale in spite of what use is being made of the word "offer".

I want to be certain that there is no other form besides this offer.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is the form. When they see that form, as I pointed out—I think it was yesterday or the day before—the department has never gone back on a proposition like that. It has always been honoured in that it states the amount that will be paid for the purposes.

The next question he asked was about the freezing of the property. Yes, this was done, because there was no point really in them selling it to anyone else when we would need it. He spoke about the price. Naturally the prices, with some exceptions, were all comparatively the same because I believe it is a housing subdivision with houses on it which would be comparable.

At the first meeting it was made very plain with the people there that we would meet with them at any time and I wish to tell you at this time that the association has not asked us for any further meetings. I can assure you that we will meet.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am wondering, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister has any intention of changing the form of offer, because as I have mentioned, every one of the people who felt they had had an offer made to them were quite surprised to find out that this was not an offer. I think if the government is doing something as difficult as taking a person's home, I think it should be made quite clear that the offer is being made by these people, not by the government.

The second thing is, I do not know if I missed it or not, but did the Minister say whether the plan has been filed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No, the plan has not been filed.

Mr. Braithwaite: Thirdly, has there been any conversation with these people with reference to the fact that Mr. Howden has said they are not going to get another cent? If this is so, then what is the purpose of having another meeting? I am not sure I understand.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, the people were not told that, not at all. As I pointed out the other day, if it does go to expropriation and to the board and the courts, we have no control over the figure. This is the offer we have made with the very best intentions, and we certainly would have no control over what happens to that if it goes to court.

Mr. Braithwaite: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am looking at a copy of the *Etobicoke Press*. I mentioned this when I was speaking. It is

dated Thursday, February 23, and there is an article here that is headed up: Home-owners Launch Land Takeover Battle. This is one of the things that bothers many of us on this side—that people should have to band together to fight a war to get their rights. I do not think this is fair at all, Mr. Chairman, and I think most people agree with me. It is not right.

Secondly, I am reading from this article, and it has a subheading which says: No More. That is quite definite to me.

Before that, the article speaks about the cost of homes and it says that the owners say they need at least another \$2,000 over this figure to buy new homes in Etobicoke, though they are being offered \$22,500 or so for a house that sold for so-and-so.

Anyway, to get to the point, sir, it says: "However, assistant Deputy Highways Minister H. S. Howden said the department isn't prepared to do any more talking about money".

Now, how can the Minister say that these people have not asked for a chance to talk with him, if it is quoted in the newspaper—and this is right from his chief Deputy. If he said: "We are not prepared to talk about money and more", what is the sense of talking?

I would like to hear what the Minister has to say about this because I am disturbed.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, might I point out to the member that he is reading a news article, and our department would have no control over that.

Mr. Bryden: Does the Minister deny the statement?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: These people were not told that. The first meeting that was arranged was to acquaint the people in the area of the need of the department for this expansion. This is when they were first brought together.

Mr. Braithwaite: I am not going to pursue this much further. I think we have tried, and whether or not it does any good I do not know, but the whole thing just seems a shame. It is not the Minister's fault, he is new on this. But the way his agents come and give people a card and say the government wants their land, do not go to see a lawyer—all this, the general method of operation, to me seems foul.

In any event, I am wondering if the Minister has any plans for changing the operations or methods of his agents and the people

who work for his department when it comes to dealing with people who have their land taken out from underneath them. I would like to hear the Minister's comments on that.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I wish again to point out some of the things which I said yesterday about the property acquisitions we have made and the very few that have gone to the board—less than one per cent. I find it very difficult to believe that any representative from the government would go out and tell those people the things that member has said. If the member has conclusive proof of it, I certainly would like to know it, because it would not be the policy of the Minister, and I am sure of the department, to act like that in any way. Maybe the people have taken it up wrong.

Another thing the member spoke of was free legal aid and it was certainly something that the people have the opportunity of. They can go to the board of negotiation without any legal aid, which is the first step.

Mr. Singer: That is a bunch of rot.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, I notice the two lawyers on the far side are very disturbed about that. Maybe that is just the member's opinion.

Mr. Braithwaite: I wanted to show the Minister, Mr. Chairman, one of the cards. This is a card—Department of Highways Central Region. This is one of the cards that was given to a Mrs. Thompson, and is signed "W. D. Sauder, A.A.C.I., appraisal supervisor." It has the crest up there and this crest, believe me—the Minister may not think so—does have a lot of power. This is one of the cards that was given to one of the land-owners.

I have another one here "T. T. McGlynn, property agent". He gave one of these cards to one of these people. When he gave this—I am only saying what I have been told by these people—they were told definitely they must sign this "offer", they need not have to worry about going to go to see a lawyer. I think the Minister should look into this to see if these charges are true.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I am not quite as prepared as the member for Etobicoke to drop the question at this point. The Minister happens to be the sole Minister who has expropriating authority to my knowledge. All the other expropriating bodies are away out where we never get any opportunity to find out how they function.

Mr. Singer: Oh, there are lots of the others.

Mr. Renwick: Well, they may have them, but it is the Minister of Highways for practical purposes who does most of the expropriating. Now, if I understand what the Minister is saying, it is that he does not expropriate for highway purposes. What he attempts to do is to buy the property.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I did not say that.

Mr. Renwick: Well then, perhaps if I could just ask the Minister the first question—at what point does the Minister expropriate for highway purchase of property?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We try every method of negotiation we possibly can.

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, this to my mind is one of the fundamental things which is wrong with the expropriating procedure. The Legislature, as I understand it, grants the power for certain purposes to expropriate property. I am saying to the Minister that rather than go through all this "nice guy" approach of purchasing property by the methods which the member for Etobicoke has described—and I can assure the Minister that this goes on not only in his department but in any other expropriating body—I think the intention of the Legislature when they granted the expropriating power was to say to the Minister: "If you are going to take property, you file a plan and you expropriate the property, and at that point you then go about the business of submitting an offer to the person whose property is expropriated". In submitting the offer, you submit it formally and you submit it to all the people in the area whose property is being expropriated.

At that point they have the opportunity either to accept or reject or to discuss it among themselves. But if you distort the procedure—I am suggesting that The Department of Highways has not conformed with the intention of the statute which confers the expropriating powers and the procedures which should be followed from them. If the Minister would bring his department up to date and provide an entirely different approach to this question it might be possible that people would not be so upset, because, Mr. Chairman, the Minister, as I understand it, says that he only files a plan when they are going to go to a board of negotiation.

There is nothing in The Expropriation Procedures Act which says that you only file before you go to the board of negotiation. The Expropriation Procedures Act in my view envisages the procedure which says that any

department which is going to take land for any public purpose does not have prior negotiations about it. They file their plan, they notify the people; they have their appraisals made and the department submits the offer. The statute specifically provides that an offer must be submitted within six months.

It does not refer to only filing the plan if you are going to go to the board of negotiation, because what that means is that you drag out the period during which a person does not know what his entitlement is or what his rights are. You can enlarge it anywhere up to a year or more, because having gone through all these intermediate negotiations before you file a plan, and if you then file a plan, you have a total of another six months before you have to make a formal offer to him. That is not the intention of the statute. I am suggesting that you have to reverse entirely the procedures that you are following in the department on expropriations and speaking not only to the Minister but to all the other expropriating bodies in the province. This is one of the few ways in which you can get across to a person that he has an interest along with everybody else in the area who is being expropriated, as to what his position is and what offer is being made.

I would like to dwell on this for a few minutes as simply as I can because this Minister happens to be the one who uses it more than anyone else, and I would suggest that he is the one who must be scrupulously careful as to how he does it. The Expropriation Procedures Act says that "if he expropriates"—and I dealt with the point that I think the Minister's procedure is a total distortion of the statute when he does not move to expropriation immediately and file the plan when he wants to take the property.

Having dealt with that, I say that the moment the plan is filed—and I suggest this is the first step the department should take, not an intermediate step following other steps—when the plan is filed the obligation of the Minister is to pay due compensation for the land expropriated. I am suggesting that among all the words that have been used about due compensation for the land expropriated it is not all that difficult to get at the amount of money which should be paid. I am going to refer to some of the quotations in the Drew case and in the preceding Woods case to try to state as simply as possible what the factors are which enter into expropriation.

The Drew case, Mr. Chairman, states the rule that the owner, at the moment of expropriation, is to be deemed as without title but

all else remaining the same. The question is: What would he as a prudent man at that moment pay for the property rather than be ejected from it?

Mr. Chairman: Is it the Drew case specifically?

Mr. Renwick: Yes, Mr. Chairman, a case which was decided in the Supreme Court of Canada in 1961. It is Drew and Her Majesty the Queen and it is cited in the Supreme Court of Canada Reports for 1961, page 614.

Mr. Chairman: Dealing with highway matters?

Mr. Renwick: No, dealing with expropriation of property.

Mr. Chairman: I should remind the member for Riverdale that we are not dealing with expropriation matters generally at this time; we are dealing specifically with expropriation of properties in connection with The Department of Highways in the estimates before us.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I am suggesting to the House and to the Minister, that he has no right to put before this Legislature amounts for the purchases of property. He has no right to go out in the face of The Expropriation Procedures Act and negotiate purchases of property. If he wants property, he is to expropriate it—this is what the procedure is for. This is why the statute has been passed.

Now, Mr. Chairman, you say we are not dealing with expropriation generally. I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that the expropriation that this Minister goes through is under the statute of the province, that the only meaning that we know of for the due compensation for the lands expropriated is in such cases and such statements as are in the Drew case and in the preceding case, the Woods case. These are the rules, and I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister is not using the rules. He is not informing the persons whose property is expropriated of the elements that make up the total value which his department is prepared to pay. He thinks that he is a real estate agent negotiating the purchase of property. This is not the function which he is supposed to perform and this is where a great deal of the trouble comes.

In settling the amount of the compensation it just is not sufficient to say, "We take into account this and that and certain other matters, and maybe we take into account his moving and other things". I think that the

Minister is under an obligation when he expropriates property to specifically make the offer to the person, to indicate the elements that he includes in the price that he is going to pay. I think he has to include those elements on the basis of what the rules are, and he has to tell the person what it is and then the procedure is simple.

The person to whom the offer is made either accepts the offer or he goes to the board of negotiation; and, if he wishes thereafter, he goes to arbitration as the final decision. That is the procedure which the expropriating authority is supposed to follow. Now, in the Drew case, Mr. Chairman, six of the judges made a very simple statement. They said that:

in fixing the amount of an award there are other factors, other than the market value of the property expropriated which must be taken into account, but which are not easily calculated. In such cases the tribunal of fact may decide that compensation for such factors can best be appraised in the form of a percentage of the market value.

In my view, Mr. Chairman, the Minister must, in making an offer—if he adopts the procedure which I suggest the statute requires—enunciate what the other elements are that he is including in the price which he is offering for that property. The Drew case perfectly clearly says there is no statutory authority or any other kind of authority for having determined the value of the land for adding some amount of 10 per cent for compulsory taking.

The Drew case certainly says that it is the market value of the land plus certain other factors which are quite properly taken into account. Some of the other cases, particularly the Woods case, deal with this particular difficult question of value to the owner and what the elements may be that are added into it. But certainly in that case they point out clearly that replacement cost is of course a material factor for consideration in determining the value to the owner. Within the framework of those basic rules it seems to me that the Minister's procedure—which, as I understand it, is only to expropriate as a last resort, only to expropriate where in his opinion, or his agent's opinion, they have exhausted all possibilities of coming to a settlement with the person, then he expropriates.

Now, having exhausted all those possibilities I do not think that the statutes ever intended that the Minister at that point should file his plan and thus expropriate the title of the property, and give himself another six months

in which he can continue—if I may use the term—to harass or bother the person whose property has been taken about the price which he is going to pay for it.

What I want to know from the Minister, and I think we are entitled to know, is this: Is there an instruction book that his department uses which provides the basis on which agents of the department go out and negotiate? If, in fact, they do finally file a plan expropriating the property, what elements do they take into account in making up the value? Do they ever disclose to the person whose property is being taken what the additional elements are, over and above the market value of the property? Because I cannot express it too strongly that if this Minister does not do it, I do not know who else is going to do it.

I assume, I do not know, but I assume that this Minister's department made a submission to the law reform commission on expropriation. They have all the procedural background. They have a tremendous amount of experience as to how expropriation in their view could be best carried out. I would expect they would make such a submission. But we have got to deal with this Minister, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The member for Woodbine has no respect for the law reform commission.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: He has called them a wastepaper basket; that is what he said.

Mr. Renwick: The law reform commission is engaged in doing a task. I am asking whether or not this Minister made any submission to the law reform commission. I assume from the interjection that he did not do so.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The hon. member for Woodbine said they would throw it in the wastepaper basket when it came to them.

Mr. Singer: He did not say that.

Mr. Renwick: He did not say it. The member for Woodbine can answer the question himself. I would like to find out from the Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Renwick: I think my sense of exasperation and frustration on this question is that it is not the answer to say that this is the responsibility of the Attorney General and have the Attorney General tell us it has been

referred to the law reform commission. We are well aware of that. You are the responsible Minister for coming to the Legislature, for us voting substantial numbers of dollars for the purchases of property in the next year.

Now, the problem is that the Minister should not be out purchasing property by negotiation. He should be exercising his power to expropriate, and he should be making the offer within the framework of the statute and specifying all the elements that go to make up the price that he is offering for that property. Then all the persons in the area at that time know exactly what they are being offered. They can either discuss it amongst themselves, as I have said, or they can deal with the department on a firm, conclusive basis.

I would like to know, for example, does the price include the cost to the person who is being expropriated of that person getting an appraisal of his own? Does it include his legal costs? Does it include his moving expenses? Does it give any consideration to the cost of him buying a similar home elsewhere? Does it give any consideration to the question of whether the curtains in the one house will fit in the new house? Does it pay for the moving expenses? Does it include any of these elements, and if so, on what basis does the department arrive at the number of dollars they are going to pay to compensate for those expenses to which a person is put?

If it does not include clearly in memorandum form that kind of information, I am saying that the department is not adhering to what I believe to be the procedure which this Legislature has established.

I would like to ask the Minister if he would give us in detail the actual procedure, or instructions, or other guides which they provide for a typical expropriation case, so that we here can get some understanding of what his department does.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: In reply to the member, first I want to tell him that The Department of Highways did make representations to the law reform commission with our views on expropriation. In the second place, in his opinion we did not proceed the right way, but I think in effect we had a very fair way of approaching these people. The property was valued by three people, who no doubt were competent, from the area concerned.

Then the 10 per cent was added for the express extras which you speak about. I must admit that when the price was put down, that

was included in it and probably you think that we should have added that as a separate item onto the other.

The next question the member asked was did we pay the cost of an appraiser which the people might employ themselves? The answer to that is "No". But we do pay the legal fees for the transfer of the property.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if this kind of debate about expropriation is really going to be of any help to the belaboured people who lose their land to any one of the over 6,000 expropriating authorities. We do not really seem to have moved this Minister, who is a big expropriator, or a big land acquirer, one little inch.

The whole problem, Mr. Chairman, in expropriation, is that the pygmies are trying to battle the giants, and in this kind of a fight, pygmies never really win. The poor homeowner is aligned against all the might and majesty of government, and government is less than honest and less than frank in their approach to him. I think it is just as simple as that, Mr. Chairman.

The remarks of my colleague from Etobicoke, the remarks of the hon. member for Riverdale, certainly are most pertinent, but they fail to stir this Minister at all. All we get from him are pious platitudes. "You can count on us, we are being fair. You can count on us, we are not trying to take advantage of anybody." But when you probe a little farther, when you cite the law to him, when you ask him specific questions about how do the pygmies fight against the giants, he has no answer. He knows that there is a programme in his planning to widen Highway 27. Everyone who reads the papers knows that pretty well by now. Why then does he not put his plan in action and take the land as the statute directs it? Why does he not play according to the rules laid down by this Legislature?

What does he do? He dangles a 10 per cent carrot in front of the noses of these people and says to them in effort—and it could not be any more plain, Mr. Chairman—"If you take our 10 per cent you are further ahead, but if you do not, then go into court, that is your privilege, you can go into court. We are not going to help you go into court. We are not going to give you any money to hire lawyers. We are not going to give you any money to hire evaluators so you can fight us. We are not even going to show you our evaluators' reports, but believe me, they are fair. We have got them here, but we will not show them to you. But at your peril,

citizen of Ontario, you go into court and you will not get your 10 per cent. We are making that abundantly clear."

The Minister says: "Well, I cannot help what happens once you get into court. The law is the law." Mr. Chairman, did you ever hear of a more inept excuse from an apparently responsible Minister of government? He misuses the laws of the province of Ontario. He abuses the people of the province of Ontario. Then if we have to go into court, he throws up his hands and he shrugs off the responsibility: "What can we do, the law is the law."

Mr. Chairman, after all these years of discussion in this chamber about the inequities of the laws of expropriation, surely one of the hon. gentlemen sitting on the Treasury benches should have the courage and the initiative to bring in a new expropriations procedures Act.

I very seldom rise to defend the hon. member for Woodbine, but they were criticizing him a few moments ago when he was not in his chair about his remark relating to the wastepaper basket.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: Well, all right. I was listening very carefully and I do not need the help of the Provincial Treasurer; just let me deal with this myself.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: If you want to get into this debate, we would welcome you because I think, Mr. Chairman, it is time that the Provincial Treasurer began to explain to the people of Ontario why we do not have fair and equitable laws about expropriation, instead of sitting there and talking the way he is doing now.

Let me get back to this point about the wastepaper basket. The Minister said that the reference to the law reform commission was sufficient. The member for Woodbine said, the law reform commission is acting as a wastepaper basket to gather in all of the problems that are affecting the laws of the province of Ontario. We are going to hear more about that this afternoon. That was the clear implication of what he said. We are going to hear more about that this afternoon later on when the Attorney General's estimates come before us. I intend to say quite a few words about that.

But this is the point. How much more inquiry and investigation do we need? We had

the report of the select committee on expropriation four or five years ago. We have another select committee report before us, the conservation committee, that has references.

The Attorney General's predecessor worked and laboured mightily over bringing forward a new Act. We now have the law reform commission looking into it; we had the McRuer commission looking into it. We have more studies going on, Mr. Chairman, in this province and directed by this government than you can shake a stick at. But none of these studies is producing a course of action which is going to provide equity and fair treatment for the people of the province of Ontario.

I just cannot say in language strong enough that the method now carried on by the officials of the Minister of Highways is a breach of the law, a deliberate breach of the law, and taking advantage of the people whose land he is taking away. I think it is a shameful thing, a shameful thing, that they carry on their business in this manner. I think it is completely inexcusable. He is depriving the people of Ontario of their rights and I think it is time that one of the members of the Treasury benches stood up and said: "Yes, we are going to bring in fair expropriation laws in the province of Ontario." We have not got them now and at the rate this government is going, if they stay there for another 24 years, we still will not have them. And they will not stay for another 24 years.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): If you keep on talking, we will be here for another 24 years.

Mr. Bryden: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I understand that during the few minutes when I was out of the House, one of the Ministers did me the honour of choosing that opportunity when I was absent to comment about what I said earlier. I was out, I suppose, about five minutes. I am not, however, complaining about that. That does not surprise me. All I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, is that if Ministers or others have objection to make to comments that any member might make, they should make it when the comments are made and when the member is present in the House. I will say that I am quite prepared to stand by what I said. I have no idea how the Minister concerned may have twisted what I said but I will stand behind my own comments.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I would like to make it clear; the hon. member for Woodbine, in

his usual devious way, has suggested that I waited until he left the chamber. In the first place—

Mr. Bryden: Point of order. On what basis is he talking about, my "usual devious way", Mr. Chairman? I would like to ask you if that comment is in order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Woodbine seems to think that he can say anything he likes to anybody, in any manner, shape or form, and one cannot even suggest the slightest thing about him. I just want to make it quite clear that I made the first interjection when he was here. When he was out, the reason I made the comment was because his colleague had made some reference which seemed to be a complete contradiction of the attitude of the hon. member for Woodbine. That is why it was raised at that time.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest to you that to apply the term, "in his usual devious way," to any hon. member is quite out of order.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I suppose the member never says a thing like that.

Mr. Bryden: I would say I have never used that sort of term. I have used critical terms but I would suggest that I have never been devious in this House. I would suggest to the hon. Minister that when I have something to say I say it, and I do not use that sort of comment. I think the hon. Minister ought to, as a gentleman, withdraw the remark; however, I am not going to insist upon it, Mr. Chairman, in view of the source from which it comes.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest that we should continue with the vote now, under 907, please.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Chairman, the other day the city of Hamilton had a private bill here in which one of the sections dealt with expropriation. They are giving \$250 to each person who desires to have another appraisal made of his property. This is the first time, I believe, that this has been initiated in the province of Ontario. Perhaps there are two sides to this question; some members were very opposed to it but nevertheless it passed.

It seems to me that this is the first step in giving people a square and honest deal when it comes to expropriating their property in this province. I hope that the Minister will look into this Hamilton private bill and that

he will examine the results of that bill very carefully because it could be that in the pioneering that the city of Hamilton is doing, this could be a guide to all of the expropriating authorities in the province of Ontario of which The Department of Highways is one of the major ones.

I was very impressed by his worship the mayor's submission to the committee on private bills. It seemed to me that there was a genuine desire by the council of the city of Hamilton to give their people, who live in Hamilton, a square deal.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, I would like to challenge a few comments that were made by the hon. member for Downsview.

When the member for Downsview stated rather unequivocally, I thought, that the Minister and the senior officials of The Department of Highways, who engage in these land acquisition matters, really had no regard for the people from whom they were expropriating land. I say from the basis of some experience that that is an absolutely untrue statement.

First of all, Mr. Chairman, I say this because of an interest over a period of some four years myself, and I think I recall last year when this matter was brought up, that I stated to the House that I cannot conceive of any Minister liking expropriation procedures. Nobody likes taking land from people. But here we have heard in the House this afternoon that we should immediately expropriate, that we should not negotiate, that it is against the law to negotiate. Now, since when—and I am not a lawyer—but since when in terms of the common law of this province, which we hear much about from the legal people in this chamber, is there anything wrong with negotiation? I thought this was a perfect right of everyone to negotiate arrangements, to negotiate—

Mr. Renwick: Come, come!

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, I simply suggest to you that there are a great many people prefer to negotiate rather than to be "put over the barrel," as you say, by expropriation procedures.

There have been many, many land acquisition situations satisfactorily resolved as the Minister has pointed out here in terms of friendly negotiation—many, many of them. As a matter of fact, the powers of expropriation themselves when implemented, do not stop the negotiation process, as the hon. member

well knows. There is a period of time when negotiation procedures can still continue.

There may be something arbitrary about the 10 per cent for compulsory or forceable taking that has been referred to. I suggest that may be an arbitrary percentage, but nevertheless it recognizes that there are costs above and beyond the purchase price of the property itself and this is provided for. Now, again, whether it is arbitrary or not is beside the point; there is some recognition given to the fact that there are extra costs.

I would like to advance one more thought here before I sit down. Any responsible Minister has two interests in mind when property is required for what might well be regarded as the public interest. First is the interest of the individual from whom the land is to be taken; and secondly the interest of the public for whom the land is being purchased. And I suggest that any responsible Minister who attempts to avoid either of these fair considerations is not performing his functions responsibly and I suggest that the present Minister of Highways—and his predecessors as far as I am aware—has made this very, very manifest to the senior officials and those who go about the process of acquiring land. I would suggest to you that this has been a matter of policy. It has been well laid on at the level of everybody who is involved in this process that certainly the rights of the individuals have to be respected and the rights of the public also have to be considered.

Certainly the expenditure of public funds here in the public domain, if you like, are of prime importance. You cannot separate them completely.

Now, there have been references made here this afternoon to the law reform commission, and to Mr. Justice McRuer. Certainly, as the Minister has pointed out there have been representations made to that committee because they were requested. They were asked for. And indeed, they were provided. The basis and the policies associated with The Department of Highways were made available to this commission. So to suggest that this is not a matter of great concern to The Department of Highways or any other expropriating authority at the level of this government is simply an inaccurate statement. It is not true. It is made, I suggest, to impress upon the public that the government has no heart in this thing, but they have a very big heart and much concern about it.

I say that to you, Mr. Chairman, without any reservation—this reference to pygmies

and giants is nonsense. Certainly, I suppose in a categorical sense, the government is a giant to the individual, but they do not play it that way. The government does not play it in a role of a giant to the pygmy, notwithstanding what the hon. member is trying to get across in this House, and maybe for the people in the province to read in the newspapers.

I want to say very forcibly that I can conceive of no Minister who has any sense of responsibility that would not take these two very important components into consideration—the rights of the individual and the rights of the public who also have a vested interest in these things.

Mr. Singer: I am sorry that the hon. Provincial Treasurer has so little time and respect for the law that he sneers at the quotes and the common law that he was referring to earlier.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I did not sneer at them.

Mr. Singer: You have had your say, and I listened patiently to you, so you just be quiet.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister just does not know what he is talking about. The point is simply this. When he summed it up he said: "We play it properly. You can depend on us. We are honest. We believe in things."

All I say, Mr. Chairman, is simply this: government should govern by law. There should be policies laid down that bring equity to people who are affected by actions of government. It is not sufficient that the Minister makes his plea that we are honourable people and we will treat you fairly, if the Minister does not follow up his words by bringing in appropriate legislation which guarantees that fair treatment.

The Minister can declaim as long as he wants that these attacks on government for unfair expropriation procedures and all are going to have no more effect on that kind of criticism than it has up to date. The fact remains that the government has not seen fit to bring fair expropriation laws before this House, the committees continue to study, the matters continue to be debated, the law continues to be broken and the government continues to act in a secretive and unfair manner.

What are the tests? He says very few people come before the courts to have the amount of compensation determined. Should he be surprised at that? Is that a test of expertness? They have taken away, except from the sophisticated people, the wealthy people, the ability to question their decisions.

Most people have not the ammunition to argue properly against three independent experts whose reports are not made available to them. They cannot hire three experts of their own without incurring great expense. Estimates of cost can run to \$1,000 or \$1,500 each, and any lawyer who has dealt with an expropriation matter can tell you that. They have not the money to hire a lawyer and it is a paltry excuse to say go before the conciliation board.

My friend, the Minister of Highways, if he has talked to any lawyer who has been acting in a compensation matter will recognize that the experiment of compensation of these compensation courts—conciliation boards—boards of negotiation—is really a waste of time. They sit around a table and try to impress without evaluation. They try to drag out a settlement without any ability really to protect the person whose land is being taken because he does not come there on equal footing.

Most lawyers today, Mr. Chairman, will not go near one of these conciliation boards and with good reason. All that happens is if he does go with his client before one of those, he gives his hand away. The expropriating authority keeps his reports close to his vest and will not tell him a thing.

If the government is as sincere as the Provincial Treasurer would have us believe, if we can really trust big brother, if the giant is not going to take advantage of the pygmy, why do not you change the laws? Why do you not allow money to people to fight you by getting their evaluators? Why do you not allow the people whose land has been taken enough money to hire competent lawyers to argue against you? Why do you not make available to people whose land you have taken, the reports of your evaluators? Because you are government you are trying to be fair. You should not hide these things, but you do not do that. Why do you not change the law instead of saying any time one of these incidents comes up: "You are challenging our integrity. We are honest and you have got to rely on us."

Mr. Chairman, this is patently wrong, so obviously wrong in the theory of democratic government, I am surprised that a man of the capability and seniority of the Provincial Treasurer would even attempt to espouse this approach in this House.

Mr. Sopha: Do not flatter him.

Mr. Singer: If the government believes that these laws are wrong and it believes it has to go out and dangle the carrot of 10

per cent—the illegal 10 per cent—which is withdrawn when you get into court, then change the laws. There is the power on March 2, 1967, to change the laws in the province of Ontario. But there are no law changes contemplated at all. As a matter of fact, the process is so confusing to the Provincial Treasurer that he still talks about the McRuer law reform commission. He missed a change that the Attorney General announced a year ago when Mr. Justice McRuer resigned from the chairmanship of that commission and Mr. Leal took his place.

I wonder if the Provincial Treasurer is even aware that Mr. Leal in the law reform commission is investigating one aspect of it and that Mr. McRuer in the civil rights commission is investigating another aspect of it. So, we have more reports and more committees and more confusion, more delay and no protection.

Mr. Chairman, I could not let those remarks of the Provincial Treasurer go unanswered. I say that if this government means anything in these pious platitudes that we hear—we have heard from the Minister of Highways and the Provincial Treasurer—they have the power to change the law. If they do not want to, they are taking that attitude so that the pygmies cannot fight them.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I have a brief question I would like to ask here. This whole matter of expropriation is not a pleasant thing. Nobody enjoys it.

May I just ask how hypothetical a question may be? Is the hon. member saying that there is no merit in waiting for the reports and recommendations of these two commissions who are well equipped to study all these matters even more specifically than a department of government can and submit their recommendations back to government? I suggest the government will welcome them very much.

Are you suggesting that we fly in the face of a report that may be submitted very quickly and hastily? Or is there some merit in waiting on these learned gentlemen who examine these things, I would say much more effectively, probably more efficiently than a prejudiced department of government—if it is prejudiced—might do? Is there not some merit in waiting for these recommendations?

I think I am on safe ground in saying, Mr. Chairman, that the government of this province awaits these recommendations with

much interest, especially if there are any ways of improving the whole process of land acquisition, expropriation, negotiation or otherwise. I think I am on safe ground when I make that statement.

Mr. Chairman: I should say to the Minister and the members of the House I did not think at this particular time that we should discuss the various commissions and boards dealing with expropriation generally. I know it is an involved process, but we should try to stay with the expropriation as it relates to The Department of Highways under these estimates.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, very briefly in reply to the Provincial Treasurer. I do not know why these reports are going to be any more efficacious or clear or effective than all of the previous reports I referred to; why the report of the select committee was not acted upon; why the recommendations that are presently about to come before the House from the conservation committee are not that good; why the studies done by the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas (Mr. Cass), were not acceptable; why the studies done by the present Deputy Attorney General who became an authority in this field, have not been accepted. How long do we have to wait for another committee or commission to study and study and study and not submit a report. You just read the list of things that were told to my colleague from Sudbury, that the law reform commission is studying and you wonder if there is ever any end to it. You look at the list of things that the former Mr. Justice McRuer is studying and you wonder if there is any end to that. The law reform commission has laboured mightily and brought forward that great law reform—they have changed the law against perpetuities—and hurrah for them. It is the only substantial contribution they have made since they started to sit.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): One would think, listening to the hon. member for Downsview, that the expropriation procedures legislation in this province was a bewhiskered, ancient, hoary old Act that had not been studied for years. He has just got done saying "One wonders why the studies that were done by the former Attorney General, the member for Grenville-Dundas, were not incorporated into legislation." Now I am sure he knows better than that, and he should not make such a statement as that. The report of the select committee on land expropriation which was chaired by the member for Grenville-Dundas, the former Attorney

General, and which was an all-party committee—perhaps I should not say "all-party" because there was no member of the NDP at that time who saw fit to sit on that committee—

Mr. Bryden: What do you mean "saw fit"? We did not have the opportunity.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Chairman, just to clear that point the only reason we withdrew from that committee was to go on to another committee that had just been established and was going to sit for a longer period. That committee had sat previous to the member resigning from that committee.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is a fact. I agree and I can accept that. He withdrew from this committee to sit on another committee. The report of this committee, Mr. Chairman, was brought in in February, 1962. It contained 22 recommendations with reference to expropriation, and I am sure the hon. member knows that in 1962-1963, the very next session, all but three of those recommendations were written into legislation. I can give him chapter and verse. For every recommendation there is a section in The Expropriation Procedures Act of 1962-1963. This legislation is not ancient, it is not out of date, it was studied, it was the result of the best judgment, the best recommendations we could get from the members of this House, and it was incorporated promptly into legislation. Let that fact be on the record.

Not only that, but in the year 1965 there was an amendment to this Act establishing the committee of negotiation, which has become known—favourably known—throughout this province as the "kitchen table committee", where without formality, without the necessity of engaging legal counsel, people may sit down with persons from their own community and try to arrive at a satisfactory compensation. Those items which they note and discuss and work out, are discussed and considered and worked out. And I should like to tell the House that in the great majority—some 75 per cent—they reach agreement, they settle the matter, they agree on the price, and there is no need to go further and there is no expense entailed.

The Department of Highways have been using something like that committee of negotiation, that kitchen-table style of procedure, and gave us the lead for this type of addition which was not even recommended by the learned and honourable members who made the recommendations in this committee. Then

last year in the session of this House we brought in with respect to hospitals, universities, and conservation authorities—a very large area—we brought in as an amendment to the Act, the trial of necessity to establish that there was a need for the land to be expropriated.

Mr. Chairman: I hesitate to interrupt the hon. Attorney General but I have asked the members of the House if they would contain themselves to the specific vote that is before us and not to deal with general expropriation matters and reports of various commissions if possible.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I have great respect for your judgment and I shall accept it, but surely, Mr. Chairman, when the hon. member for Downsview has been able to spread the impression across this House—

Mr. Bryden: The Attorney General's explanation was incomplete.

Mr. Singer: And incorrect.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mine was incomplete? Well, I am going to bow to the Chairman's rule and I will just have to leave it incomplete.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. We have gotten into a much more elaborate field than you desired we get into and it has led us to the Attorney General's remarks and I wish he would complete them and then we would all have a chance to reply to them because there are many things that I want to tell him about some of the things he said.

Mr. Chairman: I think that there are a number of items under the Attorney General's department, when his estimates come before us, that we will be able to discuss. But my duty as your chairman here now is to try to direct the activities of this assembly on votes of The Department of Highways and I ask you if you will to try to stay with vote 909 at this time.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I shall be very brief and complete my remarks, and I admit that I have not completed them, but I am going to bow to the Chairman's ruling. There are just one or two further points. The hon. member for Downsview asks, "Why does The Department of Highways not hire lawyers to argue the case of those against it?" I am certain as I stand here that when my estimates come up he will be arguing that we hire too many lawyers and pay too much.

Mr. Singer: I did not say "hire", I said, "Let them have enough money to hire their own."

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes. Well that is just what I said—he wants us now to hire lawyers. Just one further point, Mr. Chairman, in addition to those amendments we brought in, we brought the Act, I think, fairly well up to date; so up to date, so well regarded, that it has been followed in many jurisdictions since we enacted this legislation. The one further step we took just last year was to say to the law reform commission—I am surprised to hear the hon. member for Downsview decry and deride and downgrade our law reform commission—to say to that commission: "Tell us, please, study, tell us how we can reach a fair basis of compensation", and it is just less than a year that they have been working on that, and I think the hon. member knows they made actual field studies and they will shortly be giving us the benefit of their studies. Now surely, if we get that this session we will be just as prompt with legislation to meet their recommendations.

Mr. Chairman, with this remark I would close. It seems to me as I think back to my school days that in Milton's *Paradise Lost* there was a character—I would not like to name him—who could make the worse appear the better reason, and it seems to me that he resembles the hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I hesitate to correct the Attorney General but I am sure, as he held in his hand the 1962 report of the select committee, and as he has carefully read all the recommendations—and interestingly enough, sir, the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas is now in his seat—he will remember with me when the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas brought into this House the new Expropriation Procedures Act, and he said, and I paraphrase his words, "This year we will deal with matters of procedure only. We are not going to deal with the recommendations of substance that are in that report; that will come next year."

Well, certain events happened, and it did not come next year for the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas. But if my friend the hon. Attorney General, who so gaily waved in his hand the report and said, "The majority of those recommendations have been carried out", if he will go back to *Hansard* and see what was said, and if he will look at The Expropriation Procedures Act and see what was done, if he is an honest man—and

I know he is—he will completely agree that there was no change in the substance of law at all made in The Expropriation Procedures Act of 1963.

The member for Grenville-Dundas left it for another year and the other year has not yet come. Now that, Mr. Chairman, is one substantial correction that should be on the record.

Now the kitchen cabinet business, let us get into that for a moment too. I say, Mr. Chairman, that by and large it is a waste of time. The government likes to think that everything can be pally if we will only sit down together around the table. But I say to you it does not make any sense when the person who is losing his land is not able to see the expropriating body's evaluations, and they are not presented to him at those meetings, and when he is not given enough money to get his own evaluations.

My friend talks to many lawyers who practice in this field and who do it daily and he knows as I do, that lawyers will no longer go before these kitchen cabinet meetings because they find that all that happens is that they give away their case and the expropriating body hides its case.

Mr. Chairman, it is a salve perhaps to the conscience of those very sincere gentlemen who run the affairs of the province of Ontario that we have put up yet another body to prove that we are reasonable. But it does not prove they are reasonable at all, because they are still not arming the pygmies with the weapons that the giants have and they refuse to do that. That is the simple and obvious reform that must take place in this province, so that we will have reasonable and equitable laws about expropriation.

Then finally he says, in the acme of overstatement: "Look what we did last year. We brought in this great new bill, trials of necessity for hospitals, conservation authorities and universities." Three groups that represent a tiny percentage only of the expropriation authorities. And even in doing that, I commend to my friend the report that he held in his hand when he said all the recommendations, or nearly all of them have been carried out.

Read it. See what they say about that sort of thing. Mr. Chairman, notwithstanding the remarks of the Provincial Treasurer, the Attorney General and the Minister of Highways, the laws regarding expropriation in this province are bad and will continue to be bad until there is some initiative shown by government, but there has been no voice

that indicates this afternoon there is going to be any initiative at all.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, we are not finished with this question of how we can convey to the Attorney General, to the Provincial Treasurer and to the Minister of Highways what the problem is that is involved in this?

The Provincial Treasurer, in a somewhat derisive way referred to the fact that we, on occasion, speak about the common law. He then went on to say, "Is it not still proper to negotiate?" The whole point, Mr. Chairman, is that the basis of negotiation departs as soon as one of the parties has the power to expropriate the land and has the additional power to wait then for six months before it has to give an offer. It can then take the matter to a board of negotiation and can then take it to arbitration.

I am simply saying that the Minister, the Attorney General and the Provincial Treasurer have got to get the simple idea into their heads that that is not an equal balancing negotiation when one party to it has the power of expropriation. My interpretation of this statute is that this substitutes a procedure in place of the negotiations, because the negotiation is fundamentally unfair. It has nothing to do with the goodwill or the pleasantness or the personalities of the people in the departments whose job it is to negotiate the price which has to be paid. What the statute recognizes is the fundamental imbalance of the relationship, because one of the parties has got the power of expropriation.

The Attorney General then said that we took into the statute the board of negotiation from The Department of Highways as a solution—the kitchen table approach. I am simply saying that from the point of view of the person whose property is expropriated, it is of the utmost importance that the law be clear as to what the number of dollars, what the compensation is, what the elements are going to be that enter into the price and what the basis and what evaluations have been made on which that is reached. The board of negotiations when it was in The Department of Highways worked in the traditional way that the department has of doing everything before they expropriate. The board of negotiations is a kitchen table operation. They sit down and negotiate.

But once it postdates the expropriation of the land, then that board of negotiation is stuck—whether anybody likes it or not—with the requirements of the statute which says

that you are to get due compensation for your land.

Until we recognize clearly that The Expropriation Procedures Act replaces and is not just a secondary phase which is added to the procedure; that it totally replaces in the hands of an expropriating power such as the Minister's department, so that the total procedure is followed under that Act, then we are not going to get a proper consideration of the kind of problems that people are faced with. In most cases what you are talking about are the homes where people live. It is not as if they have additional land where they can wait and go through the procedures in the course that the statute provides.

They are involved in buying another piece of property, another place to live. They are involved in moving. They are involved in paying the legal expense—and I would like to emphasize this—the legal expense of buying the other home. That legal expense is not the legal expense that the Minister referred to a few minutes ago. They are involved in the whole course of relocation and this problem is one which they are faced with because of the action of the expropriating authority. Then they are expected to go through what to them—regardless again of the personalities of the people who are trying to do the job—is a difficult procedure of establishing something called value for their property, due compensation for it.

I am suggesting very clearly, Mr. Chairman, that under the present statute, because the Provincial Treasurer asked a specific question and I think it is in the background of the remarks of the Attorney General: Why do we not wait for the law reform commission? I am suggesting that neither the member for Downsview nor the member for Woodbine was running down the law reform commission. What they are simply saying is they have a tremendous amount of work to do because of a backlog of matters which should have been referred to some such body over many years. They are not running it down.

I am suggesting we cannot wait, that it is possible to bring in a statute at this time and then if necessary scrap that statute and put in a new one when the reports come in. The reason is twofold.

It is not just a question of due compensation. It is also a question of the code of procedure, the whole staging of the operation which has to be considered. I believe that has to await not only the law reform commission, but also the McRuer commission report.

In the meantime, this department and many other expropriating authorities throughout the province are expropriating property on a most unsatisfactory basis, on a basis which is quite wrong. The reason the basis is quite wrong is because for some reason or other, this statute has been interpreted as simply taking place after the negotiations have been exhausted. This is the fundamental problem.

If the department would say: "We are going to take this property, we are now going to expropriate it," then you enter into the negotiations and if at the end of six months you have not reached agreement you have the right to make a formal offer. My own view is that as soon as you expropriate, having made your valuations, you should make the formal offer, and as the member for Downsview and others have said, you should disclose the valuations which are made. You should point out what the factors are which you are taking into account in addition to this imaginary market value which you had to decide; what the additional factors are; that you are allowing so much for this, so much for that; that you appreciate the relocation factor which is involved in it.

Having done that, I am suggesting that the number of instances where you would have to go to the board of negotiation or whether this red herring question of whether or not a person should have legal representation, would be relatively insignificant, because if you establish that kind of framework for your expropriation procedure, you would find that you would have established such a sensation of confidence in the person whose property was expropriated that when he went to the board of negotiation he would have known in advance what the valuations were from the three valuers who have assessed it and made the assessment.

He would know what the department in their considered judgment has itemized as making up the additional factors which can be used to arrive at the total value of the property to the owner. Having done this, if you want to go to the board of negotiation, I would suggest that you would have very few occasions when this would happen and you would have very few occasions when someone would go to the board of arbitration. If that in fact were so, then I think the department should pay the costs of representation, if the person wants to be represented at the board of negotiation, and should pay the costs of arbitration regardless of the outcome of the arbitration.

But the point and the fundamental point is—and I must say that I had no conception

whatsoever when this statute came on the statute books that it was considered to be some further procedure which was to be followed, that this in my view was a substitute procedure—that if land is required for public purposes, the way in which it is done is by expropriation and then you take the sequence of steps set out in the statute. There is no place for the additional method. Once this statute was passed, there is no place for the traditional method of The Department of Highways entering into these negotiations beforehand. There is no place for that.

The important thing is to establish by statute a fair and proper code of procedure and valuation on which compensation will be paid in total substitution for the normal processes of negotiation between two equal parties. This is why we have difficulty in conveying to the Minister or getting any sensation from the department that within the framework of the existing rules, within the framework of the procedure of this Act, this department, having the vast experience which it has, could very well set the whole tone for expropriation throughout the province of Ontario.

I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that the department is going to have to discard the whole of the pre-expropriation procedures, it is going to have to satisfy people that if it takes property for public purposes, then at that point the expropriation takes place, certainly people do not want their property to be expropriated, but it is on the basis of a fair and proper code both for the procedures involved in settling the value and arriving at the elements that make up the due compensation. This is the position that I think has to be taken immediately.

If it is not done immediately, I think all of the departments that are concerned in this problem are faced with the problem of what you are going to do with the people whose property is being expropriated at the present time. Back into the year 1966, what are you going to do about that? Are they going to have the benefit of any ameliorative procedures? Our concern is that in due course I am quite certain the law reform commission will make very valuable contributions, as will the McRuer commission on other changes or views or amendments that could be made.

But we have in the province of Ontario at the present time, a sensation of drastic unrest over expropriation. People are concerned about it and they are worried about it. I am saying that because they are concerned and worried about it, this government has

now to introduce—not next year, but within the framework of what we have been talking about—whatever amendments are required to make it abundantly clear that this Expropriation Procedures Act is an all-inclusive code of procedure setting out in a fair and proper way what takes place on expropriation in total substitution for this very unequal bargaining position inherent in the position of a public authority in the background and always available for threat, direct or indirect, or persuasion or argumentation, the ultimate power of expropriation.

This Act must be a complete substitution for any pre-expropriation negotiations, it must take over totally the position which normally adheres to two people who are negotiating. This is the fundamental point, this is at the root of it and until we get to that point I suggest we are going to have continuing trouble and we are going to have continuing unfairness. We are, at the very least, going to have a sensation of unfairness amongst the people who are subjected to these procedures, because people normally do not want to get into hassles with the government about this kind of a problem.

I say to you that, on the basis of the common law as it is set out, the interpretation of law as set out in the leading cases on this subject and on the basis of the procedures which are established here, it is possible for this government to substitute an entirely new approach based on the proposition that this is an exclusive procedure.

Mr. Chairman, I can only again urge the government to adopt that kind of attitude. Otherwise you are going to have more and more people in the province of Ontario completely dissatisfied with what is taking place.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, standing in my name on the order paper is a question or inquiry of the Ministry and I would read it to the House:

1. At what date did The Department of Highways approach the Batchawana Indian band on the Rankin reserve, Sault Ste. Marie, regarding the purchase of 30.6 acres of land to build the Highway 17 bypass at Sault Ste. Marie?
2. What was the first offer made for the purchase of the land?
3. What was the last offer made for the purchase of the land?
4. Where do the negotiations stand at the present time?

Mr. Chairman, I would like to relate to the House what prompted this question. I assume it will be some time before we get the answer to the specific questions there, but

this is the proper time to deal with this situation. Hon. members will take it from the question on the order paper that obviously there was some attempt by The Department of Highways to purchase land from the Batchawana Indian band at Sault Ste. Marie.

Mr. Chairman: I am not sure whether the member is attempting to anticipate the answer for his question at the present time or not. Is the question on the order paper?

Mr. Gisborn: Just let me finish and I think—

Mr. Chairman: Well, if it is not before the House as far as the order paper is concerned, I would suggest to the member that we would like to stay with vote 909.

Mr. Bryden: This is vote 909, he has asked a question. He has asked a question and it has not been answered.

Mr. Chairman: And now is he anticipating the answer?

Mr. Bryden: Well, Mr. Chairman, he wants to raise the matter. In my opinion, the question should have been answered long ago. It is a disgrace the way questions sit on the order paper for weeks and even months without being answered, but I do not think a member should be precluded from discussing the matter because the department has not been diligent enough to provide him with an answer by now.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, no, I am not going to solicit an answer to that specific question, but I am saying that The Department of Highways was in the process of purchasing property from the Batchawana Indian band on the Rankin reserve, and we are dealing with the purchase of property under this vote.

I want to relate, of course, what prompted the question and the little I know about it. Mr. Chairman, in my view it puts a blot on the integrity of a department of this government. I had the occasion on the—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. If the hon. member is going to be allowed to relate to the House, as he says, all the background of this question I trust that if this is in order, you will afford the fullest opportunity in these estimates to deal with that question, because I have a great awareness of what happened here; and you had some tendency to cut me short in replying to the hon. member for Downsview. I would not want to be in that position again on this matter.

Mr. Bryden: Well, let him deal with it now then.

Mr. Chairman: One minute, please. I have asked all members of this House to refrain from speaking in generalities in connection with this expropriation matter. I would ask them specifically if they would try to stay with vote 909. I feel that the member for Wentworth East should deal with this vote at this particular time.

If he has a question on the order paper and it has not been answered, would it not be fair to the Minister to wait until he gets the answer for the question?

Mr. Bryden: Would it not be fair to the hon. member to provide him with the answer? It would have been fair to have provided it a long time ago. The government sits on these questions until the very end of the session when the members cannot deal with them. This is the member's only opportunity to raise this case and I think he should have every opportunity to do so.

Mr. Chairman: I would say to the member for Woodbine that I am not responsible for the answers to questions on the order paper and when their answers are to be made. All I am responsible for at this particular time is to direct the activities under vote 909.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, the situation I want to raise is in relation to The Department of Highways purchasing property. If that is not under this vote, I do not know what is. I did not know the Attorney General was the Minister of Highways.

Mr. Chairman: If the member will deal with that under this vote, that is excellent. I suggest he continue with it and that he refrain from dealing with the question on the order paper.

Mr. Gisborn: He does not have to say a word about the question that is on the order paper, but I think there was nothing wrong with raising the question to bring the situation into focus.

As I said, Mr. Chairman, on January 20 just past, I had occasion to be in the city of Sault Ste. Marie on a Friday to meet with some of our party's riding officers. That evening at a social function I was introduced to a Mr. John Corbiere and his wife. Mr. Corbiere, I understand, is the chief of the Batchawana Indian band on the Rankin reserve. During our very pleasant conversation he related to me his anxiety and frustration regarding The

Department of Highways' purchasing property on his reserve. I just questioned him briefly as to what might be the situation. And I said: "I do not know how much your property is worth. Do you?" And he said: "No, I do not know how much it is worth."

He told me a couple of things that bothered me. Firstly, he said, that he did have an offer of \$500 an acre. Now, he said, we were told by letter and by our solicitor that the property was only worth \$100 an acre in the estimation of officials of The Department of Highways but they would give them \$500 an acre. He said, they did not accept that. Some other offers were made, but they did not accept them. Then they were finally offered \$1,000 an acre and he went on to tell me that they had a vote of the band which is the constitutional procedure, and the band turned down the acceptance of this offer for \$1,000 an acre.

Mr. Corbiere invited me to attend a meeting on the Saturday morning that was arranged, as I understand, by the hon. Attorney General the member for Sault Ste. Marie. That is not too relevant, but nevertheless I said: "Yes, if you will pick me up and take me out to the meeting, I will be pleased to go and observe. I have no official right to be there." He said: "You are invited by me, I am the chief of the tribe and we are having the meeting at our council house and when I invite someone he can come out to the meeting." I accepted his invitation.

Mr. Chairman: May I ask the member, I assume this was property to be acquired for highway purposes?

Mr. Gisborn: Yes.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Did they make you a chief?

Mr. Gisborn: No. I will accept that invitation some other time. So, Mr. Chairman, I attended the meeting. He picked me up and took me out to the council house on the reserve. When we entered there were three or four in there and it was very cold. The temperature was not as cold as it usually is in that part of the country but it was about 14 or 15, and the oil stove was not working very well. We left our overcoats and shoes on and sat around for a while. Then the delegation arrived, and I would tell the House that there was a formidable group there—the Minister of Highways and his Deputy and Mr. Killer and Mr. Mantel from The Department of Highways; the Attorney General for the province who is the member for Sault

Ste. Marie; his worship, mayor Alex Harry; and Mr. Acklin from the federal Indian affairs branch. I think there were two or three others with the officials from the Indian affairs branch.

Nothing very much happened at the meeting, Mr. Chairman, but sitting there to observe what went on I at least felt a little bit ashamed of being part of the Legislature of this province and trying to understand just what was taking place. The young chief I understand is in his early 20s and work in the Soo steel plant. I ascertained that he had not been to high school and he told me the previous night that he had very little knowledge of these sort of negotiations and procedure. He read to that meeting a brief summary of what had happened for the benefit of those who were there and, I take it, for the four or five band councillors who were in attendance. I would like to just read it to the House, and I quote:

Short summary of past two years: Band council was first approached by The Department of Highways in May 1965 by H. Mantle of the engineering department concerning route of extension of second line. Council was then presented with a copy of the route of proposed highway surveyed to reach Highway 17, east of Dacey road. No permission had been given by council for this survey. As a compromise the route was relocated where it is presently mapped.

The next three meetings of November 3, 1965, December 7, 1965 and February 1, 1966, were with the engineering department. The points of access were discussed. Three accesses are to be opened when the highway is built and four additional accesses opened when required by the band. Mr. Killer was at this last meeting of February 1 and stated that he would have his appraisal of land completed in about three to four weeks.

I asked Mr. Corbiere the night before in the brief conversation I had with him if he had ever had, or had ever seen, an appraisal of the property and he said "no", and I did not know whether he really knew what it was.

The next we heard of The Department of Highways was at the end of July, 1966, some six months later. People following this through news media were led to believe that the onus lay with the Bachawana band holding up negotiations with the second Black Road bypass.

At a meeting of August 16, 1966, we were informed our land was worth \$100

per acre by a government appraisal, but they said they would give us \$500 per acre. The highways Minister, the hon. C. S. MacNaughton, while in the city in August, made no attempt to reach the council, yet he stated that the band wanted 15 to 20 times what the land was worth.

At the meeting of August 23, it was agreed to put the sale of land at \$1,000 per acre to a vote by all band members. On November 15, 1966, the vote for the sale of land was turned down by band members, 24 in all. On December 21 a copy of Mr. Wishart's letter was forwarded to us from Mr. Aquin concerning the opening of negotiations for the bypass. A meeting was then set for this day.

It was only on that day that I realized that the meeting to which I had been invited was a meeting of negotiations regarding the purchase of the 30.6 acres of land by The Department of Highways. At the meeting all that took place was that the hon. Attorney General, the Minister of Highways, the Deputy Minister and the mayor of Sault Ste. Marie impressed on the chief of the band and the councilmen the importance of getting this question cleared up and what it meant to everybody.

It seemed to me that there was just a little bit of reticence about the procedure and the chief said—I think I am correct and if I am incorrect, the Minister who was in attendance will correct me—that he thought they should have an appraisal done so that they would have some idea of what the property was worth.

Now Mr. Chairman, I have no idea at this point—and I did not look into the situation any further—as to what this property is worth, but neither did the chief nor anyone with whom we could discuss it. They did hire legal advisers and discharged them after they carried out some services for them and paid them \$465. Their legal advisers advised them to the extent as he has related in his summary and I would quote from one paragraph of the letter to the secretary of the band (Mrs. Alice Corbiere) from their legal advisers, Peterson and Peterson of Bruce Mines as follows:

Mr. Keller points out that he did his best to allow the full amount possible to your band and this amounts to around \$500 per acre, and ordinarily they pay \$100 per acre.

Now the point is, Mr. Chairman, the disgraceful methods and procedures of the collective bargaining technique and manoeuvring

that are used by the agencies of this government to purchase lands. I do not think there is any particular significance in the fact the land belongs to the Indian band in Sault Ste. Marie, or to anyone else.

But the fact that they had never had an appraisal handed to them, nor were they ever advised that an appraisal was the proper way to determine what their property was worth to them, caused complete frustration to that young chap and his wife as to where they stood and whether they were doing a proper job for the people they represented. They just had no idea. And, of course, the meeting to which I refer and which they attended, ended up with the feeling that they had not been treated justly in the proper manner and that the Indian affairs branch would assist them in getting an appraisal of their property. I believe it even offered to supply some funds and recommended that they go to Sudbury or North Bay for a competent and experienced appraiser; and everyone seemed to be happy at that point.

I am sure, from my observance at the meetings, that there was a great deal of disappointment by the Minister and the mayor of Sault Ste. Marie in that they were not able to make more headway in getting this thing settled. As I say, I do not know whether the property was worth \$500 or \$1,000, or whether it was worth \$2,000 or \$5,000 an acre. But the point is: Neither did the people who were trying to do the bargaining on behalf of the people they represented. I hope that the Minister will give me some explanation in regard to this type of an attempt to extract property from these people in this method.

For instance, can he tell me why they were only offered \$500 an acre in the first instance? Why were they told that it was only worth \$100 an acre but that they would be given \$500 an acre? Then why was it raised to \$1,000? Why was it that on the first offer of \$500 an acre, that the total amount came to something like \$16,975 but when it was raised to \$1,000 an acre, the total amount on the offer to purchase was \$30,000? Why was it not doubled? Why was not the \$16,975 doubled if they received instead of \$500 an acre, \$1,000 an acre? I think this kind of case exemplifies the kind of argument that has been put up this afternoon by my colleague from Riverdale and the member from Downsview. Certainly there has to be a change in the approach to the situation.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am very glad of the explanation from the hon. member because I

wondered why he was there and now I know why. First of all, he named officials from the department who were there and he has named some in the group who were not at the meeting. In the second place he has inferred that the department tried to put something over on a young chief. I think all negotiations up until January 1 were done with the old chief and I think he was probably well aware of what was going on. This man, Acumet, was just elected chief around the first of the year.

I must say that when we went up there, of course, we went up to see if we could not negotiate in some way with them; we wanted to find out exactly what their problem was. We heard different reasons why they did not want to do business with us and they were not all on account of money. I think if you will recall that I asked the chief on two occasions if there was anything else with the offer that was made besides money, and his answer was "no". I think in all fairness, not directly in my observations as an observer, that when he was asked if there was anything else other than money, his answer was "yes", there were several questions hanging in the air. Their rights of zoning by the municipality? Extra access roads? Who would pay for them? And what was the municipality of Sault Ste. Marie going to do for their reserve in regards to further facilities—sewers, lighting and that sort of thing?

His questions were right. I think that relevant to the real point that I want to make, is the price of "manoeuvring" to get that property at a price less than what it is worth. There was absolutely no manoeuvring in any way to get that property under those circumstances; and I again say, and if you were listening you heard me ask the chief if there was anything else but money that was the problem insofar as The Department of Highways was concerned. Now when you refer to the water and everything else, this land is outside the corporation of Sault Ste. Marie and I do not know whether the mayor of that city could promise them all the things to which you refer. I do not know whether he has that authority but—

Mr. Gisborn: They tried to make him believe he did.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am talking about the negotiation with The Department of Highways, and you know perfectly well that I asked the chief at that time what he wanted to do, and he said he wanted to get an appraiser. We agreed with him that that would be the right and proper thing to do,

and you also know that the Indian agent told him that they would pay the expenses of that appraisal.

Mr. Gisborn: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Now we could not be any more fair than that. We were ready to do any negotiating we could.

There is one other thing that you must admit, that the only thing I did in talking about price that day, was to take out a map. I had personally driven over the route where we had acquired farmland and although there was snow on the ground, I thought by the buildings and everything else that it was a very valuable type of farm. On the other side of the road there was some scrub bush land and such things as that, and I pointed out to the chief for the sake of information only, the price we paid per acre for that land. I did not, and neither did anyone that was there, try to do anything to force them in any way. We left in perfect harmony and the only thing further I said to him was: "Now chief, we would like to know as soon as possible when and if we can resume negotiations with you."

And there is one other thing that I want to tell you, that the consulting engineers and our own engineers did not necessarily think that was the route that should be followed and after some consultation with the city of Sault Ste. Marie and various other people there, this route through the reservation was then looked at and we were quite ready to go ahead and build our highway in another location altogether. I think that there was nothing but perfect harmony in that meeting and I can say that we are waiting an answer from them.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Gisborn: Just a moment, Mr. Chairman, I do not think the Attorney General has a right to get into the debate at this time.

Mr. Chairman: Any member of this House has the right to get the chair's attention at any time.

Mr. Gisborn: All right, I apologize for that statement, Mr. Chairman, but I do not think it is right that the Minister should not let me continue my questioning of the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not objecting to the member questioning the Minister of Highways. I will await my turn, if that is what the hon. member wants.

Mr. Gisborn: That is all, Mr. Chairman, that I wish. There are three points I would like the Minister to explain. He tells me at the meeting they left in a very amicable manner and that I heard him question the chief who said what they would like to do is have an appraisal. The Minister said yes, go ahead, and I agree with him the Indian affairs branch said they would make funds available. Will the Minister tell me why it is almost two years after they opened negotiations that they advise the chief that it is a good idea that they have an appraisal made?

Will he answer the question as to why the Indians were told that the land was only worth \$100 an acre, but they would give them, out of their generosity \$500 an acre, and then eventually they offer them \$1,000 an acre?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: First of all, we did not advise them to get an appraiser. This was what they asked for when we were up there. You know that. We agreed with them it was the right thing.

To my knowledge they were never offered \$100 an acre and furthermore, when you talk about the figures, they were offered \$30,000 which was for the required acreage plus some other benefits. It was not set down at \$1,000 an acre. It was set down at \$30,000 for the property which we were talking about.

Mr. Gisborn: That does not follow some of the offers to purchase that I have before me. You can check your own. It spells out \$1,000 in the price.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I was instrumental in arranging the meeting of January 21 of this year, between the Batchawana-Garden River band—the Batchawana band situated on the Garden River reserve on the boundaries of the city of Sault Ste. Marie, in my riding.

I wrote to the superintendent of Indian affairs, Mr. Aquin, and asked that the meeting be arranged. I might say, Mr. Chairman, that as the hon. member has related, there were some approaches made previously over a period of time, but I think it is fair to say that one of the great reasons for delay, which becomes very apparent, is that neither the former chief—and we were dealing in this meeting with a newly elected chief, Mr. Corbiere—nor any of the members of his council or his band had sought any advice or assistance either in the way of counsel or finance from the department of Indian affairs.

As far as I have been able to learn, there was no approach made to the superintendent

of Indian affairs, and I was the first one to make an approach to him for the purpose of arranging a meeting. There had been discussions about the land required, if the highway was to go through the Indian reserve; and as the Minister of Highways has pointed out, this was only an alternative route which was not necessary for the bypass around the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

The route going through the Indian reserve lands would afford many advantages to that Indian band. It would give them access and greatly increase the value of land which would adjoin the highway if it went that way, and it would enable development to be made commercially and otherwise. All of which however, entailed and required the servicing of that land, which had no service of any kind—perhaps there is a power line somewhere near, but no water, no streets, no subdivision area or anything of that nature. Therefore, the mayor of Sault Ste. Marie was involved to offer such assurances as he might be able as to what might be done in the way of servicing and to learn what problems would be involved if the highway were to go through the Indian reserve. As the hon. Minister has also pointed out, the plans of The Department of Highways did not call for a highway through the Indian reserve at all.

The delay, I say, and I think is quite apparent, was caused by the fact that no assistance was given by the department of Indian affairs branch and none was sought, insofar as it appears. Perhaps that is the fault of the former chief, perhaps it was a lack of knowledge and I do not attempt to blame anyone. But when I wrote to the superintendent of Indian affairs, as the hon. member knows, there were three officials there from the federal department which has to do with Indians. It was in that situation that an offer was made then by the federal people, by the superintendent, to pay the cost of an evaluation.

The former chief sought and obtained the advice of a very respected lawyer—I think the hon. member mentioned him — Mr. Peterson, who is a magistrate and a practising lawyer in the district, highly regarded and highly respected. What advice he gave him, I do not know. I do know that excellent farm land on the boundary of the reserve, outside the reserve, was acquired or agreements reached to purchase such land at \$500 an acre and some at \$800 an acre.

When the approach was made to go through the reserve, and I have not got other

than newspaper evidence, the price suggested for the 30.6 acres was \$30,000.

An hon. member: Thirty thousand dollars?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well I saw one in excess of \$30,000. Then eventually down to \$30,000. That is \$1,000 an acre. But these were figures that were broached and played about in the newspapers with no relation to values whatever. I know from my own knowledge because I have walked the ground, I know it very well. The land through the reserve area is sandy and swampy. It is not agricultural land and in no way measures up to the adjoining land which was purchased, many acres of it, for \$500 an acre, and the best price at \$800 an acre.

So that all I would say on the price—the offer of \$500 to \$1,000 an acre, \$1,000 an acre I think—came from a willingness, a desire to be generous.

Mr. Bryden: You mean it came from the fact that the Indians have bargaining powers. You cannot expropriate them.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh yes, you can expropriate. Oh yes you can! You can get them through the federal department by way of expropriation.

Mr. Bryden: The federal department would not dare to expropriate without the consent of the band council.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well all right—\$1,000 an acre—the same as the good farmlands were bought for on the edge of the reserve. I think the offer of \$1,000 was prompted out of generosity to these people.

Mr. Bryden: Why did you not offer it right off the bat then?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There is, I think, some responsibility on any government department to bear in mind that it is dealing with public money—the taxpayers' money. This is one consideration which the hon. gentlemen on the other side tend to forget.

Mr. Gisborn: But after that kind of bargaining how could the chief know whether he was getting a fair break. Scepticism and suspicion would immediately be in his mind.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not blame this young chief. He was new, but I do think there was available for him, advice from the department which governs Indian affairs.

Mr. Bryden: They do not trust that department always.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not in a position to say whether they trust the federal depart-

ment or not, but I do know that the meeting which was held on January 21 and which we attended, was a good meeting. It was open; there was frank discussion by the mayor of Sault Ste. Marie, by the hon. Minister of Highways, by myself, by the chief, and by other members of that band, and by members of the department of Indian affairs. As a result of that meeting the department of Indian affairs offered to pay for an evaluation—an assessment of value. I wrote some ten days ago to the superintendent of Indian affairs to ask if anything had been done because there is an urgency about this work if the bypass is to be built this year, or got under way.

He replied by telephone on Monday, February 20, almost a month since January 21, that the evaluator had not been obtained yet, at least he had not arrived on the scene, but he expected he might be there within a few days. I have no knowledge yet that he has arrived. My main point, sir, in speaking to this matter is to indicate that there was no suggestion that any advantage was being taken of these people. In fact the offer which was made was in line with offers of good lands, cleared, farmed, cultivated lands in connection with farm operation and buildings on the edge of the reserve, and that the last one that was made exceeds the offer for that type of land.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, what I suggest to both Ministers—the member who represents the constituency, and the Minister of Highways, and I am coming to this, as it were, with a clean slate because I do not pretend to understand the intricacies of it—is: Why deal in such an obviously shabby way with the people involved? It is obvious—here is a letter from the legal firm of Peterson and Peterson to Mrs. Corbiere dated July 27, 1966:

Dear Mrs. Corbiere:

Mr. James Killer, of The Department of Highways, called at our office this morning and left with us the enclosed plan together with agreement and undertaking. You will note that his proposition is \$16,975 for the complete road allowance through your reserve.

The third paragraph reads as follows:

Mr. Killer points out that he did his best to allow the full amount possible to your band and that this amounts to around \$500 an acre, and ordinarily they pay around \$100 per acre.

And here is the offer to purchase from The Department of Highways, stating the \$16,975

figure, supposedly a lavish generosity in terms of the actual worth at \$100 per acre. Then a few months later The Department of Highways stands on its head again and offers \$1,000, or the equivalent of \$1,000—

Mr. Bryden: It says it is terribly generous.

Mr. S. Lewis:—which they again agree is terribly generous and which incidentally—I wonder about whether the offer came in fact from The Department of Highways, because in a counter offer from the reserve the \$16,975 figure was rejected, and the band placed the alternative figure. And I take it then that the department said the \$30,000 package deal was acceptable. The point is that you cannot play around that way in the process of acquiring land for road purposes. That is just not the way to deal. Either the department is honourable and comes in and makes an evaluation and starts off by saying “We will pay \$500 or we will pay \$1,000. We think this is generous, we think it is fair,” and consistently holds to that appraisal, or it does not enter the game at all. Obviously there would arise in any group of citizens’ minds a considerable apprehension when the figure vacillates from \$100 to \$500 to \$1,000 in a period of only several months.

I am not questioning the motives of generosity. I am questioning the method. Because the method that has emerged in this instance is precisely the same method that emerged earlier this afternoon during the debate on expropriation. It is a shabby method which gives very little alternative to the recipients of the money—to the people who are in the government’s control, as it were—gives them very little alternative to know what their land is worth, what they should expect and to deal honourably.

If the hon. Minister says to us, “Well the federal department of Indian affairs defaulted in its obligation to get an appraisal done or to help them over two years,” then I say, through the Chairman, if your motives were honourable then two years ago the provincial department would have arranged for an evaluation and offered what that evaluation demonstrated or whatever additional sum for generosity itself should be given. Because what this eventually developed into was a give-and-take barter position which is not the way a department of government should deal, whether it is in the question of expropriation or in the question of road allowance.

And that is the point we are trying to make. We are not questioning the motives of granting the money. We are questioning the method around this whole matter. And

I submit to the Minister through you, Mr. Chairman, that there has to be some revision of procedures in this area.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Might I say, Mr. Chairman, that in the first place, this land was valued at \$500 per acre and the offer made because other comparable land closer to the city was bought at that time. Then, after quite a lot of discussion with the Indian band, they told us of plans they had to develop this land, subdivision and so forth and a matter of access roads and all this came into it and we offered, I think they had either seven or eight access roads to the property.

When it was looked at on that basis, the land use was different from what it was when we were talking about the land of a reservation as they were using it now. On the basis of that we found that we should give them more money, and as they pointed out to us, they expected to develop it and we were trying to assist them by giving these access roads. Then we decided on the other price.

Mr. Chairman: I understand by prior agreement that we would adjourn the House earlier this evening in order that members could attend the Lieutenant-Governor’s reception. I thought, with the approval of the House, that the House leader would make a statement to the House before adjournment.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): With the consent of the House, I will proceed.

Mr. Chairman, in keeping with my commitment of February 27 with respect to the British International Finance and York Lambton companies and their related companies, I indicated at that time that a full statement would be made with respect to questions put by certain hon. members of the House. I wish to read a statement into the records. I believe that this statement, made late yesterday on behalf of British International Finance (Canada) Limited, adequately details the outcome of the meetings I referred to, and incorporates all the information I had anticipated giving to the House. That statement was as follows:

In accordance with a previous announcement made by Sinclair M. Stevens a voting trust agreement has been executed and he is in the process of conveying the voting rights of all his common shares in British International Finance (Canada) Ltd., the control company of the entire BIF group, to four prominent Toronto businessmen. The administrators of the trust are: John S. Deacon, vice-president, Deacon Findley

Coyne Limited; George H. Dickson, vice-president, Canada Packers Limited; Donald G. Ross, president, Ross Knowles and Company Limited and Alexander V. Crate, president, York Trust and Savings Corporation.

The appointment of Alexander V. Crate as president of York Trust and Savings Corporation was announced in early February, as well as the appointment of Ronald M. Thomas as president of the York-Lambton Corporation Limited. A new president of British International Finance (Canada) Limited will be announced shortly.

A special examination of organization and financial relationships of the BIF group is continuing to be made in conjunction with McDonald, Currie and Company as a guide to future planning. Steps have already been taken to realign operating responsibilities and to effect efficiencies that will improve each company's earning ability.

The intent of the new administration is to stabilize the present operations of the BIF group, and to place the existing companies under experienced, strong management that will be autonomous.

The York-Lambton Corporation Limited and British International Finance (Canada) Limited announced last week that their financial statements for 1966 would reflect substantial operating losses in both companies. However, these losses will be largely non-recurring and shareholders' equity has been increased in both companies by new capital issues. Financial statements will be mailed to shareholders on March 10.

Management points out that assets in the companies are considerably more than enough to cover all liabilities. In the York-Lambton Corporation the shareholders' equity at December 31, 1966, will show in excess of \$11 million; British International Finance (Canada) Limited will be at least \$5,500,000 and York Trust and Savings Corporation will also be at least \$5,500,000.

Annual reports of York Trust and Savings Corporation will be mailed to shareholders on March 17 and the annual meeting of the company will be held in Toronto on March 31.

Mr. Chairman, that is the end of the statement which was issued by the companies and the groups. It then appears, Mr. Chairman, that any difference of opinion within the

management for the companies mentioned has been resolved. Hon. members will appreciate, I am sure, that all manner of information finds its way to government departments. Some comes by way of voluntary statement, some by direct reporting or investigation and some by rumour.

I hope that my attitude in the past, Mr. Chairman, has demonstrated that I am most willing to provide information in answer to all reasonable questions put by the hon. members, keeping in mind the limitations imposed on me by virtue of my office.

However, I must say at this time, I do not conceive it as my responsibility to answer questions that may by their nature be prejudicial to the disclosure which is essential to the operation of my department, or that raise matters within the control of companies and authorities not under direct government jurisdiction.

Now, Mr. Chairman, there was another question from the leader of the Opposition with respect to Mr. Ambridge and the Ontario deposit insurance corporation. There were three parts to that question. The first question asked what responsibilities, if any, Mr. Ambridge had as chairman of the Ontario deposit insurance corporation, and the setting up of the voting trust in British International Finance. The answer is none. That was a matter that was resolved by the principals themselves.

Second question: Would the Minister spell out the precise terms of reference of this voting trust? The answer is that the precise terms of reference of the voting trust is a matter of internal company management and is a private document.

Third, there was a question with respect to steps intended by the government, with respect to the solvency of British International Finance and York-Lambton Corporation and the answer is: I refer to the earlier statement I made. I am informed that the information contained in the statement which I read to the House was confirmed by Messrs. McDonald, Currie and Company, the auditors of the company.

There was a further question directed to me by the hon. member for Riverdale, with respect to the Ontario housing corporation and certain policy matters, and I will present that answer on behalf of The Department of Economics and Development tomorrow morning.

It being six o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, March 2, 1967

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAYS
(Concluded)

On vote 909:

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. Minister now understands the reason for my raising the case of the Indian band at Sault Ste. Marie. I was not complaining about the actual purchase but the procedures and methods used and I think that other members have pointed out their contention in this regard.

I would like to put on record another similar case that points up very strongly just what we are trying to get. This is in regard to the purchase of property adjacent to the Queen Elizabeth Way between the Stoney Creek traffic circle and Fruitland road. Fruitland road, as the Minister might know, is the site chosen by the department for the interchange and the overpass at that point.

This particular person owns some 300 feet from the lakeshore inland, about 72 feet wide. He has built this home himself and I, as a layman, would suggest that it would likely be worth something like \$40,000. It is a well constructed house and every bit of construction—even to making the furniture—was done by the man and his family.

He was made aware some two years ago that his property would likely be encroached upon because of the development of the service road in this particular area.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Did you give us the name of the case?

Mr. Gisborn: I will give you the name of the man involved, yes, it is Mr. Lloyd Hampson.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Hampton?

Mr. Gisborn: Hampson, and it is Lakeview Avenue, Stoney Creek. All he knows about what is going on is that during the past two years surveyors have dropped in and told him they are putting the service road in front of his property. They originally told him that they would be putting the service

road exactly on his fence line, Mr. Chairman, and it would not interfere with his property whatsoever. On the front of his property he has a very fine lawn and he has the only circular driveway that goes in off the road and out again on the other side. He has taken quite a pride in it.

Not long ago one of the surveyors approached him and told him they wanted another ten feet of his property; and took him out and showed him that this is the point where we will now be bringing the road, which just about bisects the front lawn and the driveway he has developed.

His main concern is that he just does not know where to turn. He has never had any official contact by correspondence from the department. The only person with any capacity who has been to see him was a Mr. Hart from the department. He took in a plan and pointed out some of the revisions that were made and went away with the plan. He has never had any official correspondence from the department; he has never had an official plan other than those apparent subordinates who are doing surveying and work in regard to the service road.

In talking to him he tells me that he has asked them what his rights are and whether he has any alternative. And they told him: No, they were going to take it; we can take it anyway. There is no out, we are going to take the land.

When I visited him last week he was very frustrated and overwrought with anxiety about his situation. He realizes now if they take this extra ten feet, and the road is developed, that the value of his property will deteriorate and he will not be able to sell.

He is trying to figure out how he can carry that house when he retires, without the market for it. His plans were to sell the property when he retires and get something at less cost so that he can live comfortably. But if the service road takes in this 10 feet of his property, thereby devaluating the price of the property, and with the service road immediately adjacent to his front door, he then will not be able to sell. He will have

to try and pay the high taxes that he is paying out there.

The main point is that he does not know just what the score is and this, I think, heads up the whole thing that we have been talking about in regards to expropriation. That is, there has not been an expropriation plan laid; there has not been even an offer made as yet. I understand that Mr. Hart was supposed to visit him Tuesday at 10 o'clock; that meeting was cancelled. He called me yesterday and told me they were going to visit him today. What they will convey to him today as to his rights and what position he is in, I do not know. I cannot conceive that at this point they will give him any further information than what he has had in the past, which has been absolutely nothing.

He has no letter or a plan or any idea as to what his rights are other than one of these employees of The Department of Highways dropping in and saying: We are going to take this part of your property and you have no alternative but to make some kind of an agreement with us.

I think this kind of thing is not right and I hope that this is not the criteria in that particular area. I did raise the question last year with the previous Minister of Highways as to how many properties had been purchased or expropriated and he gave me a list of three or four. I am sure there are numerous properties that have been acquired in that area. And as the Minister has said before tonight, in a lot of cases they have come to some agreement in obtaining the properties they need for the construction.

But here is a specific case where he has known for two years that something is going on and he has never had yet an official piece of correspondence or an official offer. He has never been told that he has certain rights under expropriation laws; he has never been told that there is a negotiating procedure; he has never been told that he has a right to arbitration—

Mr. J. R. Knox (Lambton West): Why did the hon. member not tell him?

Mr. Gisborn: My answer to the hon. member is that it is not my business to tell him.

Mr. Knox: But why did you not tell him?

Mr. Gisborn: I have already told him that. Just a week ago I told him that. But this has not relieved him of the anxiety that comes from the actions of the department.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Gisborn: The interjections I am receiving indicate that some members of the Conservative Party are in full accord with this kind of procedure in the acquiring of properties by the department.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Why did the hon. member not go to the Minister?

Mr. Knox: And just be a responsible citizen for once.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Gisborn: I raise this because it is a specific case and I hope that we will get some good out of it.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, in answer to the question of the hon. member, I must say that I am not as familiar with this case as I was with the one we discussed before the supper hour. But I can assure him that it will be properly looked into and the man will get an answer officially.

I wondered if by any chance either the hon. member or the owner phoned the property section of the department to see if they would know anything about it? Aside from that I believe the situation is such that they are probably still in the design stage and maybe the department does not know how much they are going to require.

I think once they establish that, that probably from what you say—they went back a second time—once they establish their requirements, they certainly will make an offer to the man. But in all cases where they can they let him know as soon as possible that they are going to require some land.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): I do not really think that the answer from the Minister is satisfactory. It seems to me they should leave the man alone until they know what they want and then they should follow the proper procedure laid down by the law. There were a number of interjections by a Conservative backbencher to the effect that the member could have looked after the matter, and the Minister more or less picked up on that theme and suggested that either the man himself or the member should have contacted the department.

What I would like to point out, Mr. Chairman, is that there are a great many people who do not think of contacting their member. They are subjected to this sort of harassment, and they do not know where to turn.

You see, it is hard to believe that the case is a special one to which there is no parallel

anywhere else. I suggest to the House, Mr. Chairman, that this sort of thing goes on all the time. Some people have the foresight to contact their representative, as happened in this case, and the elected representative can look after it.

But what we are concerned about are the people who do not know about that, who do not know what is going on. And if it happens in this case, it can undoubtedly happen in many others. And it illustrates the defectiveness of the procedure which the department has. I appreciate that some of these Tory backbenchers who specialize in interjections—they hardly ever say anything worthwhile, they just go in for frivolous interjections—do not care about principles, but we are suggesting that the matter ought to be looked at in terms of its principle. The man concerned should not have had to put up with what he had to put up with. The fact that he was able to go to the local member is quite irrelevant. He should not have had to depend on that. He should have known from the department where he stood from the beginning. Apparently, Mr. Chairman, it is impossible to get across to some of the Tory backbenchers the nature of the principle involved, but we are hoping at least it will get across to the department.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, it has always been my belief that a government is supposed to represent the people. In other words, it is supposed to be an agent of the people. This government does not concur in that belief, because if it did believe that it was an agent of the people, then a fiduciary relationship would exist between this government and the people it purports to represent. And if a fiduciary relationship existed, it would not take or beat the people like this particular one.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he would come to the vote, please.

Mr. Ben: Since they are representing the people, there is a fiduciary relationship, and in expropriations they should never be in the position that anyone could say they are taking advantage of the people. In other words, they ought not to profit either in their dealings with their principals nor should they lose. Always they should be honest and above board.

Now, in expropriations the people never know what appraisal the government puts on the land, and the government does not offer to the people even the amount that their own appraisers determine to be the value of that land. The result is either that the citizen

must engage his own appraiser, and even if he does he ends up in arbitration, or he goes to arbitration in anticipation that perhaps there he can find out what the government's appraiser deems to be the value of the land.

To me this is not equitable because it is either taking advantage of the people that they represent or it is putting them to undue expense. Now, Mr. Chairman, yesterday I gave notice of a bill to amend The Expropriation Procedures Act. This amendment provides, and I will read it—

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest to the member that we do not want to get into The Expropriation Procedures Act. I would ask him to stay, please, on vote 909.

Mr. Ben: I say to you, Mr. Chairman, that if this government does believe it is an agent for the people, then it should give to the parties being expropriated and everyone who has a beneficial or legal interest in the land being expropriated, copies of their appraisers' appraisals. And the offer made should be in line with these appraisals, to show that they are dealing fairly and above board at all times.

Any deviation from that, any failure to carry out that principle is a blanket admission that they are wheeling and dealing with the very people they are supposed to represent. And will you please tell me, Mr. Chairman, why this Minister cannot get up and say—"We will have two independent appraisers to value this land. And we will then make an offer to the party being expropriated in the amount equal to one of the appraiser's reports, and supply the party being expropriated with copies of those appraisals"—so that they will always know that the government is the people and is dealing fairly with them.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, let me follow on the point that has been made. I would like to hear from the Minister directly. Does he believe that the appraisals made by government should be given to the people who are about to be expropriated? Yes or no? I would like an answer. How does the Minister feel?

Mr. Bryden: They are having a Cabinet meeting now.

Mr. S. Lewis: Surely, Mr. Chairman, that is a perfectly reasonable question. I am asking the Minister of Highways, who expropriates a considerable number of properties, if he believes that the appraisals made by government should be given to the people about to be expropriated?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister does not have to answer—

Mr. S. Lewis: I appreciate he does not have to, Mr. Chairman. But hope springs eternal and I feel that the Minister might perhaps have been thinking of a reply.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Our policy has been that we do not give them the details of that, but we give them the results as we find them.

Mr. S. Lewis: Well, may I ask the Minister why does the department not give them those appraisals? The Minister has said his policy is not to do so. Now could he explain his policy for us in the Opposition?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, we find this the most satisfactory way to handle these matters and it has been in most of the cases that we have had.

Mr. S. Lewis: Would not the Minister agree that in these cases now coming before his attention, those that were raised in the House this afternoon and those that have been continually raised, there is obviously an area of discontent around the availability of the appraisals and it might help the situation if they were made available? Does he not think there is room to move in this direction?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I cannot see it, but the member certainly has to realize that any time you try to negotiate a sale with anybody, private or otherwise, there is an area of discontent. It is always that way.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister a question? Does not the Minister have any confidence in the ability of the persons he employs, or his department employs as appraisers, and whom he pays?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: What does the city of Toronto do?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I did not get that question.

Mr. Ben: Does the Minister not have confidence in the persons he employs as appraisers who appraise the land? He pays these appraisers—does he not have confidence in their ability? Does he not feel that theirs is a fair price and he can divulge this fair price to the people being expropriated?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Of course we have confidence in them. As I said before in these cases that you are referring to—on the high-

way out here we had three appraisals and that is what we based our value on.

Mr. Ben: Then if you have confidence in the integrity of these appraisers and their ability to put a fair value on the land, why not indicate to the party being expropriated that you believe this is so by supplying them with appraisals?

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I want to follow up the points that have been made earlier tonight. The person who is—I wish that the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) would stop his mumbling, and if he wants to make a speech in this debate, Mr. Chairman, that he would have courage enough to get up and get into the debate. All he does is sit there and mumble inanities and add nothing to the proceedings of the province.

Mr. Bryden: He cannot handle his own department.

Mr. Singer: All right. He cannot handle his own department or any other and all he does is sit there and mumble.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the members of the House to give their attention please to the member for Downsview, and I would ask the members of the House to refrain from interjections please.

Mr. Singer: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me it is obvious that 99.9 per cent of the people who are expropriated would love to be left alone. There is no point in arguing that the public good exceeds the private good, and where we have to build a highway or erect a school or hospital, and so on, the public good must prevail. But surely, Mr. Chairman, it is as obvious as night following day that where government authority, where the giant intervenes and takes over private right, that public authority has to lean over backwards to be fair to that private right that is disturbed. Surely it is a tenet of our whole democratic system that a man's home is his castle. What do we get from the mouth of the Minister tonight? He says we take evaluations but we do not show them to anybody. I say this is being almost dishonest with the people whose land is taken away.

They did not seek that interference. Then the Minister and his civil servants play games with them, with an idea of depriving them, or getting rid of them, with the least possible amount of money.

The Minister has given no explanation to the hon. member for Scarborough West as

to why you do not show those evaluations. His able assistant, the Deputy Minister from Chatham, who also makes loud noises like the Minister of Energy and Resources Management, says, "What do they do in the city of Toronto?"

Now I say, Mr. Chairman, that the answer is that the laws about expropriation are determined here in this chamber. They are the laws that are put on the statute books by this government, and if the city of Toronto is wrong, or the Minister of Highways is wrong, or any of the 6,000-odd authorities are wrong, it is the fault of all those people who speak for the government in this province. When the point was reached tonight when the Minister said, "We do not think it is good policy," then I say, Mr. Chairman, that big government is taking advantage of small, unsophisticated people and, to go back to the words of the Attorney General in his famous 15-page statement on Prudential, "apparently the government does not care about unsophisticated people". It is time, Mr. Chairman, that in this province of Ontario, we had laws that looked after ordinary, unsophisticated people.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Those are not the words, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Bryden: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, how can the Attorney General speak when he is sitting in the seat of the Provincial Treasurer?

Mr. Singer: He is sitting in the wrong seat. The Attorney General was less than frank this afternoon about the select committee's report.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would point out that the Minister could speak from his former seat with the consent of the House.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I accept the point, Mr. Chairman, and I should like to be good-natured about this, but I cannot allow the hon. member for Downsview to get up and quote the Attorney General and then put words in my mouth which I never said. The words he said were "the Ontario government does not care about the little person"—

Mr. Bryden: That is very true.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I was using—

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Sit down for a while. You have spoken; now let him speak.

Mr. Singer: Are you the Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I do not mind him referring to the 15-page statement, it is factual. But to say that it contained, in the words of the Attorney General, and then to say it as if it were a quote "the government of Ontario does not care about the little people"—that is not very fair of the hon. member for Downsview. I thought he was a more fair member than that.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, if the Attorney General was misled by my remarks I remove the parenthesis. It was my paraphrase of it and I think the Attorney General would be more careful, when he made that report here this afternoon and gave us factually incorrect information about it.

Mr. Chairman: Order! On vote 909.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, may I take this one point further? If the Minister of Highways believes that his appraisers are reputable men, and if he believes that his offers were scrupulous and honourable, then will he table in this House now, the three different appraisals made for the Etobicoke properties on the various properties involved, and let us compare them with the offers which the department made? Finally, let us clear up, once and for all, the procedures involved in this practice. Will the Minister do it, or will he not?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, before we get any further into this, there have been a lot of accusations made about the department not acting properly. At the supper hour, I checked with the property people and they confirm that our property acquisition procedures are strictly in accordance with The Highway Improvement Act and The Expropriation Procedures Act.

There is certainly nothing in any Act that precludes the department from negotiating as an initial effort at settling. The fact is, the department was severely criticized at a time in the past when it did expropriate, as a first step, in acquiring property. Through this experience and with careful consideration of all the factors involved, it has been determined that most owners prefer to make their arrangements with the department before expropriation procedures are initiated. The Act provides that a plan must be filed in order to expropriate land but this does not rule out negotiation before the plan is filed. This is the system we follow.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, now that the Minister has read out what was written for

him, will he answer the questions from the hon. member for Scarborough West using his own words?

Mr. Chairman: Order! The member for Bracondale.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, the Minister well knows that the hon. member for Scarborough West has been a thorn in the side of this government for a long time. Why does the Minister not do his party a favour by answering the question—and I venture to say that in all probability the hon. member for Scarborough West will prostrate himself.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I will genuflect if necessary, but I would like the answers. I think they are reasonable questions—we are discussing this Minister's estimates—we are under the appropriate vote. As part of the estimates we have the right to ask for the tabling of information. What we are asking, is for the information that comes from the three independent appraisals. At least, say you refuse to answer—do not just sit there.

Mr. Chairman, I am willing to give the government the benefit of the doubt but it is impossible to assume anything other than dishonourable motives if we cannot have the figures. If they were scrupulous, and if the Minister feels sure of the integrity of his appraisers and his department, then he will table, in the House, the appraisals made and compare them with the offers made. And he will let us see the procedures. We are quite prepared to be persuaded.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I do not seem to be able to get it across to these people, the procedures that we have followed.

An hon. member: You have not told us.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I have told you. I have told you on various occasions; and I have told you how successful the negotiations have been. As a matter of fact, I think I have said on three occasions that we have had less than one per cent go to the board.

Mr. Bryden: That is not the test.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: But we took this particular system on this case. We took the figures and went over them with our own property people and this is the basis where we arrived at the price we would give the people. This was the offer that we made

with the 10 per cent in addition, which some members say we should not give.

But we gave that, for the purpose as I have outlined before, and this was the basis of the offer that we made. We had the advantage of the information, I suppose from the appraisers, but that went to our property section who are the people that deal in the negotiations.

Mr. Singer: Nobody said that they should not give 10 per cent.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, who is challenging this premise? No one is denying the validity of what the Minister described as the procedure. All we are asking you is to show us the three appraisals and then the figure which the property committee came to, and let us see the basis on which the final figure is arrived at. It is a very simple matter and perhaps finally, in this House, some light can be shed on it.

I have one other minor point, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of government is to deal with the 1 per cent, or the 3 per cent, or the 10 per cent. You do not avoid that kind of issue by confining the difficulties to a small percentage. The test of government is coping with the difficulties, not with those areas which proceed with easy facility. And what we are asking you is the area of difficulty. How are you dealing with it?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister of nothing from Chatham asked a question.

Interjections from hon. members.

Mr. Ben: All right, I will withdraw that. I am not going to get into an argument. The hon. Minister without Portfolio (Mr. McKeough) asked: what is the practice in the city of Toronto?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Deal with vote 909, please.

Mr. Ben: All right. It is on vote 909. I have had dealings with Metro Toronto; not the city of Toronto, but Metro Toronto. I have got appraisals and I have told them what my appraisers found to be the value of this land. The other side did reveal to me their appraisals and I was able to show—"well look, this does not make sense. Now you went on a cost basis. Look, you were in the building business. You know that these figures are wrong; you know that the calculations are wrong." And we were able to settle in his office, because by looking at the appraisal I was able to point out that the calculations were wrong.

If the Minister of Highways would show the appraisals to the other side they could check them, and there is a good possibility that they might agree with maybe 99 per cent of them. I said there was a possibility; I am not saying it can happen. But at least they would know that if the government appraisers—and everybody has presumed that they have the best—ostensibly say this is the best value, they might go along with it. You may not have to negotiate with the Minister, you may not have to go to arbitration. All you have to do is be honest with the people for a change.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I think it is time we really got clearly on the record some of the things we are talking about. We do not accept half statements.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Highways said a few moments ago that some people said we should not give 10 per cent.

Some hon. members: You did.

Mr. Singer: I think the position on this side of the House is abundantly clear. We refer with authority to the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the Drew case which speaks absolutely clearly for itself. We say without reservation, Mr. Chairman, that if there should be a 10 per cent or greater allowance, the people on the Treasury benches have the power to put that in statutory form. And if this is the way it should be done, let them bring the statute before this Legislature.

Very simply, they cannot have it both ways. They cannot do the bribe and the threat. That is point number one.

The second point, Mr. Chairman, is this. The criterion of all but one per cent being settled is no excuse at all. In fact it bolsters the argument that has been advanced by us during the course of this day. Because they take away, Mr. Chairman, the ability to contest when you have a small man who only has a small number of dollars at stake. That is all he has; he has worked hard to build up his equity in his small house. He cannot afford in the absence of government money coming to him to hire lawyers or evaluators to enable him to fight the government giant. And the government uses all of the power at its beck and call to beat this man into the ground.

So that when the Minister says that only one per cent is the ratio that goes to court, I say the Minister is deliberately glossing over the whole problem. Because you do not allow the person who disagrees with you an opportunity to fight you on your own ground. He has not got the money and you do not under-

stand this. You say, big brother knows better. We hide our evaluations. We will not give you money to get your own evaluations. We will not give you money to get your own legal advice, so how can you fight? How can you fight?

If you do not understand, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister and the government does not understand the difficulty that faces the people whose land is taken under force, then they do not understand the people of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: I am sure the member for Downsview will realize that these arguments are becoming repetitive.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would not like to see this matter disposed of without attention being called to the fact that the Minister has not refused to answer, but has merely evaded the question of the hon. member for Scarborough West.

The hon. member for Scarborough West put to him a perfectly straightforward question. He asked if the Minister would be prepared to place on the table of this House the appraisals he has from his experts within the department in the Etobicoke case, along with the offers actually made to the people concerned.

The member for Scarborough West put that question twice. On both occasions the Minister answered another question. Now I recognize, Mr. Chairman, that a Minister is not under any obligation to answer questions. I think he is under an obligation, though, to say he will not answer. I think it is quite inappropriate for him to get up and answer another question. Let him say that he is not answering and if he is conscious of his duties as a public servant he will give his reasons for not answering. But he will not evade the whole issue. This is what has happened here and I think attention should be called to it.

I may say, Mr. Chairman, that the kind of information asked for is the kind of information which in other parliamentary assemblies would be provided as a matter of course if a request were made. As a matter of fact, it is a common procedure in almost all parliamentary assemblies for members to put on the order paper motions for orders for return.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Put it on the order paper.

Mr. Bryden: The practice has fallen into disuse in this House because the government has made a mockery of it. Such motions are never called for debate. In other houses they

are called and the government gets up and says: yes, we will provide the information, or no, we have this reason for not providing it. But this government specializes in secrecy. It will not make information available when it is requested.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: What vote is this on?

Mr. Bryden: We have a perfect example here.

Mr. Chairman: On vote 909, please.

Mr. Bryden: I am on vote 909, Mr. Chairman. I am right on it. I am dealing with a refusal to give information without giving any reasons whatsoever; without even a willingness to face up to the fact that the information is being refused.

I would suggest to the Minister that he might start by being frank with the House. If he has reasons for not giving the information, he should state his reasons. But he should not try to evade the questions put to him, as he has done up until now.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 909 carried?

Mr. Singer: The Minister wants to speak.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might say to the hon. member that I do not want to withhold any information. But I have explained to you what the policy has been, and the results of the department's appraisers are the ones which the people were offered and the other—

Mr. Bryden: Well let us see them, then.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: —the other that I think you are referring to is just the expert, outside information which was made available to our appraisers to try to assist them at arriving at a price. But we have our own appraisers in the department who are quite qualified. But in this case, to try to help us satisfy everybody and do the very best job, we got this outside information. It was supplied to our appraisers and this was the basis on which our appraisers have made the offers which have been given to the people.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, I do not think that anything has shown more than the question which my colleague from Scarborough West put, the inequity of the procedures the government follows in this matter.

Here we have a situation where the Minister states that they made three appraisals; three appraisals in the Sherway develop-

ment, in order to arrive at what they consider to be the figures that they are going to offer. They refused to disclose what the appraisals are. And my colleague from Wentworth East this afternoon tried to explain to the government what took place in the Batchawana band on the Rankin Indian reserve. There were not three appraisals made up there.

If the department wants to suggest to us that they have a consistent policy which they follow in all questions of expropriation, and they want to say to us: "Well, that is fine. It is a consistent policy, we stand on it and this is what we believe in and this is how we are going to do it." All right, we will accept that. But you see, you chop and change, depending on where you are expropriating.

Mr. Knox: Can you tell—

Mr. Renwick: Could we possibly, Mr. Chairman, have a little bit of order from this particular hon. member?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, I would ask the members—order please.

Mr. Renwick: We happen to believe that this is an apparently important matter, apparently the member does not. Up on the Rankin reserve, so far as the Batchawana band is concerned, there were no such appraisals made. There were not three appraisals made. They were not made available. Something over 18 months later, when the member for that district, when the Attorney General realized that this was a problem to him in that area, then we find there was a letter written to the department of Indian affairs about this problem.

I am simply saying to the member, simply saying to the Minister, that he did not really listen—and the House did not really listen—when my colleague from Wentworth East read the summary of events which was presented at the meeting on January 21, because that puts the lie in the Minister's mouth about the three appraisals, and how consistent they are, and how wise they are, in determining what is going to take place. Because in that particular—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, just to correct an item. I did not say any such thing. We were talking about the particular case out here on Highway 27 about the three appraisals. And that is the only one that we talked about.

Mr. Singer: He does not even know where his highways are.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I simply say to the Minister then, what is your procedure? I asked this question this afternoon, you did not answer it. What is your procedure, step by step in expropriation of properties?

How many appraisals do you get?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Most of the appraisals are done by the people in their own department, who are employed in the property section to do it. But as I pointed out, this one particular case out here was where we needed a lot of property, and we took the exception to the rule and handled it the way that I have explained it.

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, all we are asking is if the department has a consistent policy which it believes to be right. I disagree. I disagree with the proposition that the Minister's department is operating within the policy as laid down by this Legislature.

But that is by-the-by. He has read the written statement which indicated that that was quite proper, because his department was not prepared to change their procedures to conform with the new Expropriation Procedures Act. They proceeded to continue on without any change whatsoever, in the procedures which the department followed for many, many years. When the new Act came into effect, they said that is fine, that does not affect us, it may affect every other department that has a power of expropriation, but not us in the game.

And now the Minister tells us that in a particular area of the city, of the metropolitan area, they decide they must have three appraisals. But how did they arrive at this? What is the procedure they follow in each and every case as to what takes place?

Mr. Knox: Why do you not ask the man from Texas?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the Minister knows that in the Batchawana band, negotiations have taken place. Despite what the Attorney General says, and despite what the Minister says, in those particular negotiations, they have failed to recognize that the chief of that band, and his councillors, have a very real responsibility to the rest of the members of the band to negotiate the best possible deal. A year and a half later, some effort is finally made to get an appraisal from the department of Indian affairs.

Now, we cannot leave this question, Mr. Minister. Mr. Chairman, we cannot leave this

question because of the fact that this memorandum of what took place in the two years preceding the meeting on January 21, states, for example, that: "The meeting of August 16, 1966. We were informed our land was worth \$100 per acre by a government appraiser. But he said he would give us \$500 per acre. The Highways Minister, Charles MacNaughton, while in the city in August, made no attempt to reach the council, yet he stated the band wanted 15 to 20 times what the land was worth."

Now, if that is accurate—

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): On a point of order, let us get the record straight. The Highways Minister of the day did no such thing. The Highways Minister of the day approached the solicitor for the band. He never did contact the Indian chief or any Indian on the reserve; he dealt with the solicitor, and it seems to be that is a very fair way to approach the matter.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, if I understand what the hon. Provincial Treasurer, the then Minister of Highways, has just said, it is not responsive to the remark which I made. The chief of the band at the meeting which was held on January 21—

Mr. Knox: Was this the man from Texas?

Mr. Renwick: This is typical of the attitude of the government toward a problem such as this. Mr. Chairman, the Indian band, whether anybody recognizes it or not, the band and its council, as elected in a democratic method, have a responsibility. The Minister has said, the Attorney General has said, in the course of the remarks, "Oh, yes, we were dealing with a new chief".

I would just simply like to make the point that the reason there was a new chief was because of the dissatisfaction within the band as to what had taken place in the preceding time. And the dissatisfaction is not within the Indian band, the dissatisfaction was with this government—because this government, in fact, had presented improper offers to that particular band. And it was as a result of that, that you have a new chief involved in it.

Mr. Chairman, there have been no proper appraisals made—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That is a funny way to get at the government.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Riverdale has the floor.

An hon. member: How in the world would the member know about the chief in Sault Ste. Marie?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, it is obvious that some members spent too much time at the Lieutenant-Governor's reception; I would suggest that if they are not interested in the proceedings, they should retire.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for Riverdale if he would continue.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, this government knows as well as any government does know, that in order to finally expropriate the land of the Rankin Indian Reserve, they must get the approval of the federal Cabinet. They know that. They entered into negotiations over a period of at least 15 or 16 months in advance of the endeavour by the Attorney General, to get the matter back on the rails. The intervention of the Attorney General at that time, on January 21, was because the matter, within the normal procedures of The Department of Highways, had got completely off the rails.

I am asking, as the member for Scarborough West asked the Minister in connection with the Sherway expropriation, what evaluations and appraisals were made on the Rankin Indian reserve as to that property? Who made the appraisals, what were the appraisals and is this statement correct that the government appraiser said that the land was worth \$100 and he was prepared to offer \$500?

Mr. Chairman, it is the same question, a different context—people with even less bargaining position than the people in the Sherway development.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what the member is referring to in the Sherway case, but to get back to the Indian one, no one from the department told them their land was worth \$100 an acre. They were offered \$500 an acre.

Mr. Bryden: Well, it is right in the attorney's letter.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No one from the department told the Indians that, and the point about it is—

Mr. S. Lewis: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. What about Mr. Killer and his conversation with the lawyers to the band?

Mr. Bryden: Was the lawyer lying when he repeated the department's claim that the land was worth only \$100?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Lewis: Let me refresh the Minister's mind, Mr. Chairman. Quoting from the letter from the lawyer to Mrs. Corbiere, third paragraph:

Mr. Killer points out that he did his best to allow the full amount possible to your band and that this amounts to around \$500 per acre and ordinarily they pay around \$100 per acre.

Is that a valid statement?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Our first offer to the Indians was \$500 per acre.

Mr. S. Lewis: Agreed.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: That is right. And then we found out after talking to them, that with access roads and everything they wanted they were going to try and make a development out of it. And in that case, there was a different land use possibility. So this was when the offer was raised to the other figure.

Now the point about it is that The Department of Highways did not want to go through the Indian reservation at all. The consultants on the plan and the department's own people thought that there was another way, and as a matter of fact they had—

Mr. Bryden: Well, why did you not follow it?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Just a minute and I will get around to that.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This was the department's wish, but the people in the city had the idea that the road should go out through the Indian reservation and it was at that time that negotiations were started on the other way.

We have never once tried to force the issue in any way. As a matter of fact, we are sitting waiting for the results of what the Indians find out and we are held up on the work. The city is pushing us to try to get part of the contract done, which would not be satisfactory to us because it is not so large that it should not be done in one contract. But we have never done anything not

to try to cooperate with them and I can say that sincerely.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Highways now informs us that what he is doing is not constructing a highway according to his department, but according to what somebody else wants him to do.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Oh, come on.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Renwick: My understanding is that the department decision was to put the road through that particular reserve and the price which they were going to pay once they made that decision. I am not going to let the department get off the hook on the proposition that they were conferring a benefit on the Indians.

Mr. Bryden: They sure were not.

Mr. Renwick: This was not the game. It was their decision; it was the Minister's decision. If they wanted to enter into some kind of other negotiations—and I say this to the Minister because I am not prepared to accept this kind of hypocrisy from him—I am simply saying to him: if the Minister of Highways and this government wants to say to any Indian band in the province of Ontario, "we think there is a very useful project that we in cooperation could put into effect in the province of Ontario; we want your cooperation to deal with this matter on that kind of a basis", we will be the first ones to withdraw any objection to it.

But what you are saying, for whatever reasons you may want to give—and your words were the people in the city of Sault Ste. Marie, nothing to do with the Indians—is that you decided to put the road through that reserve. Then your obligation—nobody else's obligation—is to deal with the elected representatives of that band in a fair and proper manner. And the record shows quite conclusively that it has not been done.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order!

Mr. Renwick: I know that the Minister of Energy and Resources Management—

Mr. Chairman: No, order, order. I would ask the member to continue please; without interruption, please.

Mr. S. Lewis: Your views are well known.

Mr. Chairman: Without interruption, please.

Mr. Renwick: I am simply saying that if this is what you want to do with that Indian band then it is your job not to start in this way—sending somebody up who makes this kind of a proposition, who puts the Indian band in a position where they retain counsel. My colleague has read the letter into the record of what your representative has said. You go from \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and then the Attorney General interjects himself on January 21, and we now find that the department of Indian affairs is going to defray the cost of one appraisal.

I am saying, did the department make any appraisal of the value of that property, or did they, as is their tradition, simply say, well it is probably worth \$100? It is the same question, Mr. Chairman, as my colleague raised about Sherway Place. It is the same—

Mr. Chairman: I would remind the members to try to avoid repetition, please.

Mr. Renwick: It is not repetition, it is a basic point about expropriation. Now, was there any appraisal made by any qualified person about the value of the land on the Rankin Indian reserve?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Appraisals were made by our own appraisers and as I pointed out this afternoon, in replying to this question before, that if the figure that the solicitor has written there is \$100 an acre, he is only referring to bush land in the area. But the offer by us was \$500 an acre.

As I said before, the closest—

Mr. Gisborn: The purpose of the comment was intimidation in the letter.

Mr. Bryden: It certainly was.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No, this is not right. And I pointed out before that there was land closer to the city of Sault Ste. Marie purchased for \$500 an acre which was similar. And there was some of the best farm land in that area purchased for \$800 an acre. And the same appraiser handled all these things and handled the one with the Indian band, or spoke to the solicitor as you have mentioned in your letter.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I think that the Minister should not be allowed to get away with this explanation.

The solicitor for the Indian band reported to the band that the representative of The Department of Highways had told him that

the department was offering \$500 but that in effect the land was worth only \$100 an acre.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): He did not say that in his letter.

Mr. Bryden: That is what he said.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: Well now, Mr. Chairman, what the letter says—

An hon. member: Is the member sure he did not stay at the Lieutenant-Governor's too long?

Mr. Renwick: What the letter says—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am going to ask you and I do not very often ask you to exert your authority in the House, because this is a matter which is of very significant importance tonight.

Mr. Chairman: I would remind all members of the House that there has been a series of interjections from all parties of the House.

Mr. Bryden: There has been a continuous barrage of totally irrelevant and frivolous interjections which make the carrying on of discussion difficult. And I would suggest that if these hon. gentlemen are not interested in what is going on in the House, they should withdraw.

Mr. Walker: Yes, but the member started it.

Mr. Renwick: For the purposes of assisting my colleague. Mr. Killer pointed out—and this is in the letter from Messrs. Peterson and Peterson, the solicitors for the band—Mr. Killer points out that “he did his best to allow the full amount possible to your band and that this amounts to around \$500 per acre and ordinarily they pay around \$100 per acre.”

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: I am happy to have it right on the record and there it is. I put, to any reasonable person, that what was being suggested here, is that really the Indians were lucky they were not getting only \$100, that the department was making a great effort and being very generous in offering them \$500.

I submit, Mr. Chairman, that that is a totally improper form of pressure to apply, especially to an Indian band which is not familiar with this type of negotiation. In actual fact, the department is apparently now ready to go \$1,000.

They offered \$500, and suggested to the lawyer representing the band that they were being extremely generous and stretching a long way because they would ordinarily pay \$100. I think we have the situation right on the table and the Minister's explanations have not been worth anything. There was an attempt to stampede this Indian band into a settlement at a price much lower than the department was willing to pay. That is obvious from the letter which the band received from its solicitor.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 909 carried?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, since we cannot seem to elicit from the Minister the answers in this field, may I momentarily revert to the Etobicoke property and put it to him this way: Would it be fair to say that the department offered between \$1,000 and \$3,000 less than the appraisals that were made, in the majority of cases, for the homes along the Etobicoke expropriation proposed route? Would it be fair to say that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No, it would not.

Mr. S. Lewis: Well, what would it be fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that they offered between \$1,000 and \$2,000 below the appraised level?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might tell the House, Mr. Chairman, that in some cases they offered more than what our appraisers had valued them at.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, let not the Minister, if I may say so, be so patronizing about “I might tell the House”. If, in fact, the offers were above the appraised level, then let him set the offers before us, because this in fact would surely make his case.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: This has been dealt with.

Mr. Bryden: The trouble is, it has not been dealt with.

Mr. S. Lewis: As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, we have had a kernel of informa-

tion; we have been told that some of the offers were in excess of the appraised value. Now, if that is the case, let us have the appraised values and the offers.

Mr. Chairman: I should remind the members of the House that we discussed this previous to our intermission, most of the afternoon, and again this evening. At this time, I am going to suggest to the members that, unless there is something new to be added, I am going to call for the vote.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I cannot conceive of how a vote can be called when the Minister, in the course of his estimates, has not answered—

Hon. Mr. McKeough: He certainly has.

Mr. Renwick: Now, Mr. Chairman, I put this to the hon. Minister. My colleague, the member for Wentworth East, on the question of the Batchawana band and my colleague, the member for Scarborough West, on the question of the Sherway development, have both asked certain questions. The member for Wentworth East has put before the House, and he read verbatim, the short summary of the past two years, which is on one page and which was presented at a meeting at which the Minister was present, along with the Attorney General. They dispute what has been said in that memorandum.

Now, if they dispute it, I ask them to give their version of the course of events which took place, as distinct from the chief of the band. The chief of the band was not engaged in any game, he was attempting, in a brief, concise way, to say what happened. What happened from the time when the band was first approached on May 19, 1965, until today?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, I will tell the hon. member what happened.

Mr. Renwick: Oh well, that is fine.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: From the point that the original negotiations commenced—and I would reaffirm to the House what the Minister has said—the route for the new road that was approved by The Department of Highways or, I should say, better liked by The Department of Highways, was not through the reserve, but, because of the interest of the municipality, it was decided to attempt to acquire property through the reserve for that purpose.

There was another route selected there, that, from the standpoint of the highways

planners was not considered to be the best route. Now, the negotiations started and were proceeding in a very reasonable and orderly fashion. Reference to the value of \$100 an acre is not specifically to the land that the member makes reference to, or that he speaks about, but land of similar character which had been acquired for that amount of money in the area.

Nevertheless, as the Minister has pointed out, for a variety of reasons—possible dislocation through the reserve property and a variety of other reasons—the offer was made. And I say to you, Mr. Chairman, and I say to the House, negotiations were proceeding in a very reasonable and orderly fashion until the member for Wentworth East went up and fouled it up.

Mr. Bryden: I would like to call a halt to this typical Tory personal character assassination.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: As the Minister well knows, and as the member for Wentworth East explained this afternoon, the chief of the Indian band asked him to be present. I object to that suggestion, Mr. Chairman, that there is something improper about citizens of this province going to a member of the Legislature for help—a member, that is, who does not happen to be a Tory—and that there is something improper about the member giving them such help as he can.

I say that is a totally improper suggestion. You see, we have exposed the raw nerve here—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Stay on vote 909, please.

Mr. Bryden: I am on vote 909.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to ask the members to stop making charges across the floor and stay with the vote.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I am dealing with a specific case of a land negotiation in which the hon. member for Wentworth East was involved. Because he did his duty as a member in that case he was subjected to a totally unwarranted attack by the Provincial Treasurer of this province, and I intend to deal with the Provincial Treasurer. He had no business making that attack but you see we have exposed the raw nerve of the government—

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Bryden: We have exposed it. Whenever an outside party, a person other than one of the Tory family compact becomes involved, they object—

Mr. Chairman: Order please! I would ask the member for Woodbine if he will please stay with the vote.

Mr. Bryden: I am right on the vote. I am dealing with a specific case arising in relation to this vote. Surely, Mr. Chairman, we are entitled to deal with grievances when we are dealing with the estimates and this is what they object to. They bring all their Tory friends—an intimidating array—toward the Indian band.

Mr. Chairman: Yes—that is on the vote.

Mr. Bryden: That is right—that is all I have ever been talking about—and then they object because there is someone there who has some sympathy with the Indian band. They suggest that it was improper for that person to be present; in fact they even go to the extent of suggesting that he was causing trouble. He is causing you fellows trouble and I can tell you that you should be caused trouble. The way you dealt with this Indian band was abominable and you should be ashamed of yourselves for trying to take advantage of people in this way.

I am proud of the member for Wentworth East for having taken the trouble to give these people some moral support. I believe he did not intervene in the negotiations at all but at least he sat there and gave them moral support with the result that the department had to come up with an offer of \$1,000 when previously their offer had been only \$500 and I think he is to be given full credit for that effort.

Mr. Walker: Your leader is not even in the House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Provincial Treasurer is so totally wrong it is not even amusing in the way in which he thinks it is.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You are misleading the House—

Mr. Renwick: What the hon. Provincial Treasurer said to my colleague, the member for Wentworth East, was that everything was going fine until he appeared on the scene.

Mr. Chairman, my colleague from Wentworth East took no part in the discussions at that meeting. He was simply present.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Woodbine explained that before.

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, he did not fully comprehend two items concerning this matter—that at the meeting on August 23, the sale of the land—this was before the member for Wentworth East had ever heard of the problem—was agreed to be put to a vote of all band members at \$1,000 per acre. On November 16, 1966, the vote on the sale of land was turned down by the band members—24 “no” and 5 “yes”.

Now as a result of the visit which the member for Wentworth East paid to that band—and I say to the hon. Provincial Treasurer that the words do not lie in his mouth to say that this member interfered at all with anything other than the way in which this department has operated for so long that it is a shame on the province—the secretary to the band said:

I wish also to take this opportunity to thank you for coming to our last meeting of January 21. You helped us more than you will ever realize and I cannot seem to express my true gratitude for this. If there is any way that we can return this favour we will be only too glad to do so.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the member for Wentworth East did not even say anything at the meeting.

Mr. Chairman, I move that item 4 of vote 909 of the estimates be reduced to \$1 million. The reason I make the motion, Mr. Chairman, is now quite obvious. If this department is not following illegal procedures, it is following totally immoral procedures in the way in which it deals with various sections of the community of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Riverdale has moved that item 4 of vote 909 of the estimates be reduced to \$1 million.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to that motion?

We believe that the expropriation procedures in the province of Ontario are sadly lacking. We believe that there should be very substantial amendment and change so that the ordinary citizen can cope with the might and majesty of government, but we believe as well that the business of the province of Ontario, the public business, has to go on. We could not in justification support the amendment moved by the NDP because, if

it should carry, that would mean that the business of the province of Ontario must grind to a halt.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, there is, of course, nothing in this argument whatever. This is a traditional device in parliamentary assemblies by which members and groups express their lack of confidence in a particular policy followed by the government.

We propose to reduce the vote by \$14 million to show our lack of confidence in the way the policy has been carried out. We do not eliminate the vote because we realize that money is required for the purpose and of course it is quite possible for the government to carry on as long as it has some money in the vote. This is a traditional and age-old device for expressing lack of confidence. It would not, even if this were carried, and I do not expect it will be, but even if it were, it would not interfere with the ability of the government to acquire property in what we would think would be the proper way. It would, however, be an expression of opinion on the part of this House that it should change its methods in the acquisition of property.

Now I was of the opinion that the Liberal group believed that the method should be changed and the vote here will be precisely on that question.

Mr. Chairman, on any sort of traditional procedure those who believe the procedures should be changed will vote in favour of the motion, those who believe that the procedures are satisfactory as they are, will vote against it. That is surely the way that this is always done. But you will still have money in the vote, you will still be able to carry on with the acquisition of land even if this covers.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The member for Sudbury.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Chairman, I feel somewhat like Leslie Frost tonight. He used to come in here and say, "perhaps somebody could pour oil on troubled waters". I wish I had his parliamentary genius to be able to do that. We in this group utterly reject the proposition—that distorted, convoluted reasoning that has just emitted from the member for Woodbine. The parliamentary process does not work in the way he would have us believe—this distortion of the constitution. I would say to you, sir, in this private quarrel and vendetta that has been waging here for the last three quarters of an hour between the government and this group here, I would suggest to him that if he

does not like the way the Minister of Highways manages and conducts his department as a responsible Minister of the Crown, then the ultimate satisfaction of the political process is for him to go out on the hustings and tell the people that, and they in their wisdom will deal with him at the appropriate time.

The way to do it is not to try to interfere with the business of government by depriving the executive council of funds to carry out their responsibilities, and I have no doubt that in this note there is provision for funds that will be legitimately and responsibly spent—I hope—in conducting the public business of Ontario in the realm of highways. That is precisely why we in this group could not support the motion that is proffered by the hon. member for Riverdale.

I have taken no part in this private war, but I want to say this, that in my humble opinion—and I put it to you, sir—I thought the charge levelled by the Provincial Treasurer toward an hon. member of this House reached almost the ultimate in parliamentary degradation.

He accused that member not only of having improper motives, but if I understood what he said, he accused the member of being motivated improperly to go into an area and deliberately interfere with the conduct of public business. This member I take it—if he were so moved—could have that charge removed to the committee on privileges and elections and let the Provincial Treasurer proffer his evidence there.

But I leave it at this, that having been drawn to the attention of the Provincial Treasurer, I would think that the qualities of a gentleman that normally attend him would impel him to get up and unreservedly withdraw the charge he has made against the hon. member. It is not my function, sir, to protect a member, but I do have a high concern and a very real and sincere concern about the dignity of the parliamentary process. It has departed from the norm tonight, I would say, but I judge no person in the House for that because on the eve of an election I can understand that tempers will become a bit edgy.

Now for those reasons, and since we have been talking about Indians a great deal, I was reminded of the words of Longfellow's Hiawatha when he said:

I am weary of your quarrels; Weary of your prayers for vengeance. Therefore be at peace thenceforward, and As brothers live together.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say before the vote is taken that we are happy to have the members for Sudbury and Downsview put the issue quite squarely. Those who are in favour of the government in this vote will vote with the government; those who are opposed to it and do not have confidence in it will vote against it, and so—

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Bryden: —I just want to make that clear.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say on behalf of the members on this side of the House, that we agree with the assessment of both of these parties of each other.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

All those in favour of the motion will please say “aye.”

All those opposed will please say “nay.”

I declare the motion lost.

Call in the members.

All those in favour of the motion will please rise.

All those opposed to the motion will please rise.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Chairman, the “ayes” are 5, the “nays”, 54.

Mr. Chairman: I declare the motion lost.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, before we leave vote 909—

Mr. Chairman: We have already moved on section 4 of vote 909.

Mr. Bryden: That is disposed of, but the rest of the vote is still open.

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. The hon. member for Riverdale.

Mr. Renwick: On vote 909, I would draw the attention of the Minister to the presentation which is made in the public accounts of this—

Mr. Chairman: We have just disposed of, under your motion, item 4 of vote 909.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, my understanding was that that covered item 4 of the vote.

Mr. Chairman: That is right.

Mr. Renwick: Does that leave the vote open, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: That is the last vote on item 4. I would assume that the item is carried; it is the last item under that vote.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that it did not, in fact, carry the vote.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Renwick: Is that the end of it?

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, we were not following a sequence here as far as I know and it seems to me that items 1, 2 and 3 are still open.

Some hon. members: No, no.

Mr. Bryden: They certainly are. Item 4 is clearly disposed of and a member, I would concede, would have to show that what he is talking about relates directly to items 1, 2 and 3.

Mr. Chairman: Order please. I would agree with the statement made by the member for Woodbine that we have disposed of item 4. Now any other new material that you have may, under items 1, 2 and 3, be properly before this House.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Chairman, was the motion of the hon. member for Riverdale not directed toward this entire vote, to reduce this entire vote to \$1 million?

Mr. Chairman: On your point of order, sir, I would say that the motion was not applied to the entire vote, but only to item 4.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Again, Mr. Chairman, further to this point of order: Did his motion not say that vote 909 be reduced to \$1 million?

Mr. Chairman: No, the motion said item number 4; the motion was in connection with item 4 only.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the matter which I now raise—very briefly—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Chairman, I want to make two points here; first of all, I have never known in eight years a vote of this nature which did not dispose

of the vote in total, and that is point number one.

Point number two, it has been the custom here to take items in sequence under the vote. Therefore, if item 4, under vote 909, passed, I suggest that vote 909 has passed completely.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Chairman: I would say to the hon. members in connection with the point of order raised, that if the whole section before this was voted on and reduced, then the whole section would pass and the vote would carry. Now I would remind you what the motion was:

Mr. Renwick moves that item 4 of vote 909 of the estimates be reduced to \$1 million.

Now that was it; that was the only motion that was before the House.

Hon. Mr. Crossman: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member made the other point—which you have not dealt with, sir.

Last year, if my memory serves me correctly, you ruled that we take the items in the order in which they appear. After item 1 is disposed of, we are finished with it; after item 2 is disposed of, we are finished with it. Now we have reached item 4 and have disposed of it, and I contend, sir, that the vote is passed.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to speak on the point of order.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): On the point of order, sir, may I point out to you that there is only one vote before you and that is vote 909. My submission to you, sir, is that any amendment—no matter what it is—is in respect of that particular single vote. If that motion is lost, then the vote as a whole must carry, because there is only the one vote before you.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Bryden: This is something new these fellows have dreamed up and it is not supported by any authority at all in the rules.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I would like to speak to the second part that was introduced on the point of order. Now it is true that last year when we discussed estimates that were before us, we dealt with them item by item and section by section. But when

there were few items under each vote we did not follow the sequence necessarily. Tonight, so far, we have not followed the sequence, and the only motion that is before us is dealing with item 4.

If it is the wish of the members of this House to follow a separate sequence from one down to 42, whatever it may be, we can do so. But the motion before us was on one section of the vote, and in fairness to the hon. members I must say that the only motion before us was on item 4.

Mr. Sopha: Well we in the official Opposition want to get on with the business of the House. Now could you kindly, Mr. Chairman, expedite the resolution of this?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the matter which I would like to draw to the attention of the Minister is the presentation of this vote under the public accounts when the time comes to make the presentation for this year.

An hon. member: Why not do it then?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I draw to the attention of the Minister that in the public accounts for the fiscal year ended on March 31, 1966, on pages 810 and 811 you find the items grouped together in alphabetical order of property for rights of way, damages, and so on. You find under (a) a long list of names with a totally undifferentiated method of presentation. You find, for example, that various law firms received various amounts of money. You find various companies received various amount of money. There is nothing in the public accounts in the presentation of this department which would assist in any way any person understanding in what areas of the province, or what municipalities the expropriations or the purchases took place.

You find no differentiation between whether property itself has been expropriated or whether these are payments made because of injurious effect of property. You have no indication whatsoever whether certain payments are made totally unrelated to the actual payments for the property expropriated.

Now it would appear to me, Mr. Chairman, and I suggest this to the Minister, that a considerable amount of thought could be given to the presentation of this information about properties which have been purchased under this vote.

Hon. Mr. Crossman: Mr. Chairman, what item are we on now?

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Chairman, I believe the member is still on vote 909, item 4.

Mr. Chairman: I have something to ask the Minister in connection with this particular point.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I still think that is item 4, because it has to do with expropriation and what is paid for lands.

Mr. Chairman: Well, if it is on item 4, I would rule it out of order.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, if I may just speak before you make that ruling, the heading of the vote is property—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would say to the member that if he is dealing with item 4 he is out of order.

Mr. Renwick: I would suggest I am not dealing with item 4, I am dealing with the vote 909 on which the heading is "property purchase and related services".

Mr. Chairman: I have ruled that it is out of order.

Vote 909 agreed to.

On vote 910:

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I understand that it is your ruling that we would be discussing the question of highway safety under vote 910.

Mr. Chairman: Research on safety.

Mr. Ben: Research on safety, yes!

Now Mr. Chairman—

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): Is that in Transport?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, it was pointed out last year that great sums of money were being expended in the Metropolitan Toronto area to improve safety of the highways in this area—specifically the expressways—a portion of which—50 per cent—this government paid. It was pointed out last year that although these were expressways, there were no guard rails in many stretches of these roads separating the different lanes of traffic going the opposite direction.

The coroner for the city of Toronto, Dr. Shulman, stated that many of the accidents that had occurred on the Frederick Gardiner expressway and on the Don Valley parkway could have been either avoided or the severity of the accidents reduced had there been proper safety features incorporated in these highways. It subsequently came to light that

when originally designed the Don Valley parkway had provisions for guard rails in the median strip but they had been taken out or omitted from the original design in order to save money—that is to cut down on the cost of this particular stretch.

Subsequently, along the Frederick Gardiner, running from a point just east of Jameson Avenue all the way to—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, might I point out to the hon. member that this is out of order. This is Metro and we dealt with that. We do not pay any subsidy to Metro on this vote.

Mr. Chairman: I was listening to what the member was going to draw out and I have not found out yet where it applies from the standpoint of research or safety devices.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, when this issue was raised, that is the lack of guard rails on these highways, the statement that was given was that the department was following the practice established elsewhere.

Now this department has a safety research section. Therefore, since it pays half the cost of these highways and it does have a research section, and I presume that the plans for these superhighways come to The Department of Highways for approval, why does The Department of Highways not insist that these safety features be incorporated into these highways *ab initio*?

Also, I would ask how much it cost in lives because there were no guard rails along the Frederick Gardiner and the Don Valley expressways? And how much did it cost in money to start putting in these guard rails all along the Frederick Gardiner expressway? Would the Minister answer those two questions before I proceed?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, we would not have the answers to that here, but we will get it for the hon. member. This is Metro and we do not have their figures here.

Mr. Ben: Well do the different municipalities in the province which have expressways within their boundaries not submit their plans to The Department of Highways for its approval?

Mr. Edwards: You know that without asking.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I might say that these are autonomous organizations and any research that we have is available to these other bodies. We only check to see that the funds are being used properly.

Mr. Ben: Am I to understand, Mr. Chairman, that The Department of Highways does not approve the engineering details or design of these super expressways?

Mr. Edwards: They pay for part of them.

Mr. Sopha: What is with you?

Mr. Edwards: Okay, you cannot say too much!

Mr. Bryden: Say it in French.

Mr. Edwards: I do not have to here.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The safety feature is up to the municipality putting them in, but we check to see that the dollar value is going into them.

Mr. Ben: Has the department ever demanded that certain safety features be incorporated, sir, in these superhighways being constructed within metropolitan areas, not just in Metropolitan Toronto but within metropolitan areas?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We suggest but we do not insist.

Mr. Ben: Did the Minister suggest then, Mr. Chairman, that guard rails be incorporated in the design of the Frederick Gardiner and the Don Valley expressway?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No.

Mr. Ben: Is the government going to insist that henceforth guard rails be incorporated as part of the construction of all expressways?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis: On the same point, Mr. Chairman: What does your research show, Mr. Minister, about the guard rail?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: As soon as I have a chance, Mr. Chairman, I have a statement that I would like to give about that.

Mr. S. Lewis: Well, Mr. Chairman, his opportunity exists. Let him rise.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The safety of road users is one of the primary considerations of The Department of Highways. At all stages of the design, construction and operation of the highways system, engineers are striving to ensure that the latest safety concepts and devices are used.

Close attention is paid to developments in the safety field in other countries and the department is also actively engaged in research and development work aimed at improving safety on the road. One example of the results of such development work is the introduction in expressways of uniform non-glare illumination. As a result of an exhaustive study of development work on the barrier systems, carried out in California, New York and the United Kingdom, medium barriers and protective barrier systems have been introduced on expressways which are proving very effective in eliminating cross medium accidents and impacts with bridge abutments and piers.

An investigation is now being conducted to devise improved guard rails for rural highways. The skid resistance of highway surfaces is of special importance, with today's high speed travel, and equipment has been constructed which will permit an evaluation to be made this summer of highway surfaces throughout Ontario. The purpose of this evaluation is to pinpoint any locations or surfacing materials associated with inferior skid resistance, so that measures can be taken to correct any deficiencies. Efforts are constantly being made to develop more durable paints so that better lane markings and edge markings can be provided to guide the driver at night and under adverse conditions during the day.

The legibility and the actual messages on signs have been improved to make it easier for the driver to use the roads of the province. These are some of the aspects of road safety that have been given special attention by the department's engineers. Many others have been studied in the course of design changes which are constantly being made. Among these design changes the following may be included:

- (1) Provision of roads with adequate traffic capacity and with improved geometrics at intersections and interchanges.
- (2) The use of singing medians on four lane arterial roads.
- (3) Improved shoulder and back slope design to eliminate steep slopes and obstacles to runaway vehicles.

Mr. Ben: There was just a word there—was that word "singing"?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Singing—da, da, da, da. Yes.

Mr. S. Lewis: Can the Minister approximate the tune for us?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: No. I cannot. Mr. Chairman for the edification of those members who do not understand what singing medians are, might I tell them? It is a three to four-foot width of ribbed pavement to warn drivers when they all are getting too close to the wrong side of the road.

(4) Adoption of uniform design standards.

In a brief statement of this type it is not possible to mention all the things that are being done in the interests of road safety but I hope it will be evident that the department's engineers are doing all they can to make the roads of this province as safe as possible.

Now, Mr. Chairman, several days ago, the hon. member for Yorkview (Mr. Young) brought me a brochure from the road research laboratory at Crowthorne, Berkshire, England. I might say that both the Deputy Minister and Mr. Walter and a number of other department officials have had extended visits at this installation and have held meetings with its top officials both in England and when they visited in Canada.

As a matter of fact, our director of research, Mr. Armstrong, worked there for a number of years before coming with our department under the director of Crowthorne, Sir John Glanville. As a result of this we maintain a full exchange of research material. We have visited and made contacts with the officials of a similar type of installation operated by the state of California, near Sacramento, and here again we maintain an interchange of ideas, particularly of late, in guard rail design.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Kent East.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister a question in regard to the highway road needs study which your department had carried out a year or two ago. A report was presented and during the last session a number of members from southwestern Ontario were invited to visit Downsview office where we saw a film which showed some of the recommendations of this report, and which recommended handing back portions of provincial highways to the county. Also, as I understood, you insisted—or your department of a year or two ago insisted—that the counties carry out a county road needs study.

The county of Kent, in which I live, had a firm carry out this county road needs study and I might say that when they presented their report to county council—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, might I point out that this vote has nothing to do with the county road needs study and we discussed that fully under another one.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, I believe this is research.

Mr. Chairman: All right, go ahead. It covers a lot of ground.

Mr. Spence: However, when the firm that carried out this needs study of county roads—the county council threw out the report and recommended no action be taken on it. The county road needs study recommended handing back portions of provincial highways that had been in the provincial highways system for years.

Many people in my riding resent them handing back any provincial highways—what are your plans as Minister of Highways in regards to these recommendations that were presented to you by this county road needs study?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I want to point out again that we answered all the questions in this matter and this vote has nothing to do with that.

Mr. Spence: Have these questions been answered in other votes formerly?

Mr. Chairman: I have not been the Chairman all through, so I am not completely aware of it, but if they have been, then you are out of order.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, then I will look up *Hansard* and see if my questions have been answered.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: We would agree that if you have not received the answers to the questions which you intended to ask that you should ask them in the ordinary way.

Mr. Spence: Oh! All right.

Mr. Singer: Surely my colleague from Kent East is entitled, logically under the heading of research and sundry study engineering services, to ask questions about research? Now the Minister says it has been covered somewhere else. My friend did not ask these questions somewhere else and I do not recall—I have been here through most of these estimates—I do not recall them having been asked. It is a proper question. It involves research and I think the Minister should either answer it or not answer it. It is up to him.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: These matters, sir, have been discussed very thoroughly under vote 908.

Mr. Chairman: Planning and design—I would think they would be.

Mr. Singer: No, Mr. Chairman, this is a research study that my friend refers to.

Mr. Chairman: No, I would think this is planning and design because consultants' fees and all that sort of thing was what the member was talking about.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, is the government trying to avoid the issue? My friend asked a legitimate question about—

Mr. Chairman: We are not going over the vote over and over again.

Mr. Singer: No. But this has not been raised.

Mr. Chairman: I would rule that this has already been dealt with. I am ruling that it has already been dealt with.

On vote 910:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, proceeding on another matter under this vote, I would like to ask the Minister what study his department has given to the problem of level crossings and if it has considered any plan for the gradual elimination of those hazards—I think everyone will agree that they are hazards. Not all of them are on roads which are under the jurisdiction of the Minister, but a great many of them are, and the information I have simply from reading the press, I agree that is my only source, is that the number of them is increasing in the province. I wonder if the Minister could give us any information about this problem and about any plans the department may have to cope with it.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I cannot give you the answer as to all the crossings in the province, but the ones on King's highways are decreasing and I happen to have asked the question the other day in regard to our system, where GO-transit is going to run. I am informed that all the crossings are protected on that. It is the same with the high-speed trains that are going from Toronto to Montreal. But I cannot give the figures as to the other roads.

Mr. Bryden: What does the Minister mean by "protected", that there is a grade separation between the road traffic and the rail traffic?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: There are wig-wags or flashing signals.

Mr. Bryden: That, of course, is not by any means complete protection, Mr. Chairman. We know of a very unfortunate occurrence in Quebec province where a crossing was protected in that way but apparently someone tampered with the equipment and there was an extremely serious accident. What I am ultimately concerned with is the elimination of these crossings altogether by a system of grade separations. I believe that the federal government or its agencies can be charged with most of the cost of eliminating a level crossing.

I think the railways are charged with a certain percentage and the federal government is charged with most of it, provided that the board of transport commissioners, or whatever it is now called, approves of the plan. With this possibility of getting a large amount of federal money for the purpose, I would hope that we would not only have protective devices, which certainly are desirable, but would get rid of these level crossings altogether.

With respect to the GO-transit, I may say, Mr. Chairman, that the tracks along the lakeshore have for a long time not only been a hazard up to a point, but they have been a terrible nuisance to motorists. I can remember myself on occasions on Lorne Park road, waiting for 10 to 15 minutes while trains went by. I do not know if that situation—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Our trains will not be that slow.

Mr. Bryden: No, but the railways have other trains that are. In fact I think they even have people who play games of shunting back and forth across the crossing. I do not know, but it is not only a hazard in congested areas it is a terrible nuisance to motorists.

Mr. D. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Chairman, under these research projects, I would like to determine from the Minister if the economic development of an area is taken into consideration when research is done for an area in the eventual planning of a highway. I would like to relate this, not in particular to the proposed causeway across Lake Erie, I realize the Minister and the Provincial Treasurer had discussions with the governor of Ohio who, it was indicated, was doing research into this problem. I am concerned with the southern counties and would ask the Minister if any research studies are being undertaken or will be undertaken by the department to determine

whether the Ambassador bridge and Detroit-Windsor tunnel are going to be adequate in a number of years hence.

This question has been raised in the area and it has been suggested that an alternate crossing into this heartland of the United States may have to be built. It has come to my attention this past week, and this suggestion has been mooted for a number of years, that a bridge further down the Detroit River near Amherstburg, Ontario, be erected. Just in the past few days a committee has been appointed which is going to approach the Minister with this question, to see whether either private enterprise or the department would be interested in the erection of a bridge and causeway crossing in this area to provide access into Ohio, the southern parts of Michigan and the central United States. I just wondered if the department has undertaken or will undertake any studies as to the economic effect of this new route and an eventual tie-in with Highway 401.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The answer to that is "yes". We are going to undertake that. When the governor of Ohio was up here we certainly promised him no money, and we told him very plainly that we had no money to spend on that, we had other priorities which were much advanced.

But they want the information which we have from studies made in the area to which the member referred. This particular vote is responsible for carrying out research in engineering problems, coordinating all research activities of the department and projects assigned to universities under a joint highway research programme. It is responsible for carrying out quality control work pertaining to construction and maintenance of highways, for preparation of economical designs based on materials available, for material sampling and testing. This is more the type of research involved in this rather than just the study to which the member refers. We are constantly reviewing the studies of the highways in the area.

Mr. Paterson: But the department does take into account the economic development of an area in its research policies? Is this correct, or are these factors completely disregarded?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We get all the figures on land use and all that type of thing from The Department of Municipal Affairs and then we can tie ours in.

Mr. Paterson: But there is no specific study of the impact on the economy of an area from the introduction of a super-highway or

new highway into a portion of our province? Is this under The Department of Economics and Development?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is all under one feasibility study for these various departments.

Mr. Paterson: Well, when this delegation does approach the hon. Minister, from the municipality of Amherstburg, to discuss the extension southward of Highway 401 through this municipality and on into the southern part of Michigan as a bypass of Detroit, this will be given some consideration by the department?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: The member can be sure that the delegation will get the most courteous reception. If it is not a problem we can help them with in Highways, we will direct them to the right place.

Mr. Paterson: If it does not, I will come and take that tie back.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): This may not be the place to bring this up, but there has been so much stick-handling on the part of the government to avoid answering questions they do not want to answer, I want to pay tribute to the Deputy Speaker in the fair way he tries to give us a break over here. So just to protect myself, I have a question I wanted to bring out as far as the "Go-Go" business is concerned but I was told by the Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Order: We will let you go on in the next vote.

Mr. Sargent: No sir, just a moment. In my talk yesterday I was told by the chair that—and it is in *Hansard*—

I would say to the member that if you think there should be some studies made, or research made, for some areas insofar as dividing moneys that were spent on Go-Go in Toronto, you must bring this up under the research vote.

This is what I am doing now, sir.

I am taking instruction from the chair. It says in *Hansard* I was to bring this matter up, the fair apportionment of moneys spent on Go-Go, Mr. Chairman, which means to give the rest of Ontario the same deal. The chair ruled I was to bring this up under research, this vote. And I am following the order of the chair. Now if you will check *Hansard*, you will find this.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to give you another order.

Mr. Sargent: Well I know you will.

Mr. Chairman: The next one is the Go-Go one—

Mr. Sargent: Well can I talk of research and study under Go-Go then?

Mr. Chairman: The transit system does not come under vote 910.

Mr. Sargent: I think the Chairman is 100 per cent right. Who am I to believe? The Chairman or do I believe the Deputy Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: I will let you speak on 911 as long as you like.

Mr. Sargent: Oh you are great, all right. Vote 910 agreed to.

On vote 911:

Mr. Chairman: Now, away you go.

Mr. Sargent: You know what the French translation of "Go-Go" is; it means "queer". So you are a Go-Go government. I understand it is "fi-fi"; and "fi-fi" is queer; so this Go-Go government is a queer government.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: This will not take too long. All I want to get across is the point that you want to be completely fair. And I know this government wants to be fair insofar as it will serve their needs.

The nub of the problem is that you have spent \$7.5 million in capital on the Go-Go operation, which we have proven I think was a real balloon. The then Minister of Highways thought he would spend public moneys instead of going to the CNR to have them use their great capital to do this. He goes to the people of Ontario to—as I have mentioned before—to protect downtown Toronto real estate. So we in effect spend \$4 per head, about \$7.5 million; or in the city of Metro Toronto we spend about \$4 per head of Ontario money to give to the people of the Metro area.

So I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the House, that to be completely fair and follow through what the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) said he would do, give the same apportionment to the rest of Ontario, that this would amount to Owen Sound getting a cash sum of \$75,000 for their transportation losses, Hamilton \$1 million, the city of London \$1 million, St. Thomas \$100,000 and Guelph I guess about \$200,000. The Minister of Muni-

cipal Affairs would give Timmins about \$200,000.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Oh come on. Let us be reasonable.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister of Municipal Affairs is a very fair man. I have known him all my life and he must realize that we have taken the money from the city of Timmins, which you have not got, Mr. Minister, to give the golden horseshoe this mobility of people in their rapid transit. You have given Timmins' money to do this. Now, for you to go back to your people and say now this was right to give them this without giving to Timmins, I do not think you would tell them that. In fact, you would evade this issue.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: You are not suggesting I am dishonest, are you?

Mr. Sargent: It would give the hon. Minister of Mines in Fort William up there about \$500,000 to do the same job.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines). Go down and talk to the dominion government—

Mr. Sargent: I am talking about Go-Go, sir. So you have in effect, Mr. Chairman, given the people of Toronto \$7.5 million in cash, \$2 million in perpetuity for maintenance—that is how your bill read, you would not even know that, in perpetuity. And in the bill you said you would give \$1.5 million, now you have got it \$2 million this year. We have got another half million dollars we did not even know about. And for the hon. Provincial Treasurer as smug and arrogant as he can be—

Some hon. members: Now, now.

Mr. Sargent: —he has not got the intestinal fortitude to get up and say that he would like to see the rest of the province get like treatment. So he sits there and he smirks, and he has not got the intestinal fortitude to say what is fair. So I suggest to you that he have the courtesy to stand up and say what is fair then.

I would suggest then, Mr. Chairman, that the government—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Sargent: I am not in any hurry, Mr. Chairman. I would like then—I know the hour is late—I would like to ask the Minister of Highways if he has any plans to do any research to pay the transportation losses for —this is not their department, I guess they

have forgotten Go-Go anyway—but does the Minister have any plans to pay the transportation losses in other jurisdictions in this province, sir, or are we just going to look after Toronto? What is the answer?

Mr. Bryden: Toronto is not being looked after.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I think I fully explained the answer yesterday and I really think the member knows that this is an experiment. As I told him yesterday, just as he would do in business, we took the area which would be most likely to succeed and if this thing works out, certainly it is going to be explored and extended further, whether it is in this way or some other way. You can be sure of that. This is the way we want to start.

Mr. Sargent: When?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Once we get some results from this.

Mr. Sargent: I do not mind at all if it is repetition. I am talking for the rest of this province.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You do not like Toronto.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on vote 911, I understand from companies in my riding of Riverdale that representations have been made for a station to be located on the GO-transit system at De Grassi and Queen Street East, where the line cuts across on a north-easterly direction directly over Queen Street. There is at present an old CNR station at De Grassi Street which could very well be used for this purpose.

My understanding is the representations which have been made would indicate that from that area, from Lever Brothers plant and other plants in that area, that GO-transit would provide a very valuable service in bringing people to the location where they work and disbursing them from that area. I would ask the Minister whether he has received these representations, whether they have been given consideration and whether it is intended to locate a station on the GO-transit route at the De Grassi Street station, which would be about one-third of the distance between union station and the Danforth station?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: To my knowledge we have had no representations from there, but our advice from the CNR, who own the track, was that it was not feasible to put a station there and we also feel that the TTC can service that area.

Mr. Bryden: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that this could conceivably be re-examined. I understand there is a real problem with a train of this kind that when you stop it you increase cost. It is an expensive business to stop and start it up again. On the other hand, I think the fact that has to be considered is that a large number of the people coming in from suburban areas actually work in the immediate neighbourhood of the old CNR station that the hon. member was talking about.

Those people are not going to go down to union station, take the subway up to Queen and then the Queen car back out there. If the train stopped right in the immediate vicinity of where they work, they could probably be induced to take GO-transit, but if they have to go all the way down to union, they are going to continue to take their cars in. This I think is the other side of the problem. I do not have any figures, I have certainly conducted no surveys on the matter, but I suspect there are a large number of people involved. If it was possible at all to encourage them to take GO-transit, it would be helpful in relieving the congestion on streets and highways.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is an operational problem, but you can be sure that when we get in operation, we will look at these things.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, to illustrate that there is more than a grain of substance and credibility in what my hon. friend from Grey North says, I should like to ask as an indication of the interest shown by this government in transportation problems in other areas of the province, what representations were made to the board of transport commissioners by the former Minister of Highways, by the Minister of Mines, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, by the Attorney General, by this present Minister, in opposition to the Canadian Pacific Railway taking off the Dominion?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: This has nothing to do with GO-transit.

Mr. Sopha: What representations were made in aid of those municipalities and their transportation problems?

You see how it meets with complete silence? Not a syllable of protest was made about the taking off of that train. This cuts the raw nerves.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: This is out of order. Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. This matter raised by the hon. member for Sudbury is completely out of order in vote 911.

This vote has reference to acquisition of land, and so on, for GO-transit. What does the CPR have to do with that?

Mr. Sopha: Well, I understand this has to do with railways. Let me speak to the point of order.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: It does not.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Mr. Sopha: I understand this has to do with railway transportation.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: It is a specific item.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, railway transportation.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: No, no, no.

Mr. Sopha: Well, what is it going to be—helicopter? Is it going to be a helicopter? A flying saucer, perhaps? Submarine?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Sopha: You see how that met with silence?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, speaking to this—rapid transit, if the Minister of Highways will pardon me I will direct my question to the hon. Provincial Treasurer. Insofar as the bill we put through on this GO-transit commuter system is concerned, we established the fact that he had travelled at great length with his people in the United States to find the track record of other rapid transit systems in various cities—San Francisco and the Boston areas you were probably in.

We established the last time I was speaking on this the fact that you agreed that you knew that the capital cost was charged against the real estate affected by the rapid transit system and the abutting real estate paid the whole cost for it. In other words, we do know that this is a matter you found out on this junket of yours and the fact was that the parallel was laid that we would have a 55-storey Toronto-Dominion bank down here which is vertical transportation, and unless they can get the people up to that building in elevators, the building is no good.

So, vertical transportation is the same as horizontal transportation, bringing people down to these buildings makes them have their worth and so the essence of this is that people who benefit by it should be paying for it as they are in other jurisdictions.

I asked you this the other night, if this is not what you found, and you agreed that

this was the way that the capital cost was paid—they were charged to the real estate affected by it. So downtown Metropolitan Toronto should pay the whole capital cost because you are going to drag people down there to give those buildings their worth, and the—

Mr. Chairman: Order: The member for Grey North—if my memory serves me rightly, I have heard this same speech on the same thing five times now—

Mr. Sargent: You will probably hear it another five times!

Mr. Chairman: —and I would rule that we are not going to have repetition upon repetition—

Mr. Sargent: I have a question that I want to ask the Provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Chairman: The Provincial Treasurer? It is the Minister of Highways who has to answer, not the Provincial Treasurer.

Mr. Sargent: All right, I will ask the Minister of Highways. It is established, then, that other areas get their capital by the real estate affected by it. The Minister agrees that this is right; will he answer why he does not give the same treatment to this system?

Mr. Chairman: The member asked the question and it has been answered.

Mr. Sargent: I want an answer!

Mr. Chairman: Will the member please take notice?

Mr. Sargent: What kind of a kangaroo court is this? I asked a question and I want the answer.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has already said no. Carry on.

Mr. Sargent: I am sorry; I must apologize to the Minister.

I want to know, Mr. Chairman, if the travels and the studies made by the people—the consultants—found out that the charges in other areas were charged against the real estate affected. If so, why is the same treatment not given to Ontario? I want to know that.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Well, the research found out they were not charged to real estate like that.

Mr. Sargent: That is completely wrong.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Sargent: And the Minister said that the night before last in the House.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: On another point of order, Mr. Chairman. No such statement was ever made. I think if the hon. member will read *Hansard* this year and last year, he will find that he is mistaken.

Mr. Sopha: Might I ask a question, please?

Do I understand that this item is for an investigation into—

Mr. Chairman: No; it is vote 911 we are on.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is only for the acquisition of land, construction of stations and purchase of equipment for GO-transit.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask this question: What about the moneys proposed to be spent by this government to attempt to clear up the chaos of the bus situation in Sudbury? What about the moneys provided for that?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: There is no vote here for that; this is only for the GO-transit capital cost.

Mr. Sopha: This is only for the metropolitan area of the southern fringe of this province, is it?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: This is for GO-transit.

Mr. Sopha: So there is a bankruptcy of money for studying transportation problems in other urban centres.

Some hon. members: Out of order.

Mr. Sopha: What is out of order about that?

May I ask the hon. Minister this: Has the Minister of Municipal Affairs at any time, when you are perhaps having a kaffee-klatsch or something, informed you about the chaos in bus transportation in the city of Sudbury? Now that is a perfectly proper question.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Mr. Chairman, a point of order—

Mr. Chairman: Point of order.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, this strikes the wrong nerve.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Surely, if this question was in order it would have been under vote 908; it has nothing to do with 911.

Mr. Sopha: Is it not proper to ask when they are spending \$1.6 million on Metropolitan Toronto what studies are being made into bus transportation in the city of Sudbury?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: I must say, what a cavalier manner in which this new Minister of Highways treats this House when a perfectly reasonable question—

Mr. Chairman: Order. The Minister is going to answer—

Mr. Sopha: I hope!

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is certainly plain, Mr. Chairman, that this is capital for GO-transit. There is \$1 million set out for the purchase of equipment, and \$600,000 for the acquisition of land, the construction of stations and the signal systems.

Mr. Sopha: Well, how about some GO-transit for Sudbury? Why, the people are not even served with a proper bus system to take them to and from their work.

Mr. Chairman: May I remind the member for Sudbury that this has nothing to do with Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: I will take his reply back to my people. I understand that there is no money available for the study of the grievous problems in that community.

Mr. Chairman: Not out of this vote.

Mr. Sopha: I have not had an answer as to whether the Minister of Municipal Affairs has told the Minister about our problems.

Mr. Chairman: I am sorry, you are out of order.

Mr. Sopha: Every time somebody raises something of importance here, he is out of order. Out of order every time!

If you stand around this House talking about the beauties of Lanark county as a place for retirement, you are in order, but if you raise something that is really important to the people, you are out of order.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Out of order!

Mr. Sopha: I am just asking a reasonable question.

Mr. Chairman: Order. The member for Sudbury is out of order.

Mr. Sopha: Well, goodness gracious!

Mr. Chairman: On vote 911.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could provide us with a breakdown of this vote as to the amount that he anticipates he will spend on the various func-

tions listed there and, more particularly, what stations he is going to construct or reconstruct or improve and approximately what he expects to spend on each one of them.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, I do not have the actual figures that the member has asked for, but the \$1 million is for the balance of payments for the supply of coaches and self-propelled cars, and so on, and the \$600,000 is for the acquisition of land and the construction of stations and the signal systems.

Now as to the ones which are not done, I cannot give that now, but I can get them.

Mr. Bryden: I would be perfectly happy to receive them at any time, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Riverdale.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on vote 911, reverting to the question which I raised earlier about the station at De Grassi Street. My understanding is that the president of Gorrel Chain and the president of Lever Brothers and, I believe, other executives of companies in that area have written to the department about the question of the location of a station at De Grassi Street and Queen Street east. I would ask the Minister if in due course he would check his files on those particular requests and advise myself and the member for Woodbine whether consideration will be given to the location of a station at that place.

In addition to those particular companies, the Dunlop Tire Company is very close by; the Richard Hearn steam generating plant, the Toronto Iron Works and any number of plants are located in that area in the arc to the east of the Don River and down toward the lakefront.

I would think that with a feeder bus line through that area, a substantial number of people would use the commuter service from the outlying districts running out through as far as Pickering, and would substantially relieve the traffic burden on the highway arteries coming into the city. I would ask the Minister if he would in due course take that

under consideration and advise me of the result of his reconsideration of the question.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Yes.

Mr. Sopha: Could I ask this question? If the city of Sudbury requested funds—

Mr. Chairman: The member is out of order.

Mr. Sopha: How do you know I am out of order?

Mr. Chairman: I would tell the member the city of Sudbury has nothing to do with this—

Mr. Sopha: Could I put the question? If the city of Sudbury requested funds for the acquisition of land and the construction of a bus terminal, which it has not got because it cannot afford it, would the department provide the funds?

Mr. Chairman: Not under this vote.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Chairman, all I can say is we would take it under consideration.

Vote 911 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: This concludes the estimates of The Department of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Spooner moves the committee of supply rise and report it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will proceed with the estimates of the Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Spooner moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.35 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, March 3, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1967

The House met at 10:30 o'clock, a.m.
Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Cobourg district collegiate institute, Cobourg; in the west gallery, Cosburn junior high school, Toronto; and in both the east and west galleries, John Ross Robertson public school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

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THE EXPROPRIATION PROCEDURES ACT, 1962-1963

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Expropriation Procedures Act, 1962-1963.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Speaker, the bill requires a disclosure of the contents of the expropriating authority's appraisal of values and requires the authority to offer an appraiser's valuation.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in answer to a question from the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), having to do with a reported statement of the development commissioner of the city of Toronto as contained in the press, I have consulted with The Department of Economics and Development in the absence of the Minister (Mr. Randall) and the following is the answer to the question:

The Ontario scheme to assist homeowners of advanced years on limited fixed incomes who are displaced as a result of compulsory acquisition of their dwelling by a public authority to purchase suitable alternative accommodation without financial hardship was outlined in some detail by the hon.

Minister of Economics and Development in an address to the housing conference held on Friday, February 10, 1967, at the Royal York hotel, Toronto.

The Minister's comments were as follows:

The purpose of this scheme is to enable homeowners of advanced years on limited incomes, who are displaced as a result of compulsory acquisition of their dwelling by a public authority to purchase suitable alternative accommodation without hardship.

And he goes on:

I would like to emphasize at this point that this scheme is available only to elderly homeowner-occupants of limited fixed income. Other bona fide homeowner-occupants whose earning potential is not limited can take advantage of the land-lease scheme which I outlined a moment ago.

And the Minister goes on in his statement:

Having found suitable alternative accommodation, the value of the dwelling should not exceed the amount of compensation received for the property previously owned, the homeowner may apply to Ontario housing corporation to purchase the land on which the dwelling is located. Ontario housing corporation will then value the land on the basis of current market values.

Upon purchase of the land, Ontario housing corporation will enter into a lease agreement with the homeowner. The rental based on the Ontario housing corporation valuation of the land will be established with the provision that payment of all or part of such land rental will be deferred. The deferred rental with interest will become a charge against the dwelling.

Under the lease agreement, the homeowner and his spouse will, during their lifetime, be entitled to maintain the dwelling on the land for their own occupancy. Upon the death of the surviving partner or the prior disposition of the dwelling, the lease agreement will terminate and all deferred rental together with interest will become due and payable. The lessees may at any time during the term of the lease elect to purchase outright the lot on which

their house is located at the original agreed-upon value plus deferred charges to the date of purchase.

That is the policy which the Minister has declared with respect to this matter.

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Before the orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, in reply to a question by the hon. member for Etobicoke (Mr. Braithwaite) in reference to the appointment of a successor to Professor Finkelman, chairman of the labour relations board, I advise that Mr. G. W. T. Reed, the alternate chairman of the board, has been appointed as the new chairman.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The ninth order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, it has been but seven short months since I placed before this House the estimates for the present fiscal year, and yet in that relatively short period there have been many developments which will be reflected in the estimates with which I will ask you to deal after these brief comments.

With the exception of the item which we seek for the introduction of the legal aid plan in Ontario, the estimates appear relatively modest in comparison with some of the areas of government responsibility where we are engaged in substantial expenditures to provide the services required by the people of this province. However, while many of the programmes represented by these estimates will not require extensive capital outlay, I believe that we will all recognize, Mr. Chairman, just how closely these matters are woven into the fabric of our everyday life.

I will be dealing with many subjects in which I will have an obvious bias, but this is only because I think that all of the members of this Legislature may take an understandable pride in the forward steps that are represented by the services which these estimates represent. In the areas where we are seeking increased support, we may point to services that are exceptional in comparison with any other jurisdiction in Canada.

The Ontario law reform commission is the first and the outstanding agency of its kind in our country and with its inception two years ago has led to its being the pattern for the consideration of all the governments

of this country, including the federal government.

The Ontario centre of forensic sciences is foremost in its field in Canada and, indeed, it ranks with the other centres of its kind throughout the world. The director of the centre is the president for this year of the international association of forensic sciences, which is representative of this professional group throughout the world.

The Ontario probation service is similarly the most extensive in Canada and has been developed with the support of this Legislature to its present stature in our community.

The services of our Ontario police college and Ontario fire college have attracted attendances from representatives of many agencies from outside our own province and continue to expand to meet our increasing obligations in this field.

These are but a few examples, Mr. Chairman, of the matters which will be dealt with in detail as the hon. members proceed through our estimates. In order that we may approach them with some greater degree of understanding, may I review very briefly some of the phases of the operations of the department which may be represented by increases in the amounts which we will be seeking for the continuation of our work.

The Ontario police commission has continued to discharge the responsibilities which were placed upon it by this House in the amendments to The Police Act over the past few years. In seeking provision for additional staff, we are reflecting our increased participation in the advising of municipal police forces and in the consolidation of our criminal intelligence services. As the hon. members are aware, Mr. Chairman, we offered last fall to assume the policing responsibilities in over 40 municipalities in the province where law enforcement was provided through a one-man police force.

This was a voluntary proposal under which a municipality could, if it desired, give up its one-man police force and have his responsibilities assumed by the Ontario Provincial Police force with the only obligation on the municipality to be the provision of a bylaw enforcement officer to look after municipal matters within that particular purview. I am pleased to report that many municipalities are taking advantage of this offer and these are being dealt with as they are received by the Ontario Provincial Police commission.

In furtherance of this programme, Mr. Chairman, we presently have under study the two- to five-man police forces so that we

may ascertain the most acceptable and effective way by which this type of policing may be developed in conjunction with the Ontario Provincial Police force and such amalgamations as may be desirable and reasonable. The study is being carried out by the representatives of the Ontario police commission in cooperation with the officers of the Ontario Provincial Police force and while it may take some further time, we are looking forward to the results of these studies. In leaving this subject, I would note that over the last year the number of police forces with under 10 men has been reduced from 190 to 183 which again reflects the progress we are making in the development of efficient policing.

We have continued to develop the criminal intelligence services which are available to all of the policing authorities within our province and the effectiveness, I think, is shown by the increased participation of responsible law enforcement agencies. The criminal intelligence services—Ontario, which was the organization introduced by the commission to deal with criminal intelligence, was inaugurated in 1965 with the membership of 18 of the leading police agencies in the province, but the membership has now been increased to 21 with meetings being held every month at which matters relating to criminal intelligence are cleared for the edification and consideration of all of the police forces.

We have also noted that in September, the seminar on intelligence services which we convened at the Ontario police college attracted representatives from 29 law enforcement agencies as compared with 22 which were represented in 1965. We had representatives from the Quebec provincial police force, the Montreal police force, the R.C.M.P., the tri-services intelligence branch of the armed forces, the customs and excise department and the office of the fire marshal. With the addition of the further intelligence officer provided for in this year's estimates, we will continue our programme of providing intelligence services through the commission to correlate, disseminate and collect all of that information which is so essential and desirable for the informing of all of the agencies having a common interest in law enforcement within and without the province.

We are seeking approval for a further 11 instructors for the Ontario police college in accordance with our programme to assume the responsibility for the operation of the Metropolitan Toronto police college. This alone will take eight instructors who are presently on the staff of that college and through

this facility we will be obligated to train approximately 400 recruits through a 12-week course which will represent 4,800 student weeks of police training.

The agreement for the assumption of this responsibility is presently under review with Metropolitan Toronto and we hope it will be favourably accepted, since it will provide a consolidated and uniform approach to police training which will then include the largest force in the province outside of the Ontario Provincial Police force.

This addition will enrich not only the curriculum of the college but also the dialogue which will then exist between the recruits from this exceedingly important and efficient force and the other forces throughout the province.

Three instructors will also be sought for the Ontario police college facility at Aylmer, where 9,939 student weeks of training were provided as compared with 5,565 student weeks in 1963. Again, there is the continual increase which we have come to expect and which we are meeting through the extension of our facilities. We have a capacity at Aylmer for 270 students and with your approval, we would propose extending the accommodation by reconstruction of existing facilities so that a further 80 students could be accommodated in the college. This, with the additional instructors, will permit us to increase the training programme to provide 40 weeks of operation in the college for a total of 14,000 student weeks.

This will assist greatly in reducing the existing backlog which will have to be dealt with, as applications have been outstanding in some cases for up to one year. 1,695 students were accommodated in courses last year as compared with 1,303 in the previous year and it is anticipated that the attendance next year will exceed 2,000.

All of this training presents to the people of this province a more efficient constabulary with career opportunities being available to the young men who wish to seek an appointment in a police force within the province.

I will, of course, Mr. Chairman, deal with the Ontario Provincial Police force in detail as I review the increase which we seek for the extension of the services provided by this force.

To move on, Mr. Chairman, to the criminal law responsibility of the department, I would note for the hon. members that we again seek an increase in the appropriation for our Crown attorneys' facilities and for special prosecutions and appeals. I would

mention that in all of the special prosecutions that have arisen as a result of investigations into various matters over the last year we have utilized the law officers of our own department and have not had to resort to the retention of outside counsel.

Thus, the special prosecutions relating to the inquiries into Windfall and Atlantic Acceptance have been dealt with by our own people with that experience and information arising from the prosecutions being assured and available for all of the governmental aspects that might benefit from that advice in the future. At the same time, it maintains a closer relationship of these matters with the operations in the offices of the various Crown attorneys throughout the province.

We are proposing to add five further assistant Crown attorneys to our permanent establishment which will increase it to 91 with an additional 14 Crown attorneys who are on fees. The hon. members will note the additional increase of \$100,000, which is sought with respect to Crown counsel prosecutions and I would mention that this item is to provide for the part-time assistants who will be necessary in any event but who have previously been reimbursed out of the fees of office. We feel that by providing for the payment of these assistants through the main office of the department we will derive a better understanding of the use that is being made of these assistants throughout the province and that this will permit us to design our services for the future.

I would also note, Mr. Chairman, that we will shortly be developing a programme for the development of the career Crown attorney with the appointment of facilities designed to meet the needs of the Crown attorneys throughout the province. We have had the cooperation of the Crown attorneys association for many years in various matters and we are looking forward to its assistance in producing a programme that will develop the close relationship which is desirable between all of the Crown attorneys in the province as well as permitting them to participate in any programmes which we may bring forward that will meet their particular needs.

This project is in its formative stages but we are progressing in a manner that leads me to hope that I will be able to make an announcement to this Legislature in the near future.

While I am dealing with the main law office of the Crown, Mr. Chairman, may I make a reference to the office of the senior Crown counsel where we are developing our

legal service to serve in what we feel are the best interests of the government.

Over the last year we have been very fortunate in providing to The Department of Education a legal adviser who, while he will be on my staff, will be located with The Department of Education and serving them in a full-time capacity as their legal adviser. Similarly, we have been able to provide to The Department of Health a legal adviser who has been given special responsibilities and who again will be on the staff of The Attorney General's Department, but who will be on a full-time appointment with The Department of Health and located within their organization.

During the year we also arranged with the chief justice of Ontario and the chief justice of the high court to provide to the rules committee of our Supreme Court a research director; who will again be one of the law officers in my department, but who will work to assist in the revisions of our rules of court.

Here again, it is our intention that while providing the best service possible to the departments, we will be able to retain the experience so gained in our government service for the ultimate development and benefit of all.

We were also privileged to have been able to assist the Hon. I. C. Rand in the conduct of his Royal commission inquiry into labour disputes by providing counsel to his commission. The experience so gained we hope will be invaluable in our continued dealings on behalf of the Crown with labour matters. In this area then we report progress and hope that your treatment of this item will permit us to continue our expanding services.

In the area relating to the administration of justice division, there are a great many aspects with which I know all my learned friends in this House would wish to deal in great detail and perhaps they may be permitted, Mr. Chairman, to express some of their constructive comments and criticisms during the course of our discussion on the detailed estimates.

We are all aware, of course, of the amount of \$2 million which has been designated in the estimates for the legal aid plan in Ontario. It has been virtually impossible to make any accurate calculation as to what the expenditure will be since there is no experience in any jurisdiction that can be applied to our problems within this province. We have, therefore, set before you the request for this amount realizing that if experience demonstrates the need for an increase, then we will be provided with additional funds

after having demonstrated the necessity therefor. The completion of the regulations, which is necessary before introducing the plan in Ontario, is almost completed and over the last two weeks we have had many meetings and discussions with the representatives of the law society in order that we may reach a complete agreement upon the form of procedure that will be best suited to meet the needs of the people of Ontario.

I hope to have a further statement to make on this subject in the near future and assure you, Mr. Chairman, that we are doing everything possible to ensure that the plan will be available with the least possible delay.

I have been aware, Mr. Chairman, that with the introduction of legal aid there may well be an increased demand upon not only the bench but also upon the other officers of my department who serve the courts. My awareness has been indicated by our request to this House that we make provision for additional judges in both the Supreme Court and the county court and within my estimates you will find provision for an additional four magistrates for the province of Ontario.

I have already made reference to the further assistance which we will provide in the Crown attorney's area. I would, at this time, point out to the members that while we have provided for additional staff within the estimates, we must acknowledge that as we have no way of estimating the exact increase in staff that might be necessary, we felt it desirable to provide the increase indicated on the understanding that as the work develops and the need is demonstrated, we will request such further assistance in the particular areas as may be needed to meet the administration of justice.

There are two specific areas related to the administration of justice upon which I would make particular comment at this time, Mr. Chairman, and the first of these relates to the progress we have made in our arrangement with Metropolitan Toronto to assume the responsibility for the administration of the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court.

This assumption of responsibility was completed and came into effect as of August 1, 1966 for a period of ten years during which the province will administer the court and finance it subject to reimbursement for 90 per cent of the expenditures thereon being recovered from the municipality. The estimates indicate an increase in the amount which we will be seeking from the consolidated revenue fund for this purpose and I would also point

out further that we have assumed the entire responsibility for the provision of the probation services to this court with an attendant expenditure for these 34 officers of over \$300,000. This is in line with our policy, Mr. Chairman, of providing a total Ontario probation service for all municipalities and all of the courts in Ontario.

The Department of Public Works has been most cooperative in assisting us with our plans for certain refurbishing of the building and structure of the court and since August 1 our arrangements are well advanced to do that which we feel may be desirable in refurbishing these surroundings. These modifications which relate to the decoration, ventilation and other aspects of the building are being pursued with the architects including the feasibility of the installation of an air-cooling system. At the same time, with the cooperation and guidance of The Department of Health through the Clarke institute, arrangements have been made for the staffing of the diagnostic facilities of the court by well-qualified psychiatric and psychology specialists.

Thus, these professional services will come from the department and institute best suited to provide them while the expense thereof will be borne by this department and Metropolitan Toronto.

The second feature of this division about which I would comment is the Ontario probation service where we are once again asking that provision be made for an additional 20 probation officers with appropriate clerical and stenographic help. This would increase the existing complement of 252 officers to an extent that would assist them further in meeting the increasing case loads with which all probation officers and other persons engaged in this area seem to be faced at the present time. Since the inception of the probation service in 1952, this Legislature has been most ready to provide the necessary financial support to enable us to meet this obligation and I believe that this support is recognized when we see that as the services become available, they are immediately seized upon not only by the courts but by other agencies to provide the information which is so necessary to properly assess and deal with the needs of individuals who have the misfortune to have run afoul of our laws.

There was an increase in 1966 of the pre-sentence, pre-release and social history reports to 9,860 from the 9,412 that were provided in the preceding year. The number of probationers, parolees and family counselling cases show similar increases and

demonstrate the desirability of continuing to increase the number of officers available in this area of our responsibility.

As I indicated last year, Mr. Chairman, we have reconstituted our laboratory as the Ontario centre of forensic sciences, this is more descriptive of the detailed scientific service that is available to the courts and law enforcement agencies throughout the province. In conjunction with the re-establishment of the Ontario centre, we have appointed a medical director and supervising pathologist, Dr. Frederick A. Jaffe, who has undertaken his new responsibilities with the department in the area of pathology.

As members are aware, we have throughout the province 80 pathologists who are associated with the coroners in providing the post mortem examinations arising during a coroner's investigation. With the increasing direction of law enforcement agencies towards the scientific methods in crime detection, it becomes increasingly important to ensure that all of the facilities of the centre are kept in the forefront of the latest methods, and it is with this in mind that we seek the addition of three scientists and four technicians. These will further assist us in coping with the 14 per cent increase in cases and the 25 per cent increase in examinations that have been noted in the centre during the last year. This increase reflects the efficiency and the thoroughness of the police agencies of the province and also the coroner's investigations throughout the province, each of which are directed towards the resolution of criminal problems.

The Ontario law reform commission is continuing its work under the chairmanship of H. Allan Leal, who was appointed chairman as of July 1, 1966. I think it is fitting that I might recite to the members the resolution which was adopted by the commission upon the retirement of its first chairman, the honourable J. C. McRuer:

The members of the Ontario law reform commission desire to express to their first chairman, the honourable James C. McRuer, on the occasion of his relinquishing that office, their deep respect, abiding admiration and warm appreciation.

His colleagues acknowledge with sincere gratitude his stimulating leadership and his understanding and cooperative guidance as their presiding officer. The initial and important work of the commission bear the clear stamp of his judicial wisdom, his scholarly knowledge of the law and appreciation of basic legal principles, his original and cultured mind, his initiative and zeal

for progressive reform, his patient industry and his gentle firmness.

The members of the commission record their sense of privilege in having served under so distinguished and learned a jurist and so fine a gentleman.

I have recorded that resolution, Mr. Chairman, because I wish to extend my own appreciation to the honourable J. C. McRuer for having undertaken this task of directing the first law reform commission in Canada. The substantial work that has been instituted by the commission reflects the leadership that has been given by Mr. McRuer and I know that the traditions he has established will be carried out in full by the present chairman, H. Allan Leal.

The commission is presently carrying out studies relating to the basis of compensation on expropriation, personal property security, mechanics liens, the laws of evidence, family law, real property law, the law of condominium, exemptions from execution and the compensation for personal injuries arising out of the operation of motor vehicles.

It will be noted, Mr. Chairman, that all of these subjects have a very close relationship with the day-to-day affairs of many of our citizens and we are looking forward to the constructive recommendations that I know will flow from these studies. As I have already indicated in answer to a question in this House, there are several of these areas where I expect that we will receive reports and recommendations that will permit a legislative action by these hon. members at the present session.

The increase in the financial provision for the Ontario law reform commission will be devoted primarily to the studies that have been undertaken in the area of family law and the area of real property law. It should be noted that these amounts are utilized in studies that are carried on through six of the universities in Ontario on our behalf. The commission adopted the policy upon its inception but rather than establishing parallel research facilities within the commission, it should avail itself of the advice available through the various universities of the province and thereby not only provide financial assistance to persons studying in these institutions, but also ensure that we have a wide and divergent area of opinion available for the law reform purposes that are envisaged in the constitution of this commission. At the present time we have research projects under way in the Universities of Toronto, Ottawa,

Queens, Western Ontario and York, as well as at the Osgoode Hall law school.

One last area of responsibility in which I know all of the hon. members are interested is the board of negotiation which has now conducted over 450 hearings since its establishment in 1965. In the year 1966, the board held 339 hearings for over 50 separate expropriation projects. The significant feature is, Mr. Chairman, that 64 per cent of these hearings were instrumental in leading to a settlement between the owner and the expropriating authority, while a further nine per cent of these cases are still pending and a settlement may yet be brought about between the parties.

While no system of conciliation and arbitration may be perfect, I would suggest that the degree of assistance which has been extended in the negotiation of settlements by the board of arbitration, has made it a most worthwhile addition to the responsibilities of this department.

I am well aware, Mr. Chairman, that I have taken a good deal of the valuable time of this House in reviewing some of the areas of responsibility within my department. I am sure that many of us will recall the constructive criticism I have received on occasion because my department is not required, in law, to submit the report to the Legislature and it is for this reason, in part, that I have taken the liberty of presenting some detail of our operations.

I am also fully aware, Mr. Chairman, that there may be many questions on specific issues which I hope that I will be able to effectively answer as the review of our estimates continues; I will not, therefore, trespass further on your time but respectfully suggest that we proceed to review these estimates in detail.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, as we embark on a discussion of the Attorney General's estimates I think it might be particularly interesting to note the sentence in the last paragraph of the Attorney General's remarks.

May I say at the outset that he is a most able speaker. He speaks quite well. He follows his text and just puts little scribbles on the side.

I also say, Mr. Chairman, that this is the most cooperation we have received out of this department this year. We enter our discussion of these debates, really with one hand tied behind our backs. I think there has been a discovery on the government side of the

House that the less they tell the Opposition, the better things are going to be for them.

So we approach these estimates today with a general report of progress and we hope to do better in the future. All so good as far as it goes, but we approach these estimates without what has been before us in past years: The report of the Ontario police commission which always provides a great wealth of statistics and information.

That is not here today, sir. We have no idea what the figures are that we are concerned about: How many more police forces, how many more trained men there are, the total number of policemen in Ontario, how many go through examinations and courses of study and that sort of thing.

We are left in the dark as to all these things except, Mr. Chairman, in the stray references that we get sort of sprinkled through the Attorney General's 18 page speech.

In addition, we usually get, by the time these estimates come before us, the report of the Ontario Provincial Police. We have not got that one this year either, Mr. Chairman, and so we are sort of fumbling in the dark. We know that there is more money asked for and we know that the Ontario Provincial Police are doing an important job, but I think we should be entitled to get some of the information.

In addition to that sir, you will recall, I am sure, that some two years ago I posed a pretty large series of questions to The Attorney General's Department. These evinced a considerable amount of information, and I had rather hoped that this kind of information would be forthcoming in the annual review of the affairs of this department. But unfortunately again it seems unless we ask specific questions we are not going to get answers that are of general interest in these matters to the people of Ontario.

The Attorney General deals—and I commend him for this—with some of the criticisms that we have levelled at him over the past years, but he deals with them only on the surface. And again, Mr. Chairman, it is impossible to get at the true facts lying behind these criticisms and our ability to put forward constructive alternatives is very substantially hampered because we do not have the facts and the figures available to us.

I have only got one question, I think, on the order paper standing in my name at the moment, a very simple one, dealing with Royal commissions and asking for details of expenditure, but it has sat there for over

two and a half weeks now and there is no answer forthcoming. So, with much regret, Mr. Chairman, I am forced to the conclusion that the government has decided that the less information they arm the Opposition with before the estimates come forward, the better it is for them.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member would permit me to tell him that the answer to that question was prepared some days ago and if it is not on the table, it should be very soon.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am sure if the Attorney General says it, it must be so, but here we are on March 3 and the Attorney General has introduced his estimates. I would have liked to have commented in regard to that, but I have not got the information.

Now it is difficult, Mr. Chairman, to cope with this. In addition to that, we are getting a number of senior officials. We have a chief county court judge. We have a chief Ontario magistrate and we are about to have a chief juvenile and family court judge.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I know that these gentlemen report to the Attorney General as to the state of affairs in their respective fields, as they should. If they did not report, then there would be no purpose in having them. But I would think, Mr. Chairman, that it is of the utmost importance that we should have made available to us the reports of the chief county court judge, the reports of the chief Ontario magistrate and the reports that will come forward from the chief judge of the juvenile and family court.

Two years ago, you will recall, Mr. Chairman, that after much negotiation, and that is the only way I can describe it, several phone calls and several letters and so on, the Attorney General finally did make available to me a copy of the chief magistrate's report. When I stood up and made comments on it and directed some criticism, I think my friend became somewhat hurt, by reason of the fact that he had been so kind as to make available the report to me, and then out of report, I was criticizing him.

Well, Mr. Chairman, as I see it, that is our job here. Our job here is to examine carefully all the information that we can garner about the affairs of government, examine it carefully and present constructive criticism in relation to it.

Well sir, last year I tried to get that report again and it was not available to me and I do not know why I had so much

trouble two years ago in trying to get it. Certainly the chief magistrate would not make it available to me. Last year there was a complete and blanket denial it was not made available to me, and this year whatever the state of the magistrates' courts is insofar as is reported by the chief magistrate of the province of Ontario, again we are left in the dark because this report is not made available to us.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that it is not made available to us because the government is not prepared to face the kind of criticism that obviously will be directed towards them in the event that we could see it. It think it should be important when we are reviewing what to my mind are one of the most important series of estimates in this whole province, that deal with the administration of justice, that there should be made available to the members of the Opposition as complete information as there is available.

What is the state of the administration of justice in the county courts of the province of Ontario? How many cases are there pending? Are the court room facilities adequate, and so on? Well Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate we do not have available a vast civil service at our beck and call who can gather this information together. We have to garner it by bits and pieces out of the newspapers and out of individual complaints. I would have thought, Mr. Chairman, that the time has come now when government should say, "This is the story. We are trying to do a good job." I guess this is what they say—"but here is the story, this is the factual situation and this is what we have to face." Instead of that, we get these broad generalizations with a complete denial of information to the Opposition in order to allow us to do our job properly.

I say, sir, with as much emphasis as I can muster on this important point, that the fact that the government sits back and will not allow us access to reports, to files dealing with public matters, is part of a design to make sure that no one really knows what is going on in these various fields. I think the government should be very seriously condemned in relation to this matter.

Now I was somewhat amused, and I suppose that is really the word, about the Attorney General's suggestions that we are going to have a new and imaginative programme affecting the laws of the province of Ontario in this session of the Legislature. This morning is Friday, March 3, and the hour is 11.25. We have been in session since January

25, and other than the deposit insurance bill, the government has neglected to place on the order paper any substantial legislation of importance.

Is this the Go-Go government that we have been hearing about, Mr. Chairman? Is this the government that believes in reform? Is this the government that really intends to do anything, or are we just going through the motions so that there is not going to be any programme of legislation because the government has not made up its mind about what to do?

Well Mr. Chairman, the most obvious example of lack of planning and lack of programming and lack of real desire to reform the law is the absence of important legislation coming from the hon. Attorney General. There is none. The only thing really that he has done that has caused any discussion, or might be worthy of very serious consideration, was the fascinating notice of motion that he put on the order paper in regard to trading stamps and certainly it takes no genius to discover that he was flying a kite.

It seems strange, Mr. Chairman, to me, that the chief law officer of the Crown should be put into the position where he flies a kite by putting a notice on the order paper. I would predict, sir, that we will never see any legislation dealing with trading stamps in the form that this notice of motion indicates.

I would think, sir, that when the Attorney General takes the important step of putting the notice of motion on the order paper, the people of Ontario are entitled to believe that he does so with all the majesty of his office attached to it, with serious intent, not with political kite-flying intent, and he does so as part of a government programme to embark upon a particular type of law reform. I say that not only in the light of this one particular example, but more particularly in view of the fact that on March 3 at 11.27 a.m., we have no substantial legal legislation before us that the government again stands condemned and the words of the Attorney General contained in this 18-page presentation that he made, ring very hollowly throughout the province of Ontario.

We must wonder, really, where is the vim and vigour in this great Go-Go government and we wonder if they are not really gone-gone, because there is not any programme at all of important or worthwhile legislation available to us.

Now, sir, I want to deal a little more specifically with some of the items that the Attorney General talked about. He talked about the

Ontario probation service and I think the steps that are now being taken are most worthwhile in relation to this. But it has occurred to me, and it occurred to me certainly as I was going through some of the debates of previous years and going through the estimates, that surely the time is long overdue for some coordination of efforts at this time within government.

In the probation service there is certainly an overlapping with the job done by the federal jurisdiction and there certainly is a concern with what is being done in The Department of Reform Institutions. Now, sir, we have suggested over a long period of time that The Department of Reform Institutions, being an integral part of our whole system of the administration of justice, should be brought within single control of the law officers' department of The Department of the Attorney General.

Interestingly enough—I went through the estimates and began to prepare some notes on some of the remarks I was going to make this morning—well, there has been a lopping off in the direction of the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree), of two or three subdepartments of the Attorney General. There has been no real coordination of the efforts of the department insofar as bringing under control matters that inter-relate.

We have suggested—and very elaborately over the past several years—a reasonable division of this kind of responsibility, but there seems to be no progress being made at all in this direction. There is still the intermingling of the police and the judicial power; there should be a separation in that and surely the Attorney General could divide his department into two branches and separate those two powers, because I am sure that he will agree with me that those two branches of law cannot continue to be intermingled and produce the best results.

In addition, when he gets into Ontario probation services, certainly he is straying into the field of responsibility of the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman), and I say, sir, it seems most obvious that the department presently administered by the hon. gentlemen in charge of those institutions has much closer affinity to the whole question of law and order in the province of Ontario than anywhere else, and I do not think that it should any longer stand on its own. I think it should be brought in within this department and looked after by the same people who are responsible for law and order and

care and treatment of offenders, and so on. I think this should be all part of the whole. But there is no real Go-Go in the imagination of this government and we are not even getting any comments in relation to this kind of suggestion that has been put forward several times already.

I referred briefly a little earlier, Mr. Chairman, to the Ontario police commission and I say we are working in the dark, insofar as progress has been made about consolidating police forces. The Attorney General touches on a few of the highlights, but we do not know how many consolidations have been effected. He talks about some announcement that was made in the fall and I think his words were "as the members well know, in the fall" something happened. This is not before us at this time.

There are still a great number of one-man forces; there are still a great number of two- to five-men forces; there are still a great number of forces, I think if the figures come to me quickly, under 10 men. There are statements on the record already that no force under 10 men—in the opinion of the Attorney General's advisers—the police commission said it over a period of two or three years—is a fully competent force.

What progress have we made along these lines—and the Attorney General skims over the highlights. There was a serious police problem in the city of Pembroke which we discussed during the estimates last year. I would have hoped that we would have heard something about that; I would have hoped that we would have been told how that problem was resolved, because it is a very serious problem where one body responsible for police says that they are going to pay them a larger salary and another body responsible for raising the money says that they cannot afford it. I would like to know what was done about that, what the role of government was in relation to that matter and how the problem was finally resolved.

This is part of the very serious problem that we face throughout the province of Ontario and that is our ability to carry on the important functions of municipalities.

The province nibbles in some directions at it, but the municipal costs are going up and up. I do not know that I can blame the council at Pembroke for this problem, but surely, Mr. Chairman, the government must have realized by now that their role in important matters like the administration of justice has to be extended not only in an advisory and supervisory sense, but in a financial sense.

I would think that it makes abundant good sense as we are moving to better trained policemen, that the province should take over more and more of the cost of the administration of justice and I see no real indication of that in what the Attorney General has put before us this afternoon. It is a very serious burden on municipalities to properly police themselves when they have such great difficulty in raising money for all the purposes that municipalities have.

Now where is the answer? When we get to education, there is another aspect of it; when we get to municipal affairs there is another aspect. But the cost of the administration of justice is such an obviously provincial expenditure, Mr. Chairman, one would have thought that this government, so advanced in its thinking, would have realized that this should be one of their prime responsibilities, but there is no indication of important thinking along these lines.

Well, having dealt with the police, I think a remark or two in relation to magistrates' courts is important. The court room where magistrates sit that is most familiar to me is in the old city hall in Toronto. Now, those facilities certainly leave a lot to be desired. I would think again, Mr. Chairman, that the time has come where, in concerning itself with the cost of the administration of justice, methods have to be worked out whereby reasonable facilities are going to be provided in those most important of all courts, the magistrates' courts.

In the city of Toronto, in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, we do not have that kind of facility. They are still overcrowded. They are bad. The case load of magistrates there is such that it makes it difficult, if not impossible, for reasonable time to be given to all the cases that come before it.

Hopefully, with the system of legal aid and proper representation being made available to people who appear before magistrates, there are going to be further and better hearings. But what are we doing about the facilities? I do not suppose, Mr. Chairman, that I need to mention any more than the problem that exists in the city of London. This concerned the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) a year ago when we talked about it, but the court room facilities in the city of London—the power capital of Ontario at the moment—are a disgrace to the province of Ontario, a disgrace to any system of democratic government that believes in the importance of law enforcement. Now, sir, we have complaints made year after year, but the impasse is still there. The chief judge—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): If I may inform my hon. friend, the county and city have been meeting recently and plans are on the way to build a new court house.

Mr. Singer: Well, I am delighted to hear that. I suppose the remarks that have been made in the Legislature have finally been getting through and the annual criticisms of chief justice Gale and the Supreme Court of Ontario have had some effect. Well, I will not bother then to read them, but he was at his vitriolic best in his last remarks about the court room in the city of London.

My friend from London brings this information to us—could he tell us who is paying for it? Who is paying for the court room? Well, he is not quite so quick to come to his feet at the moment. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if we have not just discovered something? Is there a new system being inaugurated that is going to start in London where the province of Ontario is going to pay all the cost of the new court room?

Mr. White: I do not know the details of existing financial arrangements, but I do—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. White: —Mr. Chairman, the question has been asked and I would like to answer it. I can only say that the financial arrangements would be in no way extraordinary. The city and county are paying for it just as municipalities everywhere in southern Ontario pay for it.

Mr. Singer: That kind of question I do not think is the responsibility of the hon. member for London South to answer so I am going to specifically ask the Attorney General when he gets an opportunity to get back into this debate what arrangements have been made to build new court facilities in the city of London.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I thought you would be happy knowing that.

Mr. Singer: Well yes. But I want to go a little further now, Mr. Chairman. What are the financial arrangements, and if they differ from financial arrangements, let us say, insofar as building a new court house in the city of Toronto, what is the reason for the departure from the previously existing plan of building court houses? I think this might make an interesting little inquiry.

The Ontario police college, no one can argue at all, is performing a very important function in the province of Ontario. In the absence of the report on the Ontario police

commission we do not know how many policemen are trained in relation to the total number of policemen in Ontario; we do not know how many policemen are promoted, are given qualifying exams. I suppose that the ratio of this is moving up, but how quickly is it moving up? We have not got that information available to us.

Certainly we have a right to expect that there should be no policemen in Ontario doing police duties who are not adequately trained. I think we have the right to expect and believe that the police will be sufficiently well paid, that this is going to be an important career in this province and it is going to attract people of the highest calibre. We have people of the highest calibre, and unless the salary is good enough to attract people of the highest calibre, we are not going to get the kind of policing we want and we need. But there is no indication of this either, Mr. Chairman. This is one of the difficulties that we in the Opposition must labour under, and this difficulty increases.

I would like to hear in some detail from the Attorney General, how the salary structure in police forces relates to what it was a year ago; and the educational qualifications of new young men who are coming into the police forces—is that rising or falling?—the opportunities for advancement and promotion and that sort of thing. This is an integral part of our dealing with this whole problem.

Before I leave the question of police training and so on, I think that we might have some observations about the method of selecting police officers as distinct from police privates. There have been systems of encouragement for producing an officer class particularly in the United Kingdom. We have talked about this before.

It is somewhat startling, I will not say shocking, but certainly it is surprising to read that in the police force in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, I think there are presently on strength only two people with university education. One is the chief of the women's bureau of that police force and the other is one of the other officials of that department.

I would think that policing being as complicated as it is, that some method has to be arrived at where we encourage our young people with good training to enter that service; and obviously we are not doing it when the largest police force in the province of Ontario—the second largest one—that of the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, has in its strength of some 4,000 only two people who have university degrees.

Now insofar as Crown attorneys and so on are concerned, I think the expansion there is commendable, but I cannot help but remind myself of some of the gaps. I pointed one out last year on July 7. I was asking the Attorney General about what was happening in Nipissing. Let me just refresh my memory and his in regard to this matter.

In the district of Nipissing there is no full time magistrate; there are two part time magistrates—magistrate Nadeau and magistrate Gould. In addition to that, sir, there is no full time juvenile and family court judge. Judge Wallace is a juvenile and family court judge.

Now two points emerge from these simple facts, Mr. Chairman. I would think that the district of Nipissing is sufficiently large and important to have a full time magistrate and not two part time magistrates. The second point is the quite serious complaint that judge Wallace who sits as the juvenile and family court judge also practises as a lawyer and frequently practises in magistrate's court.

I think this indicates, obviously, the possibility of a serious conflict of interest. I would think that the Attorney General should look into this situation immediately and make other arrangements.

Well then the discussion went on, and the Attorney General undertook to inquire into the situation and his exact words were—no he even went further, he said: "I thought the city of North Bay had a full time magistrate." Then the Attorney General said he would check it; and then finally it was left that he would check it and see what could be done.

I am advised that today the situation is the same as it was a year ago. Now one would think that in the whole course of the administration of justice it is important that where we have established magistrates' courts in large centres in the province of Ontario we have full time magistrates sitting; we have proper court facilities, with properly trained people on the bench.

I cannot help but think, sir, as I noted the despatch from Ottawa that the salaries of Supreme Court judges and county court judges have been substantially increased by federal action just a week or two ago, that one of the serious difficulties we have in this province of Ontario is that we do not pay our magistrates enough money. Now the magistrates' salary in the broad picture of those persons charged with administering justice are very low on the totem pole. I do not need to tell this House, Mr. Chairman, how

important the job of magistrate is in this province or the number of people with whom they have to deal; but I renew my plea to the government that magistrates have to be given salaries that will attract bright young men of proper background and proper legal training to take on those positions.

At present salaries it is quite ridiculous. We have good magistrates and dedicated magistrates, many of whom are able to carry on on the basis of the meagre salaries they are getting. But by and large we seem to be lacking in ability to renew the best type of appointments and the ability to attract to the job of magistrate bright young men, who might be attracted if the salary was in a higher range.

Now Mr. Chairman, I commend the Attorney General for his remarks in relation to the fact that he has sent to The Department of Health a full time legal advisor and also to The Department of Education. At long last, I would say, we are making some progress to the theory put forward by my colleague from Sudbury and myself that the Attorney General should be all of the law in the province of Ontario and that we should not have a myriad of independent little legal empires spread throughout all of the departments. I suppose he has trouble with some of his colleagues who have these independent little legal empires and they are reluctant to give them up; and where in highways for instance, you have six or eight or ten lawyers. The gentleman sitting beside the Attorney General has a tidy little legal department in Municipal Affairs. I would suspect that he has three; these gentlemen would be reluctant—

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): And me makes four.

Mr. Singer: Oh yes, and my learned friend from Timmins makes the fourth one.

I would suspect that some of these gentlemen are reluctant to hand over to the tender care of the Attorney General the responsibility for supervising these people; but I would think, sir, that this should be government policy. I would think that as we are beginning to break new ground in this, that there should be a positive statement that the supervision and control and direction of all of the legal advice in the province of Ontario comes under the Attorney General.

While it may annoy or embarrass or bother some of his colleagues on the Cabinet benches, I do not think that is the test. It would seem to me that better legal advice

would and should be given to the province of Ontario if the legal advisors were under the control of one man—and it can only be the Attorney General—and they were rotated from time to time. The person you sent to The Department of Health could in a year or two go to Municipal Affairs and help my learned friend from Timmins with his problems—and he needs a lot of help with his problems, believe me—and the person you have sent into education could move into one of the other departments and be of very substantial assistance.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Does the member want to argue the point?

Mr. Singer: Oh, yes, does the Minister want to get into this?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Is the member suggesting, or am I to accept that he is passing disparaging remarks about the ability of Mr. C. W. Yates, the chief legal counsel in The Department of Municipal Affairs, who has been involved in municipal administration at the legal level for the last 35 years, a former member of the Ontario municipal board? The member had better look over his situation again!

Mr. Singer: Well, I thank the Minister for the pause, I was getting a little dry and I had an opportunity to have another drink of water. Mr. Chairman, the Minister knows full well that is not what I was suggesting. I was suggesting that it is bad for the system of government that we have in Ontario, when each department is able to establish its own little legal empire.

It seems to me that the control of all legal advice should be under the direction and management of the Attorney General. And this does not reflect at all on C. W. Yates or any other of the 15 or 20 lawyers that we can find spread through the government departments.

I am saying that there should be one man and one department that directs their operation and that can only be the Attorney General. And it should be possible within the Attorney General's wisdom that he might want to send C. W. Yates into The Department of Education for a year or two, because with his vast experience and ability, he might be able to help the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis).

And this is the very point, the Minister of Municipal Affairs emphasizes my point, he has his own little legal empire and I do not think this should be. I think there can only

be one system of control or legal advice and it has to emanate through the Attorney General. Well, we are nibbling at that only but the Attorney General, I recognize, has trouble with some of his colleagues like the Minister of Municipal Affairs and this is one of the things I suggest the government has to resolve.

Now then, Mr. Chairman, I am concerned, I have spoken about salaries for magistrates, but I am concerned as I went through the public accounts, about the level of salaries within the criminal section of the Attorney General's department and within the civil section.

The Attorney General no longer has the responsibility for the Ontario securities commission but he knows that for, what, two years, you looked for a chief counsel for the Ontario securities commission, with a salary of \$14,000, and were not able to fill that position at that rate. The salary was put up to \$18,000 and up to the moment I do not think the securities commission yet has a full time counsel, but we will get at that perhaps later with the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

But if you need senior legal advisors, and you should and you do, you should have available to you in government service the best legal advice that is available. And you are not going to get them at the salary level that you are paying.

How long has it been, Mr. Chairman, since we have had a realistic review of salaries paid by government to lawyers in government employ? Is it not time that we had someone of knowledge sit down and compare these rates to what lawyers are earning throughout the province of Ontario? And who can better advise them on that than the Attorney General? He has some idea what lawyers are earning throughout the province of Ontario and he must be embarrassed when he sees the salaries that he pays out as the Attorney General. It stands to reason, Mr. Chairman, that we are not going to get to government service the brightest young men, or if they do come, they come only for a while and then they go off where the pastures are a little greener.

Now, are we going to have some sort of realistic salary review insofar as the salaries for professional people are concerned? There was no indication of that.

When the Attorney General tells us about the renovations in the metropolitan juvenile court, this is fine, this is a comparatively new

building, they needed some obvious renovations—air-conditioning was an obvious one. But take a look some day at the facilities in the old city hall when those courts are sitting and—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am very familiar with them.

Mr. Singer: All right, he is very familiar with them. What are we going to do, when are we going to get a reasonable building? Because if justice has to be administered in dark, dingy cellars, and this is what is happening in some of the city hall's lower courtrooms, lower in level not in importance, then there is a serious question about justice being properly administered.

There was an increase of pre-sentence and pre-release and social history reports. Well, I did ask the question about magistrate Langdon and it seemed to me both from the news reference that drew this matter to my attention and from the Attorney General's answer, that there was some concern that his worship, magistrate Langdon, was being told politely that maybe he was asking for too many pre-sentence reports.

I would like some elaboration on that because I think it is important to know whether or not a magistrate, who in his wisdom asks for a lot of pre-sentence reports, is being cut back on this sort of thing, and whose authority it is to determine how many pre-sentence reports are going to be ordered.

I do not think that any civil servant should be able to exert himself over and above and between the magistrate in the carrying out of his jurisdiction and the availability of these reports. If magistrate Langdon wants the reports and magistrate Langdon is allowed to continue in his office and he is a competent magistrate, then he should be able to carry on his office as he sees fit.

Now, this does not seem to be happening.

I was in court yesterday, Mr. Chairman, and listening with some interest to an appeal brought before the judge in chambers of the Supreme Court by a solicitor on behalf of a youngster of 13 years of age, who had been sentenced to a training school for an indeterminate period.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Nobody is sentenced to a training school.

Mr. Singer: My friend says "nobody is sentenced"; he was directed to be taken to a training school—is that better—for an indeterminate period.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Chairman, the member is a lawyer. He might as well know, he may have a case—they are admitted to a training school on application of a judge.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, the youngster apparently had some considerable history of juvenile delinquency. The determination of the court was that he go to a training school. Now my friend will probably give me a little more technical detail of how he gets there, but in any event he was going there for an indeterminate period. His counsel was appealing the sentence and his counsel was able to convince the judge in chambers that the sentence was unduly harsh and the judge in chambers varied it.

But what particularly interested me in this matter was the lack of thorough inquiry by the juvenile judge. I am thinking of the explanation to the parents of this youngster of the effects of not pleading guilty to the offenses with which the youngster was charged with and the explanation of the effects of what the sentence might be. The young lawyer who was representing the accused boy made an excellent presentation and was appealing to judge in chambers because he made his order accordingly, and the essence of it was that the juvenile and family court judge had not made a sufficient inquiry into the background, had not asked proper questions, had not asked for sufficient reports.

Now this is not a matter of big moment. I think justice was done in this thing and the appeal procedures allowed it, but what does concern me, Mr. Chairman, is that in the normal process of events there are juvenile and family court judges who do not inquire as fully as they should. There are facilities available and if they are not sufficiently available, then they should be increased, because the committal of a 13 year old boy to a training school for an indefinite period is a very, very serious decision and I hope that my friend is doing something about encouraging his juvenile and family court judges to take full advantage of all of these facilities that are available, because some of them do not.

Now he talks about the Ontario centre of forensic science and I have the greatest respect for the work that is done in that laboratory. I think in having Dr. Ward Smith in charge of it, the province of Ontario is indeed most fortunate to have one of the leading men in the field. We are lucky to have retained him for as long a period as we have. But I have remarked in previous

years, Mr. Chairman, about the staff difficulties there and we are back to the same old question of salaries.

The turnover in staff in that branch has been very substantial. The Attorney General says we are going to have three scientists and four technicians. Well I hope that the salaries that we are going to be offering will be sufficient not only to bring in three bright scientists and four able technicians, but will allow us to retain them. One of the great difficulties in the crime laboratory, or whatever it is under its new name, is that we have not been able to retain people of ability for too long a period because we are not paying them enough.

Now let me come to the question of the law reform commission. Mr. Chairman, we have a committee or a commission or a group that is inquiring into almost every problem that exists in the province of Ontario, and the Attorney General tells us that they are studying the basis of compensation for expropriation, personal property security, mechanics liens, laws of evidence, family law, real property law, law of condominium, exemptions from execution, compensation for personal injuries arising out of the operation of motor vehicles—all very important subjects.

Now it is not enough that we are studying these things. I want to know when we are going to get reports in relation to these matters and I want to know when we are going to get legislation in relation to these matters.

We had quite a go yesterday at the laws about expropriation, and the Attorney General, I am sure not deliberately, but he gave us some misleading information insofar as the report of the select committee was concerned. He also—and I made a mental note not to let you get away with this one either—planted the thought that by providing money to allow the person whose land has been taken to be represented we are taking more lawyers into government employment. Now the Attorney General was reaching badly when he tried to bring that in as an argument.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): He had a bad case.

Mr. Singer: Well he had a bad case and he was reaching very badly. When are we going to get some laws before us about expropriation that are important and that bring equity into this whole picture? We have no answer.

It is not enough, Mr. Chairman, to say—and it is not with disrespect to either the law

reform commission or Mr. Justice McRuer—to say that these two groups of inquiries seem to be just big baskets full of places where we put problems. The problems go in, the answers never come out. They seem to absorb an ever increasing number of problems, but we have no answers.

Now what we have had from the law reform commission was, as I have said before, that estimable recommendation in regard to changing the law against perpetuities. This was a very meaningful reform that has affected the lives of probably 10 or 15 people in the province of Ontario. It is important in its place, but certainly there are things of far higher priority that could have and should have been done.

Then we had something about medical evidence.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Personal property security.

Mr. Singer: Well, personal property security; yes but where is the law?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think it was in here last year.

Mr. Singer: Yes it was in here last year, but it was never enacted. You threw a statute at us and it sat on the order paper and it provoked discussion. Is it coming back?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Did you study it?

Mr. Singer: Oh I have studied it very carefully. Is it coming back?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes.

Mr. Singer: When?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Shortly.

Mr. Singer: Well shortly never seems to come. There is no point putting a statute on the order paper, Mr. Chairman, and letting it sit there; then the House goes on its merry way and business is concluded and we dissolve. Nothing ever happens. That is no answer at all.

Let us come back to this medical evidence. We spent a great deal of money—did that come out of the law reform commissioner, or did that come the different way, the red book, Mr. Common and—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If you want the answer now, that came from a study of members of the legal profession associated with three or four very eminent doctors, seconded by the medical profession and after their joint

report—or their report of these two joint professions—then it was studied by the law reform commission at my request and approved, with perhaps very slight modifications. But generally, the recommendations that came from the medical-legal committee were then brought in here from the law reform commission.

Mr. Singer: Well all right.

In any event, we had it and the Attorney General said this is good and he brought in legislation and the rules committee enacted certain rules to carry out these recommendations. I asked the Attorney General in this House the other day what he was going to do about the decision of the court of appeal which said that the rules committee had acted beyond their jurisdiction, had acted *ultra vires* of their powers, because the decision of the court of appeal has in fact negated that whole approach.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not want to take issue at the moment, but really the decision of the court of appeal with respect to the rule did not negate the legislation we put on the books.

Mr. Singer: Well all right, if we want to get very technical we can get very technical about it, but the fact is that the ability to require by demand the production of medical reports on the other side has been removed, and it is a very important part of that reform that that ability should exist. An attempt was made to exert that power by changing the rules of court, and the court of appeal has now said the new rules that were inserted are *ultra vires* of the rules committee.

Now I am sure my friend, as technical as he wants to be, will agree with me that the decision of the court of appeal has removed, really the greatest advantage of this whole new system.

If it was government policy a year ago, and if the government chose the wrong vehicle by which to get its policy carried out, is it still government policy? Or has the Attorney General had second thoughts on it?

I just wonder because I have heard, as these things seem to go around, that there is now some doubt in the mind, not of the Attorney General, but perhaps some of his colleagues on the front bench. I think the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) has some doubt about the wisdom of this position, and maybe everybody will be happy just to let the thing dangle in the air.

If it was government policy a year ago and the government policy is being frustrated

or stopped by reason of the decision of the court of appeal—and I say that it is, and I am sure my friend agrees with me. Let me ask this specific question:

What are you going to do to assert that government policy? I think you made a substantial legal reform when you brought forward the report, when the legislation was introduced and when the rules committee enacted certain rules. If the government has changed their policy, if it now holds what I am told are the views of the Minister of Health, and perhaps he will want to reply on this, that the government should not be in this, that there is a danger of offending the patient-doctor relationship—and this is the kind of objection that I understand has been made by him and many of his colleagues in the medical professions. If this is the view that is to prevail, let us hear about it. Let us hear what the government decision is!

As I say, sir, it is not enough that the government, having enunciated policy and having perhaps embarked—or the court said that it has embarked—slightly in the wrong direction, that it is able to give power to the rules committee to do exactly what they attempted to do. The laws are brought before us, the Legislature passes them and it would be a very simple thing, if the government wants to be consistent in enforcing this policy, that further changes be brought forward. But I think the air should be cleared on that and let us find out, Mr. Chairman, what is in fact continuing government policy in that regard.

Mr. Chairman, there are one or two other things. There is another recent court decision that I was a bit concerned about and that was the decision of Mr. Justice Haines in relation to the handling of money in an infant settlement. What happened in the particular case that came before Mr. Justice Haines was that an injured young girl—I think it was—was to get a substantial sum of money. The practice is, as the Attorney General knows, that that money be paid into court and that it be held by the account of the Supreme Court of Ontario for the benefit of that minor until the minor reaches the age of 21 years, and in the meantime the money is subject to further orders of the court.

Mr. Justice Haines came to the conclusion that the interest paid by the accountant of the Supreme Court, four per cent, was not sufficient, and inquiries were directed to ascertain whether or not a better rate of interest for this particular fund could be found. By some process of reasoning, the conclusion was arrived at that if the money,

instead of going into the Supreme Court and into the hands of the accountant of the Supreme Court, was invested in the National Trust Company, instead of four per cent interest, six per cent interest would be brought in. I understand that the official guardian consented—or someone on behalf of the official guardian in the province of Ontario consented—to this kind of procedure.

Let me ask—arising out of that—what right the official guardian or anyone speaking on his behalf had to give his consent to Mr. Justice Haines to that kind of a procedure? Why should it apply, as worthwhile as the objective is, to only one minor in the province of Ontario? Why should it not apply to all of the minors whose money is being looked after by the courts, and I am told that there is some \$30 million held in court on behalf of various people under the age of 21. Why should all except this last award be getting only four per cent when this last one will go into the National Trust and get six per cent?

I think this is a very important point because several additional ramifications come from it. I asked the Attorney General yesterday when he introduced his new bill, about the auditing of the accounts of the public trustee by the provincial auditor, whether the same thing applied to the official guardian. He said that it did, but he would check to make sure.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I had it in the amendment which I introduced a week ago to The Judicature Act. I do not know whether that Act got third reading yet, or not. It is the same procedure—

Mr. Singer: All right, this adds the icing to the cake. It does not apply yet—it is about to apply, the official guardian. All right, so let us inquire further along these lines. The money that is in the hands of the accountant of the Supreme Court and held in trust for infants, what happens to that \$30 million? He pays out four per cent interest on it; is the information that I have received correct that he invests it at higher rates of interest—six per cent, six and one half per cent?

If this information is correct, Mr. Chairman, then I wonder what has been happening to the excess of money that the accountant of the Supreme Court of Ontario has been earning at the expense of these infants? I think this is a very important inquiry. Why should he pay out four per cent when, if my information is correct, he has been earning six per cent?

I am not suggesting that the accountant of the Supreme Court of Ontario has been putting the money in his own pocket; I am suggesting that the government has been making money out of this very improper approach, and it may be that the insertion of the provincial auditor into that picture is going to change it. But what has been happening over the years to this excess of interest that is being earned and why is four per cent only being paid when, in fact, probably six per cent or six and a half per cent is being earned?

Why should then Mr. Justice Haines, who is aware of these things as of anything else, be forced to direct this particular fund in this particular case—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He was not forced.

Mr. Singer: Well, he was not forced, but he came to the conclusion as a good jurist and as a humane jurist, that this infant's interest would be better protected if another system was worked out, albeit I would say that all the legal t's were not crossed and all the legal i's were not dotted because I do not think that the official guardian had any power to consent to that order.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the message out of this obviously is that we have to look after those funds in a better way and in the interests of the infants whose money is being held in trust. I suggest that it is not in their interests when the money is sitting there in the hands of the accountant of the Supreme Court and they are not getting the full return that that money is producing.

Now perhaps someone is going to suggest to me that administrative costs make up the difference and I say that is nonsense, because you have those people on staff and they have to be paid anyway and they are doing their jobs and there is no reason in the world why as trustee for these infants, the accountant for the Supreme Court of Ontario—or really the consolidated revenue fund—should make money at the expense of these people under the age of 21.

In an aside, Mr. Chairman, if anyone is foolish enough to let money get into the county court, they get no interest at all. I do not know how many dollars go into the county court but it just does not occur to the county court officials who hold these moneys in trust—and again, I am not suggesting that anyone is making off with it; I am reasonably satisfied that the money eventually finds its way back into the consolidated revenue fund—

Mr. Bryden: What happens to money in lawyers' trust accounts?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I was just going to say that I am almost tempted to suggest that he should deal with lawyers' trust accounts.

Mr. Bryden: I think he should!

Mr. Singer: I have no objection.

Mr. Bryden: Something should be done about them.

Mr. Singer: I can only speak for myself; I would not dare to speak for money in other lawyers' trust accounts, but the money that goes through my trust accounts does not stay there long enough to earn any interest.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You would not want to compare that with the official guardian?

Mr. Singer: No, I would not, because we are talking about \$30 million; we are talking about \$30 million, and I would say that there is a profit being made that is not being given to those infants.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Do all the lawyers want more than \$30 million?

Mr. Singer: Now, sir, the Attorney General is aware of the case involving the Weekes estate. This was talked about last year and in that case there was some infants' money that was given to the official guardian in March 1964 and it was being taken out of court about two years later. Fascinatingly enough, it was discovered that although the money was forwarded by cheque to the official guardian in March 1964, the cheque was not cashed and put in the bank until April 1966; it sat in a file in the official guardian's department.

Then there was a great deal of trouble, Mr. Chairman, to find out whether or not the money was going to earn any interest—even four per cent, because the original approach was that the money did not get into the bank until two years after it was sent forward to the official guardian so really it did not earn any interest, it was not in there.

Discretion being the better part of valour, from somewhere the interest money was found and I suggest it had to come out of the consolidated revenue fund and the person who might have been hurt by reason of the fact that a cheque for a substantial amount had been sitting in the file undeposited for a period of over two years, was not hurt by this thing. I understand, Mr. Chairman, that there are substantial sums of money that

have been handled this way over the past several years; that the system of bookkeeping within the department of the official guardian leaves much to be desired.

Again let me say, sir, I am not suggesting or impugning dishonesty, I am just suggesting sloppiness and bad administration. The Weekes case is an illustration of this, where a cheque of substantial amount sat in the file for over two years. I think the government, of all people, has the highest trust to properly look after funds of other people that are entrusted to them for safe keeping.

The decision of Mr. Justice Haines, the Weekes case, and several other things that are known to the Attorney General that I am not going to go on in great detail about, indicate that the bookkeeping system in that department leaves much to be desired. I would hope, Mr. Chairman, that almost immediately it should have been—well the Weekes case was a year ago—I would think that as a result of the Weekes case, there could have, and should have, been something happening in that—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I brought in the law at this session.

Mr. Singer: Yes, you brought in the law at this session. All right. Well, is the provincial auditor in there now? You can send him in even without—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not really think and I do not think the hon. member suggests there is anything wrong.

Mr. Singer: No. I do not think there is anything dishonest about it. It is not wrong in that sense. I am suggesting it is wrong in the sense that: (a) the infants are not getting enough money; (b) there is money sitting in cheques in the files undeposited.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will deal with the question of administering the account that the infants should get, not now but in my estimates.

Mr. Singer: All right, enough said on that one, Mr. Chairman.

I have a number of other points here that I noted in the public accounts but I have spoken far longer than I intended. I think, Mr. Chairman, that for the moment will conclude my remarks. As these various estimates come up I will have additional words to say.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, I have just received advice that the Ontario Provincial Police raided the offices of the

Oshawa Acceptance Corporation a few hours ago. In that connection I would expect now that the Attorney General, undoubtedly fully aware of what has taken place, would advise the House and give us some information about that raid, what was the reason for it, who has been hurt, what companies other than Oshawa Acceptance Corporation Limited, Summerland Securities Limited, North Shore Realty Company Limited are involved in the investigation which has been made.

I would expect he would advise us what is the nature of the fraud; who has been hurt; where is Mr. John E. Harris, president of Oshawa Acceptance Corporation Ltd. at the present time; when did the first advice come to the Crown attorney's office in Oshawa about the possibility of fraud in the operation of that company or group of companies; when was The Attorney General's Department first advised of this possibility; what did The Attorney General's Department do; when was Mr. W. A. MacDonald, the Crown attorney for the district of Parry Sound, appointed the special prosecutor or investigator for this fraud.

Following his appointment, at what time did he commence the investigation? What is the extent of the information which is available to the Attorney General? What can now be done to protect anyone who may possibly suffer further damage because of the collapse of this group of companies? I would certainly be quite prepared to yield the floor if the Attorney General feels that he would like to comment on the questions which I have made before I proceed with my other remarks.

Mr. Chairman: I think what we should do, unless the Attorney General feels otherwise—I think we should continue with our estimates and you, as the lead-off speaker for the party, should conclude your estimates and then call on the Attorney General for his remarks.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would be prepared to make a very brief statement. I am sure the hon. member does not expect me to recall dates when so and so was appointed; when the first information came to our attention; who was hurt and who was not; and what is involved. I can only say this, Mr. Chairman, that the complaint came to us a matter of weeks ago; the investigation was immediately commenced; special personnel were assigned to the investigation, as well as the intelligence branch of the provincial police. We have been seeking to get the information on which this morn-

ing's action was taken. More than that at this moment I cannot say.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would hope that at the earliest possible opportunity the Attorney General would give us a full statement, preferably during the course of these estimates, as soon as possible about the whole background of the connection between his department and this investigation and the resultant raid this morning.

It would certainly appear to me that the Attorney General is well aware of the fact that I had placed a question on the order paper. I was going to ask a question before the orders of the day a few weeks ago, and at the request of the Attorney General did not ask that question. I was at that time seriously concerned about what appeared to be the evident delay in the institution of the investigation. I did not ask that question because of the representations which were made to me at that time, but I think that we now must have a full and complete statement from the Attorney General of all the details that can possibly be given immediately about the raid this morning and the implications of it and what the repercussions may well be.

Now Mr. Chairman, I would like to turn to the estimates of the department. If it were possible, Mr. Chairman, within the procedural rules of this House to do so, I would certainly move that the Attorney General's estimates be now not considered but that they be considered at such time as the Attorney General provided—not just to the Opposition parties in the House, but to the members of this Legislature—adequate information about his department. I just think it is not sufficient for the Attorney General to come before this Legislature to discuss his estimates to have the substantial amounts of money voted for his department without a report. I believe that in the time that I have been in the House the statement at the end of his prepared remarks is about as weak a statement as one could expect to receive from the chief law officer of the Crown. I refer specifically to the last few words in which he states:

I am sure that many of us will recall the constructive criticism that I have received on occasion because my department is not required in law to submit a report to the Legislature, and it is for this reason in part that I have taken the liberty of presenting some detail of our operations.

Now Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General took about 25 minutes to give us the sketchy, inadequate information on which we are supposed to enter into a constructive review of

his estimates. I simply repeat again what I said last year, that The Department of the Attorney General has got to move into this century. I would hope that it would move and I would hope that it would move into the 1960's directly and not just into the early 1900's.

How it could be possible that a Minister would come before this assembly with a hastily prepared statement, and I would say that if it is not hastily prepared then it can only be considered an endeavour to fail to disclose adequate information to the Legislature for the purpose of the discussion of these estimates. I will not go into all the details of the specific remarks that he made in his opening remarks, sir, I will simply list the very important bodies that fall under the administration of this department and the total inadequacy of the information available to any member of the House about any of their activities.

I think, as I read each one of them, that if any member of the House, Mr. Chairman, would simply say to himself: What do I know about this branch? Where is there a little booklet that I can read about it? Where is the report which tells me what this body has done? What is its function? What service does it provide? How does it fit into the administration of justice?

I think you will be well aware, Mr. Chairman, of the total vacuum of available public information on all these important aspects and agencies of this particular department: the Ontario law reform commission, the Ontario centre of forensic science, the Ontario probation service, the Ontario police college, the Ontario fire college, the Ontario police commission, the criminal intelligence service, the Ontario Provincial Police, the office of the senior Crown counsel, the legal aid plan, the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court; I have referred to the Ontario probation service.

Mr. Chairman, I can only express my complete inability to understand why the Attorney General would not insist on adequate reports from each of those branches of his department. Each one of them is so fundamentally important to the administration of justice, let alone the traditional areas of the administration of justice; let alone the questions that the member for Downsview has asked about the adequacy of the staffing of the county court and the adequacy of the magistrates' court.

Let alone all these questions, there are specific, specialized agencies of this department who we can only assume are serving useful public purposes, but for which the

Attorney General does not choose to give us any information whatsoever. He substitutes—and his remarks bear this out—he substitutes a few lines of public relations material for any informed information as to what is going on in his department. And I refer to his remarks about the Ontario law reform commission, the first and outstanding agency of its kind in the country.

Well, Mr. Chairman, with the backlog of work in Ontario law reform that has piled up under this government over many years since it held office, I would think that the last thing we would be talking about is the claim that we have finally appointed an Ontario law reform commission before anyone else in the country.

The laws of this province are in an archaic state in so many fields that it is going to take the law reform commission, with the best and most competent staff in the world and with the total assistance of the law faculties throughout the province of Ontario, many years to complete the list of topics which the Attorney General has advised us are before that body for study.

I refer again to what is becoming the classic example of the backlog of reform which has reached the point where it appears to have choked the ability of this government to implement changes. I refer to the personal property security law. We have suffered in this province for so many years under a series of statutes related to commercial transactions such as the The Bills of Sale and Chattel Mortgages Act, The Conditional Sales Act, The Assignment of Book Debts Act, the various statutes that relate to that particular important field of commercial activities. And there has been a personal property security law drafted by a competent committee—one of the best committees that the bar association has ever put together under Mr. Catzman.

It was reviewed at a conference at Osgoode Hall, and I referred to it the other day, about four years ago at which was all the assembled knowledge available on the functioning of this system in the United States. And it is modelled on many years of earlier research in the United States.

This conference was held in 1963. The papers which were presented at it were available to the public. From that time, further studies in refinements were made in the bill. The bill was finally reviewed by The Attorney General's Department and now it lies in the lap of the Ontario law reform commission. Now this is one bill, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister could extract from

that commission. Nobody is going to suffer any harm if the law reform commission simply says: "Well, we have so much work to do, you, Mr. Attorney General take that bill back; introduce it into the Legislature of the province of Ontario, and get on with the revision of that aspect of the laws of the province of Ontario".

This to my mind is incomprehensible—that this Act has not been passed; that it has not been debated in his House for second reading and gone through committee. Then we would be at least in the process of preparing whatever regulations are necessary to implement it. It is well known that it will require a very highly developed method of transmitting information from various parts of the province, but that is not an insurmountable problem. The development of that electronic transmitting service could very well have been going along hand in hand with the progress of the bill.

I am certainly going to ask the Attorney General again to give us an up-to-date report as to when he intends this bill to become part of the law of the province of Ontario, and when the system will be instituted that will remove this archaic system when one endeavours to find whether a piece of personal property in the province of Ontario is owned by the person who alleges that he owns it, free of encumbrance, or what the encumbrances are which are on that particular chattel.

There are many many fields which this covers. The particular dramatic one, of course, is the automobile. Because of its high mobility, it is an area where people often buy automobiles without having any adequate knowledge of whether they are subject to prior lien; no adequate knowledge which permits them to trace the ownership of that vehicle to make certain that when they buy it they are getting a good title to it. This is only one of the more obvious areas, but throughout the whole field of commercial business transactions we have got to have an up-to-date system.

Now I recognize that those statutes, The Used Car Dealers' Act, and a number of statutes were transferred out of this department to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. But in this department the law reform commission is the department which will be introducing that personal property securities bill. I think that we must get on with it and I urge the Attorney General to say that he will bring it in this session and that we will get on with having it implemented.

The other areas, Mr. Chairman, which again give me a sense of frustration is that even in the traditional areas of law, we have a statement in answer to a question when the bill was going through raising the number of county court judges in the county of York by two. We have the statement from the Attorney General that the county of York is the only county where there is a backlog of cases and that these two judges, he is advised, will fill up the complement of county court judges so that there will be no backlog.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the kind of information the Attorney General must have before he gives this information to the Legislature is not the kind of information he gets by being advised. I think it is important for the Attorney General in each court in the province of Ontario to find out what cases are on the docket, when the case commenced, what its progress has been through the courts, how long it has been in the process of administration of justice, so that we can make the decision as to whether the fundamentals of the system are working; not just a question of whether ultimately the cases are on the docket list for the particular court on that day. I think it is incumbent on the Attorney General to know statistically when the cases began.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder if the hon. member would yield a moment?

The hon. member has just got through saying that I should have reports and, as he goes on to say, they should be made here at the Legislature. The information I gave the House about the condition of the county courts in this province and the status of the cases there, was obtained from the chief judge of that court who, I think the hon. member will agree, is a most competent, capable, very conscientious person who has made that study, who has surveyed each court, who has the report, who has furnished it to me. I have his report, in writing, and he says to me that it is a report in which he takes much satisfaction and one which gives me much satisfaction. I pass this information on to the House. I do not think that the hon. member surely intends—I do not know, how he intends—that the Attorney General should relate to himself, or to this House, the date on which a particular case at each particular court should come on for hearing and be heard. When the chief judge of the county and district courts says our backlogs have been cleared away, our courts are operating and these are the judges we need, how else

could we expect the Attorney General then to act?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I repeat what I said a year ago that The Attorney General's Department has got to discover the science of statistics. It has got to discover the fact that it is possible in a statistical way to present to the Legislature the information on which these decisions are based. I am delighted to hear that, Mr. Chairman, because I wanted to clear the Attorney General's mind.

I was not asking him to recite case by case which case started on what date but suggesting a compilation of the dates on which the cases commenced in the courts, their progress through the various stages of pleadings in the court, the point at which they were set down for trial, what the delays are in these cases, because, Mr. Chairman, I think while there has been some improvement over the year, I would like to see a comparison of the length of time that it takes our cases to go through the courts from the time they are commenced, not only through to the trial of the case, but through to the point where the judge gives his decision and his reasons for judgment.

I would like to see a comparison between the length of time the cases take in some other courts in the United Kingdom, or in other jurisdictions if necessary. I certainly get the impression that our court procedures, by and large, in civil matters, are unduly lackadaisical in the progress of the cases through the courts.

I am not levelling criticism at anybody when I make that comment. I am simply saying that over a period of time we have had such a relaxed system of the administration of justice in civil matters that we have tended to accept as a normal part of the administration of justice unnecessarily long delays and periods of time before a case goes from the issue of the writ to the final disposition of that matter.

I think that in the county court, in the Supreme Court and in the appeal court, if necessary in the Supreme Court of Canada, the Attorney General could certainly look into these matters. There may well be good explanations of delays in some matters, but as I say if we have the basic statistical information for each court presented, and I think it could be presented in tabular form in a proper Attorney General's report at the time of the presentation of the estimates, we could get some idea of where the areas are which cause what appear to a lay observer to be delays and unnecessary delays in the processes of our courts.

Now this is equally true, Mr. Chairman, in a large respect in the criminal courts. I think the same kind of statistical information is very necessary for us to exercise any proper judgment on what is required in order to up-date the processes of the courts.

In this same question of the actual administration of the traditional courts of the province, it would appear to me to be time that consideration was given to an up-dated method of advising counsel who have to appear in the courts of the progress of the cases in the courts. I think there is no lawyer, certainly in the metropolitan area, who does not suffer this constant and continuous frustration of spending many hours sitting around in courtrooms waiting for cases to be called. Now the farther up the hierarchy of the courts you get, because of the limited number of cases, this is not such a problem. But it certainly is a problem in the lower courts, and it is a very real problem in courts such as the juvenile and family court.

I realize that by tradition we seem to not pay very much attention to whether or not people are represented in those junior courts. The assumption seems to be that if a lawyer appears in that court, well that is fine, but if a person appears in those courts without a lawyer, it is not terribly serious. He will be asked if he has a lawyer, or if it is in the division court, he will not even be asked, but the courts assume they can deal with the matter and mete out justice without people being represented in the court.

It would seem to me to be very important, certainly with the legal aid plan about to come into operation, that we find out how many people will be represented in division court; how many are now represented, what the charges are that lawyers make for representation in those courts. The Attorney General knows as well as anybody else either that lawyers will not now go into the courts where most people have their brushes with the law, or come in contact with the administration of the system, they either will not go into those courts, or if they do go into those courts they will go in only at fees which are, in relation to the ability of the people in those courts to pay, exorbitant.

As I say, the legal aid plan may solve some part of this problem, but certainly in the juvenile and family court and in the division courts, I would venture to predict that it will be some considerable time before there is any acceptance of the principle that a person is automatically entitled to representation in those courts, and be quite satisfied to leave

it to the judgment of lawyers as to whether or not they are going to waste the time of the court.

I think this is just a red herring and I do not think by and large with the pressure of legal business in the province as a whole, and in the metropolitan area in particular, that any lawyer is going to try and obstruct, or hinder or unnecessarily protract the proceedings in the court. Indeed, it may do a great deal to speed up the processes of the courts.

I know from my own experience, brief as it has been that, to represent people from my riding in the juvenile and family court is about as frustrating an experience as anybody could go through. You spend literally several hours there. Your case may not be called. There is no system by which you can find out when you are likely to be called. You can spend anywhere from one day to two or three days just waiting for a particular matter to reach the point where the court can deal with it.

I repeat this again, I am not criticizing any specific persons or functions of those courts. I am simply saying that the reason is that we do not have the basic statistical information which will allow the Attorney General to come to grips with what is required for a reorganization of the affairs of those courts.

Last year I spent a considerable amount of time, I do not intend to repeat it, it is on the record, dealing not with questions of law or principles, or anything else, dealing simply with the convenience of those courts to the citizens of the community. The convenience of the magistrate's court; the convenience of the division court; the convenience of the juvenile and family courts. What adaptations are made so that those courts can provide the kind of service which they are designed to provide to the citizens? We are past the time when the exercise of the administration of justice comes down to us from a raised dais and that the person in the court is there by grace or by leave of some omnipotent system.

The courts are there for the convenience of the citizens, which, to my view, sir, next to the justice administered by the courts, is the second most important requirement of the administration of justice.

I think that these points have been raised many times: the question of the hours of the courts, when they sit, when the summer adjournments are, whether cases can be tried with some kind of alacrity and whether there are procedures which make certain that a person does not sit in uncongenial surroundings while he waits for a case to come up.

The Attorney General indicated to the member for Downsview that he is quite familiar with the city hall. Well the waiting room outside number 23 court, for example, is about as inhospitable a place to spend any time as one could imagine.

Again, I will not repeat the question of the accommodation of the magistrates' courts. It has been repeated to the point where no one now seriously thinks that any effort is going to be made to house the junior courts in the downtown part of the city, in adequate accommodation. We just do not think that is likely to take place, either under the impetus of this government, nor the municipal governments concerned.

It is our view, and a very simple view, that the quality of the architectural structure in which those junior courts operate should be at least equivalent to the court house on University Avenue. Indeed, there would be a great deal to say to give visual evidence of the equality of the administration of justice, and of the quality of the justice administered, if all our courts were housed in the same buildings; that the county courts and the supreme courts, which are housed in these magnificent buildings on University Avenue, should have no better treatment, no better surroundings, than the magistrates' courts and the juvenile and family court or the division court.

I know that in some of the outlying areas of the metropolitan district, these courts are new structures and there has been some effort made to design the courts in a more modern way. But I am suggesting to the Attorney General that much can be done, and certainly in the centre of Toronto. When, and if, a court house is built for these junior courts it should, in my view, be a model of what the administration of justice requires in the city.

Mr. Chairman, I notice in the estimates that the Attorney General is asking for some additional \$10 million. The great bulk of it, both from his comments and from a comparison of the estimates of last year and this year, would indicate that practically all of it falls either to the Ontario Provincial Police or under the vote for the administration of justice.

The increases for the Ontario police commission and the Ontario Provincial Police, and the increases for the administration of justice division, account in substance for the additional \$10 million.

It would appear that from the remarks of the Attorney General that the increase, by

and large, is for provision of additional personnel and most of it will go by way of salary.

Little, if any, appears to be devoted towards up-to-date equipment or systems for his department, or for the administration of justice. There seems to be no endeavour on the part of this department to adopt new methods of, for example, reading law, which is a long, time-consuming problem with which I am certain the office of the senior Crown counsel is quite familiar.

So far as I know, there is no effort made now to adapt, in Toronto, electronic methods of getting the information about earlier cases so that an unnecessary, and unduly long period of time, will not be taken up in reading law. The Attorney General knows that this is a very time-consuming pastime for counsel who are engaged in the preparation of briefs and the kind of matters in which his department is interested.

I have not had an opportunity to see the method used, but I understand that in California there is quite an up-to-date method by which a person can readily find all the cases that deal with a particular matter—and an almost complete summary of those cases—in such a way that it eliminates a great deal of what we, who are brought up in the older tradition of law, realize is a very time-consuming and wasteful part of the practice of law.

The hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) tells me that there has been some endeavour made to start such a system, and to bring it up to date.

I would certainly hope that in this field, the Attorney General would give the lead for the rest of the province. Certainly, if the universities are talking about a centralized library system, one of the areas in the province of Ontario which could be looked into by the Attorney General would be some form of a centralized legal library with perhaps divisional libraries throughout the province.

It seems that apart from certain basic cases, it appears to me to be quite unnecessary to duplicate the law libraries in six, seven or eight centres throughout the province of Ontario. It should be possible, by up-to-date electronic methods, to not only improve the total quality of the law libraries in all its aspects, but also to have as fine a law library system with complete information, in the province of Ontario as they have anywhere. At the same time it would eliminate a substantial amount of the cost which would be involved if each of the university law

schools is going to establish or attempt to establish, their own law libraries.

The number of books, the number of articles and the importance of the journals is getting to the point in law that it has reached in some of the other sciences. I would ask the Attorney General if he would give consideration, during the course of these estimates, to commenting somewhat about the overall arrangements made to coordinate the work and research of the law schools of the University of Toronto, and of the other law schools throughout the province.

I would ask the Attorney General if he would comment, during the course of these estimates, on the question of his view of the quality of the legal instruction in the schools throughout the province of Ontario; whether he has any over-view of the state of legal scholarship; and whether his department is interested in the number of dollars which are available for research work in legal problems at the law schools? I find it difficult to get the kind of information that I would like to have as to whether or not, for example, the University of Toronto law school, in the allocation of funds through the universities' systems, is receiving grants which permit scholars to spend time in legal work.

It is a matter of concern to me that of all the areas where we have had so much difficulty, it is the area of the markets of the province of Ontario—which are now under the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs—that the quality of legal scholarship has been one of the reasons why we have had, in my view, outdated marketing regulations in all the fields of the market.

It is very easy to point to this Legislature or to point to the Toronto stock exchange or to point to the Ontario securities commission as to where the fault lies of the breakdown of the system which has led to these various collapses which have occurred over a period of time and why our laws are not up to date, and why it seems to take so long to get the laws brought up to date in these fields. I am suggesting to the Attorney General that one of the basic reasons is a total disinterest in the law faculties of the province of Ontario in these fields.

Again, I am not criticizing any particular law school or faculty of law; this is not the purpose of my remarks. I am simply saying that the traditional topics that were taught at the law schools were well taught, but the whole area of the market, the whole area of the financial markets, of the markets for goods and services, is an area which has not as yet

attracted any profound legal scholarship in the province of Ontario.

We are suffering from it, as we suffered from it in the select committee on corporate law. It is fair to say that an endeavour was made to have the universities cooperate and provide some of the research work for that committee. It is fair to say that it was obvious in the results which were obtained in those studies that the universities are not yet capable, or have not had the qualified people who can deal in these fields for the purpose of doing the research which is necessary.

Again, I am not reflecting on it; I am simply pointing to the responsibility, in my view, of the Attorney General for the state of legal scholarship in the province of Ontario. I think he should specifically interest himself in making certain that in the funds which are made available for research purposes an ample and proper amount goes to the law schools throughout the province for research purposes.

I know that the Attorney General has indicated that the law reform commission is dispersing a lot of its work through the universities. This will be helpful, but in the state of the faculties of the law schools throughout the province, it is very difficult to get the quality of scholarship unless specific

persons are awarded research foundation awards to go on and do research in the traditional way, rather than to do it as a farmed-out project for the law reform commission.

Mr. Chairman: May I remind the member that it is 1 o'clock?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of supply rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply reports progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will have Budget debate and the private members' hour at 5 p.m.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.05 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, March 6, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1967

The House met at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in this assembly at this time we pay very respectful tribute to a great public figure who during his lifetime served his native land, our own Canada, in many spheres of usefulness and activity. Now he has gone and we are saddened by the passing of His Excellency, the Governor-General of Canada, General Georges Philias Vanier, who died in Ottawa yesterday.

After the news of his death on Sunday I issued a statement which I would like to read to the House at this time:

The Canadian nation mourns the passing of Governor-General Georges Vanier, and the government and the people of Ontario sorrow with Madame Vanier and the family on the death of this distinguished Canadian.

He embodied the special qualities which set him apart as a great unifying force in the sometimes tangled skein of our national affairs. As a man of high principles and integrity, he played his part for Queen and country in a manner befitting the Vice Regal representative of Her Majesty. Nor did he spare himself in the devoted service he rendered as an outstanding diplomat and as a high-ranking military officer in World War I.

Bilingual himself, and of great culture and charm, he was greatly esteemed by the English-speaking and French-speaking people of Canada, as well as by citizens of other origins who came from other far away lands to make their homes in this country. He had a vision of a united Canada whose people would dwell together in amity and concord; and they will so remember him, as the beneficiaries of his good works.

Mr. Speaker, this much beloved and respected Governor-General has served the Canadian people well; with your permission I would like to propose a resolution to be included in the records of this assembly. At the conclusion of the tributes by leaders and other members of the House, when the motion is

passed, I would suggest to you that there be one minute of silence in memory of His Excellency.

I now beg to move, seconded by the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) that:

The legislative assembly of the province of Ontario and Parliament here assembled, place upon the records of this House an expression of its sorrow and the sorrow of the people of Ontario on the death of His Excellency, General Georges Philias Vanier, DSO, MC and Bar, Canadian Forces Decoration, Governor-General of Canada. On his passing we are conscious of the loss of a great public servant who had rendered exceptional service to his nation in peace and in war and who stood high in the councils of our Commonwealth of Nations. His long and distinguished career, as well as his personal qualities, secure for him a lasting place in the hearts of his countrymen and we honour his memory.

To Madame Vanier and her family the assembly extends the sympathy of the people of Ontario in the loss of a devoted husband and father. We mourn with them on their bereavement.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, in seconding the motion moved by the hon. Prime Minister, there is little I can add to the sentiments expressed in that motion.

But I do say, sir, as we contemplate the lifetime of selfless service given by this soldier, diplomat, statesman—and above all Canadian—everyone who lives within this country must recognize that we are richer because he passed our way. As I watched on television last evening some of the pictures that dealt with his life as a Canadian, I was most moved by the ease of his approach to the boys and girls of this country as he passed and visited from one end of the country to the other.

His long and distinguished career, as well as his personal qualities, secure for him a lasting place in the hearts of his countrymen; and we indeed honour his memory.

Perhaps—and I am sure, Mr. Speaker, even though we depart from it on occasion in our

partisan debates—we must be able to learn from him an attitude that he expressed so well in his New Year's message to this country, when he said:

Let us open the windows and doors of the provinces, let us look over the walls and the boundaries of the provinces, let us build a greater Canada.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, nobody in this country personified more completely and more acceptably the bilingual and bicultural nature of Canada than Georges Philias Vanier.

Just last night I, like everybody across this country, had the privilege of listening once again to the New Year's message to which the hon. member for Downsview has referred. The late Governor-General spoke with a passion and a conviction and a love of his country that was profoundly moving. We were reminded once again how his words had eased the tensions and hurdled the barriers between our provinces and our peoples.

No one, literally no one, has spoken more eloquently on the central theme of Canadian life at the present time.

We can ill afford to lose the counsel, and more important the example of a man such as this at this particular stage in our history. We can only hope that the memory of the man

will continue to be as influential as his presence was now that he has been taken from us.

I join with those who have spoken and everybody in this House in paying my tribute and expressing our sense of bereavement to the family, and indeed to all of the Canadian people.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the resolution carried.

I would ask the members to rise and observe a minute's silence in remembrance of His Excellency.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that out of respect to His Excellency, the late General Vanier, Governor-General of Canada, this House do now adjourn until Wednesday next, at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker: Prior to the putting of this motion, I have been asked to remind the members of the House that the private bills committee, which I understand was to have met tomorrow morning, will meet on Thursday morning instead. All other committee meetings for tomorrow are, of course, cancelled.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 3.00 o'clock, p.m.

ERRATUM

Tuesday, February 28, 1967

Page	Column	Line	Correction
983	1	46	Change to read: Mr. Racine: Well, Mr. Chairman, I was referring particularly to "killer strip" around Cumberland.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, March 8, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature, and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, St. Matthew's separate school, Toronto, and in the west gallery students from Humbercrest senior public school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports by committees.

Motions.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves that the time for receiving reports by the standing committee on private bills be extended to tomorrow, Thursday, March 9.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): **Mr. Speaker,** before the orders of the day, may I take a moment to draw the attention of the House, particularly members of the committee on agriculture, to the fact that a meeting has been arranged between members of the agriculture committee and the quota committee of the Ontario milk marketing board. This meeting has been set for Thursday, March 9, at 10 a.m. in committee room No. 1.

The purpose of the meeting is to enable the committee on agriculture to obtain firsthand information in connection with the very complex quota policy of the board. The meeting will also give the quota committee an opportunity to acquaint the members with their policies, programmes and other related matters which are presently being considered in the administration and development of the quota policy by the Ontario milk marketing board.

I am sure, **Mr. Speaker,** that this meeting will give members of the committee on agriculture of the House an opportunity to obtain

clarification on any matter they may wish to raise in connection with the quota policy of the board.

Now, **Mr. Speaker,** if I may, while I am on my feet, take a few minutes of the House to bring to the attention of the members a matter which I consider to be of importance to the farm people of Ontario. Members of the House will recall that in 1962 the Ontario farm machinery investigation committee was appointed to investigate all aspects of the supply, suitability and functional problems of mechanical farm equipment.

Since that time, the committee has been active, functioning as the Ontario farm machinery advisory board and much has been done to resolve problems arising between the farmers, dealers, distributors and manufacturers. In addition to this activity, the board has been instrumental in initiating the farm machinery mechanics' course at the University of Guelph.

The course has been designed to provide a pool of trained mechanics suitable to the farm machinery dealer. Since the establishment of the farm machinery investigation committee some five years ago, the farm machinery situation has changed considerably. It is now felt desirable to evaluate and assess the implementation of recommendations made by the board to the machinery industry and government agencies over the course of the years.

For this purpose, the Ontario farm machinery advisory board has arranged to hold open meetings to enable individual farmers and farm groups to present their views. Four meetings have been arranged across the province:

On Monday, March 13, the western Ontario agricultural school, Ridgetown;

On Tuesday, March 21, memorial hall, University of Guelph;

On Monday, March 27, Kemptville agricultural school, at Kemptville;

On Tuesday, April 4, the experimental farm at New Liskeard.

These meetings will commence at 1.30 p.m. and all farmers and farm groups have

been invited to attend and present their opinions.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Speaker, how many public meetings has this committee had up until the present time?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This is a new series of meetings. They have not had any meetings of late at all.

Mr. Oliver: Have they had any?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Not of late, but they did originally. They had a series of meetings four or five years ago, and they have acted as a farm machinery advisory board—

Mr. Oliver: Oh, I did not know they had any—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: This group has set up this committee, and it has done an extremely fine job, Mr. Speaker. It has worked as the liaison between the farmer and the farm machinery company and have resolved many points of contention. I realize that there are many still to be resolved. This is one of the reasons why they propose to have this series of meetings, to get first hand information.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, in the estimates of The Department of Highways, the Minister (Mr. Gomme) was going to furnish information insofar as the policy on the purchase of—

Mr. Speaker: I might inform the member that we are not finished with the statements before the orders of the day.

Mr. A. K. Roberts (St. Patrick): Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise from my seat in the Legislature today before the orders of the day and make a short statement, reading this letter, a letter addressed to you, sir, of today's date, the contents of which the Prime Minister of our province (Mr. Robarts) is fully aware. I would have hoped that perhaps he would be in the House on this occasion. But as all members know, he is representing our great province of Ontario in Ottawa, at the state funeral service for His Excellency the Governor-General.

As you and the members of the Legislature are aware, in the redistribution of ridings the historic riding of St. Patrick will be partitioned. A considerable part will go into the somewhat enlarged riding of St. George and the rest will be incorporated with practically all the present St. Andrew riding and a bit of the present Bellwoods riding to constitute at the time of the next

general election and afterwards the riding of St. Andrew-St. Patrick.

On February 10 last in this Legislature, sir, I spoke at some length, and after a great deal of preparation, on the subject of securities and stock exchanges. I am pleased to note the major changes which have taken place within the last week with respect to the office of the president of the Toronto stock exchange and the personnel of the Ontario securities commission. I anticipate that further appropriate legislation will be enacted this session.

I also recognize the desires of the sitting members and others to organize and prepare for the next general election, whenever that may be. Furthermore, I have the assurances of both the hon. member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) and the hon. Minister from St. Andrew (Mr. Grossman) that for the balance of the life of the Legislature they will assume full responsibility for looking after the needs of those constituents of the present St. Patrick riding, who will be residing under the redistribution in their respective new boundary ridings.

As for myself, I have already announced that I am resuming the practice of law. And I believe that after the very considerable length of service that I have had in this Legislature and in the public life of the province of Ontario, I can now perhaps do better by giving undivided attention to the building up of a legal practice in which I hope to have some years yet and to be in association with my middle son who is a lawyer, and leaving it to the members of this Legislature and the successors of those who will not be here after the next general election, to carry on the ever imminent and often extremely onerous duties of government and Parliament in Ontario.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as I come to the last two short paragraphs of the letter I wrote you, I wish to say before continuing it that in all the years of political activities, victories, defeats, battles and peaceful pursuits, my wife, who is in the Speaker's gallery with one of my sons as I speak, has been my running mate. And to the extent that I have been controlled, I attribute it to the great controlling and guiding influence she has exerted with a charming ability to caution and direct from an instinctive *savoir faire*.

I wish, Mr. Speaker, that I could shake hands with everybody in the Legislature. I hope that within the next few days I will have the opportunity of doing that. But I did

choose this particular method of now coming to what I have to say because of my long association with this chamber and with most of the members in it; a long association and with all of them, a pleasant association. Mr. Speaker, I therefore, pursuant to section 19a of The Legislative Assembly Act of Ontario, give in my place in this assembly, notice of my intention to resign my St. Patrick seat.

We are all delighted with the return to duty of the Prime Minister of the province and in addition to extending my good wishes to all my fellow members of the assembly and to my friends in the press gallery and my friends the attendants and people who are associated with us from day to day in the precincts of this assembly, and in fact to all the civil service which is a wonderful body, I say my good wishes to all. My last words here, however, will be a sincere and fervent wish of good health and strength to the hon. Prime Minister.

Applause.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I had a number of questions. One was to the hon. Minister of Agriculture, but I assume, in the light of the statement which he has made, that this is his reply and I will await a meeting of the milk marketing quota committee tomorrow to see if I can get a fuller explanation.

Another question I had was directed to the Prime Minister. I do not know whether the House leader wishes to deal with it but if not I will put it on the record: (1) in view of the drastic decline in housing starts in Ontario as disclosed by figures announced Monday by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will the Prime Minister consider the appointment of a Minister of housing whose exclusive responsibility will be to develop a programme adequate to meet this emergency? And (2) is the government now willing to give major stress to a large-scale programme of construction of public housing?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think from the nature of this question, it must be obvious to all of the House that it can only be answered by the Prime Minister himself, and as is well known to everyone he is in Ottawa today attending the funeral of His Excellency.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my second question is to the hon. Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). My batting average is rather low this afternoon—again, perhaps I could put it on the record.

In view of the widespread opposition to the proposed site of the northern college of applied arts and technology in the Timmins area, will the government initiate a review of the decision before granting approval of it?

My final question is to the hon. Minister of Health. Does the government or the Ontario hospital services commission suggest to hospital boards that RNAs should be paid at the rate of 70 per cent of the registered nurses' scale of pay?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, the government does not involve itself in these matters in any way whatsoever. The official agency of the government, the Ontario hospital services commission, does accept this arrangement where it is now practised and where it has been practised.

The commission, however, does not direct hospital boards in a matter of this kind, as in many cases agreement is reached and the rate payable to RNAs is determined on the free collective bargaining system which is carried on under The Ontario Labour Relations Act.

Mr. MacDonald: I wonder if the Minister would permit a supplementary question?

In what hospitals is the figure of 70 per cent of the full RN scale accepted and now being paid? Is the Minister in a position to indicate that to me?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: No, I am not but I can undertake to get that information for the hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Thank you very much.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Mines. Could the Minister inform the House of the present status of MacLeod-Cockshutt Gold Mines and Consolidated Mosher Mines in the Geraldton area? There was an announcement previously that they were going to close up.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the leader of the Opposition for asking me the question. MacLeod-Cockshutt Gold Mines and Mosher Gold Mines have been placed, as of February 1, 1967, on a salvage basis. The mine anticipates that production can be maintained for another three to four years, provided there is no appreciable rise in costs. I am very happy to make that announcement, Mr. Speaker. It will be of great solace to the people of my area, especially Geraldton.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Highways, notice of which has been given.

In view of the reported damage to the Leaside bridge over the Don Valley parkway in Toronto, is the province now satisfied that inhibitors should be added to the salt that is sprayed on Ontario highways?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member's question, the problem of bridge deck deterioration is not new to road builders in the parts of North America which rely on the use of chemicals for the removal of snow and ice from roadways.

In 1962, a survey of concrete bridges in Ontario showed that amongst the older bridges a great deal of deterioration had taken place in areas exposed to chemical solution. In a structure, deterioration finally takes place in the concrete and not in the steel. If corrosion inhibitors had any value in these circumstances, it would be in the protection of steel rather than the concrete, but there is no evidence at this time to show that inhibitors would, in fact, be effective in protecting reinforcing steel, again already enclosed in concrete.

Concrete deterioration of bridges is primarily caused by the freezing and thawing of the water soaked into the concrete and this action is accentuated by the presence of chemicals in the solution. Advances in concrete technology during the last few years have made it possible to afford a large measure of protection to structures by entraining air in the concrete during construction. A further measure of protection is also afforded by waterproofing bridge decks to prevent the entry of water into the concrete.

I can assure the hon. member that this problem has for some time been under close scrutiny by our engineers. Every effort is being made to protect new structures and a programme is under way to repair any old structures which show signs of deterioration. We do not believe at this time that the use of inhibitors offers a practical method of protecting structures from this deterioration.

Mr. Speaker, several days ago the hon. member for Bracondale asked me some question which I would like to answer at this time.

Question 1: What changes have been made in the operations of the Metropolitan Toronto roads department since July, 1965?

During the fall of 1965, the Metropolitan Toronto roads department underwent a re-

organization from its original concept of four divisions—namely, a design division, a project division, a maintenance division and an administrative division. The new organization has a planning and design branch, made up of design, planning and survey divisions, an operations branch incorporating a construction division, and a maintenance division. The original organization did not have in it a planning organization and all planning was done by the Metro Toronto planning board transportation division. It was felt that there was a need to supplement these evaluations of road needs to include such things as priority studies, new road requirements, local road assumptions and long-range programmes.

Up to January 1, 1967, the city of Toronto had done all Metropolitan roadway maintenance within the city of Toronto, including such things as patching and winter maintenance, but not including resurfacing or major construction. As of this date, the Metropolitan Toronto roads department is now undertaking all maintenance work on roads under the jurisdiction of the municipality of Metro Toronto. In addition to the reorganization just mentioned, certain cooperative efforts have been undertaken by the Metro roads department and The Department of Highways of Ontario.

As the member is aware, the department tabled in the House last year a report relative to certain aspects of the metropolitan roads department. Due to certain weaknesses pointed out by that report in the Metro system, Metro Toronto requested the assistance of the department in establishing a new system.

A committee was established, consisting of various Metropolitan Toronto personnel, together with representatives of The Department of Highways operation branch and engineering audit section. The department has supplied this committee with various standard department forms used in our control system and methods of computing quantities. Nine rules of operating procedures have also been supplied.

The committee is developing a system for the Metro roads department along similar lines to that used by The Department of Highways. Consultation will continue with various Department of Highways personnel regarding future problems. Specifications are to be modified and clarified to define more clearly the requirements of the work and the basis of measurement and payment.

Another technical committee has been established with representatives of the Metro

roads department and The Department of Highways of Ontario to review design standards, to modify them and to incorporate the latest features relative to safety, cross-section design, illumination and guardrail design. As a result of this committee's activities, the Metro roads department are adopting similar standards to those used by the department on urban expressways. The committee is also carrying out field reviews of existing Metro Toronto expressways.

Question 2: How many reports of violation, breaches of contract and other irregularities have occurred in the last three years in connection with construction of roads in the municipality of Metro Toronto?

The answer: The Department of Highways of Ontario is aware of none. Metropolitan Toronto is an autonomous municipality and as such calls and administers its own contracts. The Department of Highways does not control these contracts and is therefore not aware of these matters.

Question 3: What repairs are to be effected to the superstructure of the Frederick Gardiner expressway bridge on the Humber to the Lakeshore?

No repairs have recently been made to the Humber River bridge on the Gardiner expressway. In the summer of 1966, The Department of Highways in conjunction with the Metro roads department investigated the structural conditions of the Humber River bridge. It was found that certain settlement had taken place on all the structures crossing the Humber River in this area.

As early as 1940 we were aware that the railway bridge was in distress due to bank movement. A new pier was constructed for this bridge and other remedial action was taken. The Department of Highways bridge division has been actively working on this problem with the Metro roads department, and it has now been agreed that in the spring of 1967 certain remedial work will be carried out on the east abutment of this structure.

Question 4: How much will this cost?

As yet, there is no estimate of the cost of repair to this structure.

Question 4(b): How much will be paid by the province? The answer: 50 per cent.

Mr. Ben: May I ask a supplementary question of the hon. Minister? Is the Minister not aware that a directive went out from his department in July, 1965, drawing to the attention of Metro authorities that it was their responsibility to inform The Department of Highways of any deviations or variations from

the contract, or any abnormal operation, to assist the department in assessing the different contractors as to their ability to carry out contracts?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: I am unaware of that directive, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people I represent in Grey North, I want to pay tribute to the hon. member for St. Patrick for the lifetime of service he has given this House. I think someone should have risen and made mention of this; this man has been great for the people of this province. I have always found him honourable and fair and I think he has done a great job.

In speaking to the answer made by the Minister of Highways—

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the member is out of order. There will be plenty of opportunity afterwards to speak on this particular point.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Now he has a question.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister promised to table the next day in the estimates of the department, the policy so far as purchasing of graders, trucks, automotive equipment and the commissions, if they were paid. The whole policy was to be tabled the day after his estimates. He is a week late now.

Mr. Speaker: Would the member direct a question instead of making a speech to the Minister of Highways?

Mr. Sargent: Yes, I will. I will give you one first, Mr. Speaker. There are four or five questions on the order paper now—

Mr. Speaker: Would the member simply direct his question to the Minister as to when these questions will be answered.

Mr. Sargent: May I ask, when is the Minister going to table the information?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, if I may answer, I might say I am not aware of having told the hon. member that I would table it the next day. But I certainly am aware of having told him I would provide the information. And I can assure him that this will be done.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I should mention that the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) gave notice this morning of a

question to the hon. Minister of Education. Both of these distinguished gentlemen are absent from the House at the moment but perhaps I can start this search for information by putting the question on the record.

Has the Minister had any notice from the council of Metropolitan Toronto and the Metro school board that they intend to approach him for financial assistance in overcoming the capital deficit in school building for the year 1967-68? If so, what is the Minister's response likely to be?

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, in returning today to the business of the House and the Budget Debate, we turn away, as we must, from the great and sad national occasion that has compelled our attention this week as we have mourned the death of our beloved Governor-General, the Right Honourable Georges P. Vanier.

It is unnecessary to add anything to the tributes paid earlier this week to the distinguished service and the fatherly personality of General Vanier. I note this, however: Many of us have among our books the collected speeches of noted Canadians, and others. One must hope that by some means, from among the spoken words of this unusually eloquent Canadian gentleman, General Vanier, some selections may be made and published in due course.

I would submit that it would be valuable to Canada if such a book were to become widely available.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first opportunity I have had in this session to pay compliments to you for the most acceptable manner in which you perform your responsibilities. I do so with pleasure.

I would like to add to the thoughtful words of the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent) concerning the resignation from the membership of this House of the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts) and to couple with his name that of Mr. Louis Cecile, who resigned at an earlier time during this session. Of both of these gentlemen, I would say that they have been conscientious representatives of their own ridings. They were

gracious in the exercise of their duties as members of the executive council, and in everything they were devoted to the best interests of the people of our great province.

Today it is my privilege, Mr. Speaker, to outline Ontario Hydro matters which were of significance during 1966 and to give you a look into future plans. I cannot attempt to give a review of all highlights, but it seemed to me useful to offer to the House a statement which could be the basis for questions at the committee on government commissions or during the estimates of The Department of Energy and Resources Management. To give a concise summation of the past year, I would state it this way:

Completion of 60 years of service and plans to double generating capacity within the next eight years—or, to provide an even shorter summary, I would like to label the past year with a single word, "challenge". The vigorous growth of our province in recent years—and last year was certainly no exception—has taxed our power producing resources to the utmost. To keep pace with the electrical requirements of Ontario is indeed a challenge.

The peak demand for electricity, for example, reached an all-time high of 8,565,465 kilowatts in late December. This represented an increase of about 9.6 per cent over 1965, and marks the second straight year in which demands have exceeded the long-term average growth rate of 6.5 per cent. For January, 1967, primary energy totalled 4.61 billion kilowatt hours, which was up 7.4 per cent over the same month one year ago.

Although we expect power demands will level out this year, the pace of construction for developing new generating capacity cannot be allowed to slacken. If we were to label Centennial year in any special way, we might say that in this 12-month period the milestone Ontario Hydro expects to reach is installation of the largest annual increase ever in new generating capacity. Slightly over one million additional kilowatts are scheduled for 1967, which will boost Hydro's total resources to nearly ten million kilowatts. In terms of money, we expect to spend \$216 million on capital construction and this is about \$20 million more than was spent last year.

To build up a greater reserve of capacity is one reason why the tempo of construction activity has quickened. Also, the technical character of the Hydro system is changing radically. The addition of gigantic thermal units of 500,000 kilowatts and greater is beginning to account for a more substantial percentage of our total resources.

Another reason for maintaining a fast construction pace is the complexity of these larger machines. Quite frequently manufacturers are unable to meet our scheduled requirements on time, either because of a piece of equipment, usually a prototype, failed to function properly, or because of delays caused by labour stoppages.

Right now, Ontario Hydro is embarked on a five-year construction programme which will entail an expenditure of \$1.2 billion to 1971. Included in the projects are huge coal burning plants, equally large nuclear electric stations, and a number of hydro-electric plants, as well as transmission and distribution facilities.

Reviewing the past year, I believe the most significant highlight was the start-up of the nuclear reactor at the Douglas Point power station, which is this country's first full-scale nuclear electric plant. Shortly, we expect Douglas Point to be brought to full power of 200,000 kilowatts. As you know the \$85 million Atomic Energy of Canada Limited plant was built in cooperation with Ontario Hydro, with the latter supplying crews to operate it. The agreement between AECL and Ontario Hydro calls for the latter to purchase the plant when it is proven satisfactory.

I would suggest that for the balance of the 20th century, nuclear power seems destined to play a dominant role in our province. Not only will we benefit from low-cost electrical energy, but the provincial uranium industry will receive a shot in the arm as well.

There is already evidence of this. In December, Ontario Hydro concluded agreements for purchases of approximately 6,500 short tons of uranium concentrates. This order will be supplied on an expanding scale of deliveries running through to the early 1980s. Hydro planners estimate it will be sufficient for continued fueling of Douglas Point, the first two 540,000 kilowatt units at Pickering and additional units of similar size added each year to 1980.

I am sure hon. members have seen the notable assurance of our confidence in the atom taking form on the shores of Lake Ontario, 20 miles east of Toronto. The \$272 million Pickering nuclear power station is well under way. It may be that eventually Pickering's capacity will be doubled or trebled. As of now, the plant is designed to produce 1,080,000 kilowatts from two units, the first one scheduled for service in 1970.

Although we have the utmost confidence in nuclear power, coal fired plants continue to share the limelight. Fossil-fuel fired plants

lend excellent balance and flexibility to the system. In 1966, we announced plans for a \$243 million coal burning plant to be located on the eastern end of Lake Erie. To be called Nanticoke station, it will be located near Port Dover. Work there will start early next year with site preparation, excavation, access roads and workshops. First concreting is scheduled for early summer of 1968. We estimate a peak work force of 1,500 by early 1971. The Nanticoke's first two units of 500,000 kilowatts each, are scheduled for service in 1971-72. Two more units will be installed later, as required.

Hon. members will recall a letter that I addressed to each of them in September in which I endeavoured to make clear that the decision with respect to Nanticoke in no way suggested a lack of confidence in the future prospects of nuclear energy. Ontario Hydro has been the leading Canadian proponent of nuclear power. But a nuclear generating station must be regarded as a base load plant and other generating capacity will always be needed to meet big demands.

Good progress continues on the last three 300,000 kilowatt units at Lakeview on the western outskirts of Metro Toronto. The fifth unit went partially into production late in December and it should be fully available later this year. In addition, two units will be brought into service this year and the final one in 1968. When completed, Lakeview with eight units will have a total installed capacity of 2.4 million kilowatts. Good construction progress during the year was also reported at one other coal-fired station. By the end of 1966 all major electrical and mechanical equipment had been ordered for the \$218 million Lambton generating station near Sarnia. Structural steel for the first unit and the chimney for the first two units are completed. By 1971, Lambton will have a two-million kilowatt capacity from four units.

At the Lakehead, the Thunder Bay station began producing power in late November. Since then it has been in almost constant operation providing a good portion of its 100,000-kilowatt capacity for use in north-western Ontario. Load growth in that sector of the province has accelerated rapidly and it will not be too long before the entire output of Thunder Bay station will be required. Of course, right now the plant is providing a good margin of security of service for that region.

Recently a great deal of interest was expressed in the province's lignite deposits. As announced earlier, the government granted exploration rights to Alberta Coal Limited of Calgary in December to probe the large

lignite coal deposits located 110 miles north of Cochrane. Ontario Hydro is interested in this particular development from the standpoint of possible economical on-site power generation. During the past summer the government bid for a heavy water plant to be located near these lignite deposits. Success would have made it economically sound to build an electrical generating station there. Unfortunately, the company concerned, due to the advantage of another site being in a designated area, chose to locate its plant in another province.

Before we can really proceed with plans for developing lignite resources, however, we must wait for results of the economic studies and exploration being carried out. Their assessment should show whether or not it will be economical to pursue the lignite development.

Sometimes while discussing coal-fired plants the question of clean air is raised. Critics, among them the leader of the Opposition in this House, and some of his supporters, persist in focusing attention on Hydro's thermal generating stations, suggesting that they are the source of much of the air pollution. Granted, on a frosty morning, Mr. Speaker, voluminous plumes emanate from the tall stacks at such plants. However, almost all of the clouds are simply condensation and not smoke.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): How do you explain it in the summertime?

Mr. Boyer: I was just coming to that. I have some more words to say, Mr. Speaker, on the subject.

Very quickly I would like to tell the hon. leader of the Opposition that Hydro's control programme, which was begun about 15 years ago when construction of the first large coal-burning station started, has been continued since. And by 1971 when the Lambton station is completed, air quality control expenditures from this and four other plants in Toronto, Windsor and Fort William would total almost \$30 million. The most efficient equipment available is being installed and the best techniques employed so that Ontario Hydro may do its full part in maintaining air quality.

Mr. Speaker, I reviewed this matter in the House last year. I pointed out in connection with our coal-burning plants that precipitator equipment was being installed in these plants to remove the particulate matter, that is the soot and fly ash. These precipitators are judged to be 99.5 per cent efficient. This is the best equipment that can be secured for this purpose.

Those who are aware of the best techniques in air quality control judge that the dispersion of gases from high stacks is the best means of getting out above the community any gases which must rise, and it is well that these be hot so that they rise high into the air.

The hon. leader of the Opposition says that he has seen some of this gas in the summer time. But I think he will notice if he examines it carefully that this particular gas or smoke rises very high into the air. As a matter of fact our plants should stand as models to other industries, which are also studying the question of controlling air pollution.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question on this matter? I am very glad he has been dealing with it. I noticed about two weeks ago a statement by the air pollution authorities in Metropolitan Toronto that they suspected the Lakeview generating centre as one of the causes of the pollution that bothered the city in January. I wonder if he in his position has been in contact with those people about that difficulty?

Mr. Boyer: No, Mr. Speaker, I have not been directly in contact with those people. I noticed that some statements were made in that respect. Other statements were made by other municipal authorities and evidently there is some conflict between those who have authority in the matters. I would think, however, that in this matter of air pollution control we are coming into a new era, with the likelihood of regional air pollution control measures being adopted by the province.

I notice on the order paper something in this respect and I think there can be a meeting of minds in this respect. But I think the leader of the Opposition does not realize with respect to Lakeview and other stations, that when there is a period of difficulty, meteorologically, and when it is difficult for smoke to rise high into the air. We have provided for that. At such times, having had warning from meteorological service, we burn coal of low sulphur content. Usually the sulphur content is around three per cent but at such times when meteorological conditions warrant, we burn coal that has one per cent or less sulphur content.

This is rather a large subject. Perhaps it is too large to go into today. It might be a matter which could be explored in the committee on government commissions, and I would hope that the hon. leader might pursue this subject further in that committee. I am sure that a great deal more information and

understanding on this subject will result if that is done.

Mr. Speaker, so far I have discussed nuclear plants and coal-fired plants. Maybe overshadowed but not overlooked is the contribution to power resources being made by hydro electric plants.

Last summer an official ceremony was held at the Mattagami River stations, marking the completion of the \$200 million James Bay watershed power complex. Three stations on the Mattagami and a fourth on the Abitibi River, with a combined capacity of 551,000 kilowatts, are now feeding their output to load centres in the south.

As you know, the entire James Bay power complex hinges around the extra high voltage transmission line. This is in service now to the Toronto area. The 435-mile span is carrying 500,000 volts to Sudbury, while the balance of the system is operating at 230,000 volts to Kleinburg, just north of Metro Toronto. Within a few weeks, EHV capacity will be raised to 500,000 volts over its entire span.

A construction activity in developing hydraulic power sites has shifted to two other locations. The first of these will see three sites on the Madawaska River in eastern Ontario harnessed to produce some 343,000 kilowatts of new capacity by 1969.

The largest project is at Mountain Chute where a new 139,500 kilowatt station is being built. Downstream at Barrett Chute, the powerhouse is being extended so that two more units can be installed by 1968, increasing capacity by 111,600 kilowatts.

Still farther downstream at Stewartville, construction is proceeding favourably on two units which by 1969 will boost capacity by 91,800 kilowatts.

Studies have been made to learn if development of any other potential power sites on the Madawaska can be considered economical.

Mr. Speaker, I mentioned the leader of the Opposition earlier; I do not particularly want to take a great deal of his time this afternoon. I am sorry that he has left the chamber at the moment, but I—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): We will tell him.

Mr. Boyer: Will you tell him if I refer to something he said at another place? I thank the hon. member for Sudbury.

I would like to mention a statement that the leader of the Opposition made—or is reported to have made—when speaking in east-

ern Ontario. He seems to have indicated that a plank in his party's platform will be this: "stepped-up programmes to develop power resources, especially in eastern Ontario along the Madawaska system."

Now, Mr. Speaker, such a statement seems to indicate that the leader of the Opposition is overlooking the facts.

The hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) brought this matter to the attention of the House a few days ago. I have already mentioned that for 1967 Ontario Hydro intends to bring in more than one million kilowatts of new capacity to raise Hydro's total resources to nearly 10 million kilowatts. I repeat that on the Madawaska River work is in progress to harness 343,000 kilowatts of new capacity by 1969. There are three locations, and other possible development sites on that stream have been under review.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the hon. member would be glad to know that my reference at that time was to the utilization of that power for the development of that part of Ontario, and the pricing of the power locally could be used on a regional development basis so that eastern Ontario could have the advantage of the closeness of the generating facilities that are being described.

Mr. Boyer: I would like to thank the leader of the Opposition for his interjection, Mr. Speaker, because I intend to go on and refer to that question.

I mentioned that at three locations we are adding 343,000 kilowatts of new capacity and that other sites on the Madawaska have been under review.

In the statement that is attributed to the leader of the Opposition, I suggest that he has tended to throw doubt on the adequacy of the plans for Ontario's power supply in the future. I assert that in that respect the remarks of the leader of the Opposition are unfortunate. Since he has mentioned that he had in mind that because of these plants being in the vicinity of the Ottawa valley and adjacent regions there should be special rates set for particular regions—

Mr. Nixon: Of course, for development—development rates.

Mr. Boyer: Development rates? Mr. Speaker, I thought that tired old horse had died and was buried long ago. Let me say to the leader of the Opposition that I notice from the news reports that he was bringing forward this tired and worn-out old subject

which was discussed in this House and died a natural death years ago. This is the old question of special rates for special places and we have gone through this in years past—even before the leader of the Opposition arrived in this House.

Mr. Sopha: Atlas Steel has gone to Quebec.

Mr. Boyer: Yes, and they did not carry out all the plans they said they were going to carry out in Quebec when they left here.

I would like to remind the House that instructions given by the Legislature to Ontario Hydro under The Power Commission Act call for the sale of power at cost. It follows, then, that a lower rate in one place means higher rates elsewhere. The power resources of Ontario have been developed over the past 60 years for the benefit of all of the people. The arrangements are such that power, wherever it is generated in Ontario, is fed into a power grid that carries power to all parts of this great province.

Mr. Nixon: Are you suggesting that the rates are equal everywhere?

Mr. Boyer: Of course; the rates are at cost everywhere. Mr. Speaker, that is one thing that I thought the leader of the Opposition would have understood. The rates everywhere are cost rates and I cannot follow him in his idea that there can be some special developmental rates. If there are, Mr. Speaker, then the rates elsewhere must rise. This would follow because of the instructions that have been given to Ontario Hydro by this Legislature.

No single community benefits unduly because its location is strategic with respect to the development of a power station, and instead the entire province has had the benefit of receiving power at cost and power distributed on a fair and equal basis.

Mr. Speaker, the construction programme of Ontario Hydro and the study of sites for future development are in keeping with the expected increases in demand and it is the purpose—indeed, it is the duty—of the Ontario Hydro commission to make sure that the supply of power in Ontario will suffice to meet the ever-growing demands of this expanding province.

As further evidence of this, I would like to draw attention to other parts of our current hydraulic resources construction programme. Within weeks, construction will begin on a \$27 million hydro-electric plant on the Mississagi River near Aubrey Falls. Located 70

miles north of Thessalon, the 130,000-kilowatt station is scheduled for completion by 1969.

Downstream, investigations are continuing on the George W. Rayner station with a view to enlarging it by 150,000 kilowatts. Also under investigation is another site on the Mississagi at Gros Cap and two sites on the Montreal River, near Cobalt. Five small hydro-electric sites in northwestern Ontario on the English, White and Little Jackfish rivers are also being looked at as possible future power sources.

In connection with water, I might mention that in the major watersheds, levels improved considerably in 1966. At the year's end, storage in the watersheds in the east system, excluding the Great Lakes, was above average. Because of their huge size the Great Lakes are slow to respond to improvements. While still below the long-term average levels, they have improved somewhat over the levels recorded in 1965. As a result, energy production at our Niagara and St. Lawrence River plants was about two billion kilowatt hours greater than in 1965.

Less than a year ago, we announced a major programme of transmission line construction which eventually will link our east and west systems. Once this gap between the northwestern and northeastern sections of Ontario is closed, a physical power link will be established between utilities from Saskatchewan to Quebec. We are aiming for both Ontario Hydro systems to be bridged with a 230,000-volt tie line by 1970. Crews are now clearing rights of way and erecting poles at points between Sudbury and Marathon. To move a limited amount of electricity between the east and west systems by 1968, arrangements for exchanging power with the Great Lakes Power Corporation have been made.

Still another important tie was completed a couple of months ago when a third interconnection between Ontario and Michigan was energized. Operating initially at 115,000 volts, eventually the power flow will be increased to 345,000 volts.

The benefits of interconnections have been stated many times. Essentially, they add up to the fact that we cannot afford to pass up savings and safeguards which they provide. Every possible step has been taken to prevent major power interruptions such as occurred in late 1965. Various groups have conducted studies on this interruption, and to this extent more than \$250,000 has been spent by the various agencies.

In Ontario Hydro's case, here is what has been done: We have installed further relays

in the system, modified existing ones and altered settings. We have installed improved recording, monitoring and data-logging instruments. We have placed combustion turbine generators at major thermal stations to provide emergency start-up power. We have refined control systems and had the entire network analyzed by computer to determine stability and the limitations imposed by protective devices.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, would the member answer a question?

Mr. Boyer: Certainly.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the member for Muskoka, this is all pretty technical insofar as the power grid and the blackout, but putting it in simple language, has Hydro arrived at the point where we have a complete standby unit to prevent another power blackout for Ontario?

Mr. Boyer: Mr. Speaker, I was endeavouring to show that a great deal has been done to improve the security of the system. I do not suppose there is a place on this earth where a guarantee can be given of complete freedom from interruption, but insofar—

Mr. Sargent: They are doing it on the local level. On the farm units you can have your own standby system, or a hospital can have a standby system. I was wondering if Ontario had a standby system?

Mr. Boyer: Yes, I was mentioning that at the major thermal stations we have placed combustion turbine generators. These operate independently of the electrical system. They can be started up and then start up the entire plant; or they can provide power, a considerable amount of power, on the system.

I would suggest to the hon. member that at the committee on commissions this is a subject he might explore a little further.

Mr. Sargent: What speech are you giving now?

Mr. Boyer: Mr. Speaker, the Hydro expenditures in 1966 and 1967 for modification and new equipment to improve security, such as the hon. member has been inquiring about, will total about \$12 million.

Now sir, for a few moments I should like to dwell on some of the administrative advances and the economies of operation which the Ontario Hydro organization has implemented.

One effective means of cutting expenses is to tighten the organizational structure. In

line with policy in this connection, four rural administrative areas were amalgamated. All our rural, retail customers are served directly through 77 areas in seven regions.

At the municipal level, amalgamation of several municipalities with Metro Toronto has reduced the number of Hydro municipalities to 352. But we have welcomed two new members into the family of cost contract Hydro municipalities; the towns of Pembroke and Kenora.

Because of efficient operation, the wholesale cost of electricity in Ontario has remained remarkably steady over the past decade. To my mind, this is a truly tremendous achievement, especially in the face of numerous influences which tend to force operating costs upward. Based on 1966 costs, the average wholesale rate to municipalities will have increased by only 14.4 per cent since 1957.

While many municipalities adjusted their rates during the past year, the average cost per kilowatt hour to their residential customers, which is an estimated 1.13 cents, represents no change from the preceding year. Glancing over the record of the past 10 years, we can readily see that electrical rates have been very stable and this, as I have said, in spite of mounting costs for equipment, labour and so forth.

I will not suggest that we can go on indefinitely without increasing rates. Close reappraisal of the situation must be continued regularly. But even should upward adjustments be necessary, electricity will still remain the lowest priced commodity on the market and the best value a consumer can buy.

A large measure of credit for efficient operation must go to the municipal utilities.

At technical and administrative levels, utilities pressed ahead with development programmes which have won the respect of electrical authorities throughout the world. Working as a unit through the association of municipal electrical utilities, in cooperation with Ontario Hydro, they dealt effectively with such diverse matters as rates, accident prevention, finance, employee relations and load studies.

Perhaps I can best convey the extent of municipal hydro operations in Ontario with a few statistics.

Serving over 1,600,000 customers at the end of last year, the municipal systems purchased some 28.6 billion kilowatt hours, which represents a 6.6 per cent increase over 1965.

Mr. Sargent: Rates are going down then.

Mr. Boyer: Well, they have been remaining very steady. In some places they have gone down, as the hon. member very well knows.

The total assets of the municipal systems are valued at well over \$500 million. In addition, they hold about a \$400 million equity in the provincial hydro system.

As you can appreciate, there is a very strong bond between the municipal utilities and Ontario Hydro. There has to be. Our problems, ambitions and interests are exactly alike. We are in business to serve the people of Ontario with electrical power at cost. A measure of our success is the fact that the cost of electrical service in Ontario is among the lowest in the world.

Mr. Sargent: You do not pay corporation tax; that is why.

Mr. Boyer: This enviable record was achieved in 60 years. It continues into the 61st year; it will continue for as long as the Hydro organization exists.

At the municipal utility level there are two dynamic forces responsible for efficient operation. One is the association of municipal electrical utilities (AMEU) which is comprised of technical-oriented members from the more than 350 municipal utilities. The other group is the Ontario municipal electric association (OMEA), comprised of commissioners and councillors. These representatives on the Hydro commissions throughout the province devote their time and talents to ensure that efficient and economical electric service is available for all Ontario people on a fair and equitable basis.

A phrase coined several years ago aptly describes the OMEA. They are the watchdogs of the Hydro enterprise in the province.

On occasion, problems of a serious nature do arise. This is only natural in so large and complex a system. For example, some difficulties came up last year on power costing procedures. Through a joint committee made up of representatives of those concerned, this question is being resolved. Similar joint committees deal with other aspects of our operations, such as marketing and advertising.

A matter of a different nature, and one which appears to have serious implications, has to do with the suggestion that municipal councils assume responsibility for local Hydro administration. In other words, do away with the present commission structure at the utility level. I would not wish to accept, Mr. Speaker, that the job being done by commis-

sioners is ineffective or that others could handle the Hydro responsibility more capably.

To my mind, the only criticism that could be levelled at commissioners is that they failed to remind the public of the importance of their responsibilities. The municipal commissioners must work harder to get their fine record of achievement across to the people. This can only be done by telling the Hydro story as strongly and frequently as possible.

In speaking to this point, chairman George E. Gathercole used words which I feel will meet general approval, as follows:

Whatever changes may come in the structure of local government the viability of the Hydro concept and the spirit and the vision of the men who guide it suggests to me that the municipal Hydro commissions will continue to play an important role in the social and economic development of our province.

For a good example of development in the province, I would like to give some details about rural electrification.

The distribution of power in rural areas presents special problems, due to the smaller number of customers per mile of line as compared with urban conditions. The provincial average of about 10 customers per mile of line in rural areas compares with an average customer density of more than 100 customers per mile of line in urban centres.

Probably one of the major features contributing to rural development has been the grant-in-aid by the province in amount of 50 per cent of the cost of capital expenses for rural distribution systems.

Originally, this assistance was provided for rural areas throughout Ontario. In 1958 the provincial government, feeling that the grant-in-aid had accomplished its purpose in the south, withdrew the grant-in-aid for all areas except northern Ontario and grant-in-aid continues to be given in rural areas of northern Ontario.

From 1943 to 1966, Mr. Speaker, the grant-in-aid paid by the province to Ontario Hydro for rural line extensions totals almost \$100 million. During that period the number of Hydro's rural customers almost quadrupled, rising from 136,000 to 525,500. Service is provided to these customers over 49,900 miles of line. In 1943 rural line mileage totalled 20,100.

Briefly now I should like to turn to the marketing and advertising portions of my report to the House. The biggest news in this connection came late in the year when plans

were unveiled for the electrical modernization programme scheduled to begin operating this spring. The main feature of this plan is the Ontario Hydro finance programme in which loans from \$100 to \$2,000 will be available to help homeowners install modern electrical facilities. It has been estimated that upwards of one million homes in the province are inadequately wired for today's needs.

Municipal utilities and Ontario Hydro cooperated on a broad marketing and sales promotion front. Their efforts are aimed at increasing off-peak sales of power which helps to stabilize the overall rate structure. As has been said many times, selling is an important adjunct of the electrical supply business. By making full use of costly generation, distribution and other facilities we can achieve a more efficient and economical operation and keep rates low.

The results of our promotional campaign are quite impressive. To date about 43,500 homes and apartment suites in the province are electrically heated. A further 17,500 such dwellings should be added this year. Probably the most spectacular success is being recorded in the motel area. We are expecting four of every five motels built this year to install electric heating. In the conversion field we anticipate a substantial increase in the number of changeovers from other forms of heating. The electrical modernization programme will certainly help in this connection.

To conclude my report, I should like to mention that for the Centennial, the Hydro organization opened its Hydro hall of memory at Niagara Falls in late February. The hall's displays retrace the highlights of public power development. As well, Hydro personalities, past and present, are featured. The hall of memory was a joint Centennial project of the OMEA, AMEU, and Ontario Hydro.

Also for the Centennial, Ontario Hydro and Hydro-Quebec cooperated on joint exhibits at Expo '67. The two utilities shared equally a total of \$1.5 million of the cost for installing displays in the Resources for Man section of the Man the Producer pavilion.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the members for their attention. I now resume my seat in order to make way for one of the great orators of this Legislature.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I must confess that I am capable of blushing like Leslie Frost when one is the recipient of a compliment of that nature. I cannot return the compliment because it struck me

during the remarks of the vice-chairman of Hydro (Mr. Boyer) that I had considered very often and very lengthily that some of the problems of the economic development of the part of the province which I have the honour to represent, seemed to me emanated from Hydro policy.

In that regard, I always looked upon that extra-high-voltage line which one sees so often as one journeys by car from the capital city to north of the French River as something of a monument to the futility and the failure of this government to take any real steps for the development of the north-eastern region of the province. That line, extending over the hundreds of miles that it does, from the river somewhere north of Kapuskasing to the capital of the province, is a mute and physical expression of the intention of this government to develop the southern part of the province, and indeed the city of Toronto, which it intends to be the industrial complex of the province.

I took the opportunity last year, I believe it was, to show how the water policies of the Ontario water resources commission are directed toward the same end. So it is with Hydro. And one waits in vain for the establishment of some type of industry in the northeast part of the province that will use those immense hydro resources which we have and some of which are still largely underdeveloped. Can any better expression be put on the record than that which comprises the telegram sent on February 6 to the Prime Minister of the province (Mr. Robarts) from no less a body than the Canadian Lakehead industrial commission incorporated over the hand of its president, Stanley F. Metz?

I regret that the hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope) left the House because I wanted particularly to direct this to him. He is coming back—I hear him approaching on horseback. This was a telegram, an expensive telegram that they paid for—two full folios—to send to the hon. Prime Minister. It begins:

Lakehead industrial commission representing interests of 100,000 citizens views Centennial year as crucial crossroads in economic life of northwestern Ontario. Your powerful help imperative if we are to make right turn and accelerate toward new progress.

Then later on:

We could only stand by impotently wringing our hands—

Now harken to that expression, "impotently wringing our hands".

While other provincial jurisdictions more and more moved into the industrial development arena with incentives, inducements and financing.

Of course, the incentives refer to Hydro incentives—one means, one economic device to secure the establishment of industry. But is that not a terrible way to view one's constituents, to picture them, as impotently wringing their hands? It gives one some vision of the meaning of the Book of Job, I suppose, as Job yelled aloud in anguish, and these are the constituents of the Minister of Mines.

They are his, and when they take the trouble to send a telegram to him of this nature, about the lack of development, may I say to you quietly, sir, is it not a terrible indictment? Is it not a terrible indictment of ten years in the executive council of the province, being one of those charged with responsibility for governmental decision? Now is that not a verdict? Is that not a verdict to have passed on one, that his constituents draw to the attention of the first citizen of the province the depression of their area—

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines: Mr. Speaker, could I—

Mr. Sopha: Just a moment.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: The hon. member's statement does not make sense!

Mr. Sopha: This is my day.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: He does not make sense!

Mr. Sopha: And the hon. member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts) left the House and he expressed an opinion that there would be an election soon, so he said. We have not heard about it, but he said that there would be an election. What I am going to do in the northeast during that election, so far as my health and strength permit, is to go around the northeast and look those constituents in the eye—those voters—and say to them, sir, "What has the hon. Minister of Mines done to develop this area? What has the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) done? And a man of shorter tenure, the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), what has he done?"

We hoped for much from the new addition to the Cabinet; he is not yet, of course, really acclimatized to the organization. But I say, what have they done in the years of office when they have had the confidence of

the people of the northeast part of the province? What industry can you point to?

Of course, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Minister of Mines will point to Texas Gulf Sulphur and they will say, "That is ours; we found it." And yet we went to The Department of Mines and we asked them if in all the geological maps that they provide, was there any indication on any of them that there was that great ore body adjacent to the town of Timmins, and they said "None." They had to find it themselves.

But that is a good election issue, is it not? That is putting it fair and square to the voters of the northeast, to ask about the stewardship of these four horsemen of the Apocalypse, as to what in a physical way they have contributed. The answer is that new hydro lines 400 or 500 miles long take the power out of northern Ontario to the industrial complex of the south.

Did you hear the vice-chairman of Hydro exult in his cries this afternoon about all that phony advertising on television—that juvenile advertising asking people to use more hydro, write up contests and trips to Barbados and all that sort of stuff? You would think that they have Herbert Marshall McLuhan on the staff, to hear his commercial this afternoon. Well, I merely say that that is not my conception of the role of this public body in the economic life of this province. I will pitch my tent on a much higher plane.

Now, sir, to begin where I intended to begin—before I was provoked. I was going to say, Mr. Deputy Speaker—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: I was going to say to the real Speaker how much I regretted the fact that I changed my geographical position and got farther away from him. I do recall in yesteryear when I sat at the nether reaches at the end of this bench—the edge of outer darkness—that he and I became quite palsy, and I hope that warm rapport between himself and myself has not been dispelled by the reason that I am farther distant. One can only wonder about what is in the mind of a leader of a political party when he makes his geographical changes in the seating arrangements, and according to the long custom, one does not inquire. Some of them, I suppose, come about by circumstances of the interests of the members.

For example, the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Eagleson) has to be up there where he is so that he is close to the telephone to get all those calls from Pittsburgh and

Rochester, and Pulford and Shack and Mahovich have to be able to get in touch with him at a moment's notice—that is why he is there. Others are over in the penalty box here because they are not going anywhere. They have majors. We had one who had a major game misconduct, sat at the end, and departed this afternoon.

I might say to the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent) that it did not surprise me that no one on that side of the House got up to bid him fare-thee-well. I watched the expressions on their faces before the House started and several of the Ministry came in and they darted furtive glances toward him; their eyes crept over him; they took him in very quickly because they did not know what he might say, and when he got through it, leaving paeans of praise for everybody, there was a monumental sigh of relief on the front bench over there as he departed out the door.

The leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), I can only speculate, may have put me here so that I could bring solace and comfort to my neighbour here.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sopha: I do not take it to be an act of war—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): He was just recognizing that the veil of outer darkness had moved over.

Mr. Sopha: —because I am basically a peaceful man, but everyone alert to the political life of this province would have noted the amazing growth of the family compact in this group. All the Renwicks are in politics; all the Lewises and all the Brydens are in politics. I would say to my friends that it is not an accident that the deputy leader of the NDP is where he is; he did not fall out of the second row into that seat, and this, of course, I put as being a move directed toward the unseating of our friend—he is going—

Mr. Bryden: I am going gracefully, however.

Mr. Sopha: He will be replaced because he cannot withstand this growth of the family influence in the New Democratic Party and there will come a time when a person who seeks membership in that party will have to prove by affidavit that all the family are coming in at the same time.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): It's in the best British tradition to have families in politics.

Mr. Sopha: I would say that like MacDonalds before him, he is on his way to his own personal Culloden, and he will get that at the next contest at the polls. He goes about the province like a man on a trip proclaiming that he is going to win 60 or 70 seats. You perhaps, Mr. Speaker, have read that in the paper. Sometimes he says 67 in '67. He arrived in Sudbury last weekend and immediately abolished me; he abolished the hon. member for Nickel belt (Mr. Demers)—

Mr. MacDonald: I did not even mention the hon. member for Sudbury. That is even worse.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, yes—indirectly. I am a very sensitive person — indirectly, in his own inimical way. We have seen him so many times on the platform at the steelworkers' hall there, and he said, "We will sweep all three Sudbury seats." He left the people of my community wondering whether he has all his marbles.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sopha: In 1955 he had three seats; in 1959, he had five; in 1963, he had seven; now eight. At that rate of arithmetical progression, it will be one-half plus one of 117—being 59—and I carefully worked this out, with elections taking place every four years it will be 104 years before he forms a majority.

I recall very vividly—you may too, sir—seeing the Earl of Corduroy, the Prince of Suffering in the back row, on the TV a couple of years ago, exulting at the successes in the by-elections. They had won one in Waterloo South and one in Riverdale. The man in the grey flannel suit joined them at that time. He is the first prestige, the first real capture they have had. This fellow comes here well heeled. He speaks and he gives the party some tone. He is the corporate elite of the party, direct from Bay Street.

The Earl of Corduroy looked into the cathode ray and he said wistfully, "If only we could have more by-elections." That is the way he was going to win it. When I think about him, that very engaging and very able young man from Scarborough West, I think that Oliver Goldsmith—you will recall, sir, in "The Deserted Village"—must have had him in mind, I say to my friend the Minister of Municipal Affairs, when he wrote, "The more they gazed the more the wonder grew that one small head could carry all he knew." But the eight pharisees here would not thank us

in this party for telling them what ails them. It probably would call forth the rejoinders, but I am going to embark on it.

Mr. MacDonald: Events have already proven you wrong.

Mr. Sopha: The Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) is not in his place. He developed one aspect in his refreshing speech. I was not here to hear it, but I have read it. It was refreshing because it scanned as if the Provincial Secretary wrote it himself, which is refreshing from that side of the House. He directed the House's attention to that peculiar Pecksniffian attitude that we hear from our friends here, where they assert that they are the only champions of the unfortunate. They are the only ones.

Mr. Bryden: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sopha: Members will note that my friend from Woodbine said "hear, hear."

Now I deal with another aspect of it, and it can be best summed up with this comment by one of their candidates on his nomination, in the presence of the leader. And he said at the time that he accepted the nomination, he told 250 convention spectators that his main concern are the 24,000 active trade unionists who are being abused by the major interests. It is his main concern.

One would have thought that in the democratic process, I say to you quietly—

Mr. MacDonald: Why don't you read the whole speech?

Mr. Sopha: —that his main concern is all of the people. Everyone he is elected to represent, no matter what their occupation, their political flavour, their religion, or any other human aspect.

Mr. MacDonald: He is leaving you worried anyway.

Mr. Sopha: That is one, and I direct my friend's attention to it. That, in my view, is a major weakness in their protestation that they are capable of assuming the mantle of government and maintaining the confidence of the people of this province.

No one would deny that the 500,000 trade unionists in this province are an important group. They are immensely important. They are the warp and woof of our industrial structure. I have a personal involvement with them. I have had it over the years. But they remain, those half million trade unionists, but one of the important groups among many

others. And we in this party—as I look around it always pleases me that the Liberal Party, in contrast to the eight over here, are from purely urban ridings. You take a look at them and you see where they come from. They are entirely from the cities. In contrast, we have people here from every geographic area of this province, and every major economic group in the province.

I would say to you sir, and I say most seriously, that the many tens of thousands of trade unionists in this province resent the insistence of one party in presuming to speak for them. When the member for Woodbine declaims in his inimical Draconian way about the dependence of the Tory party on the coffers of the whiskey interests—

Mr. Bryden: And others.

Mr. Sopha: —he is right. But his moral rectitude is mixed with a considerable amount of guile. In a sinister, inverse way, the methods used to compel trade unionists to contribute to the support of the New Democratic Party are far worse than the sequestering of cash from the barleycorn lobby.

Mr. MacDonald: How much did you get from INCO?

Mr. Sopha: I will answer that: not a cent.

Mr. MacDonald: How much did the party get?

Mr. Sopha: Indeed, in my view the method, and I do not have to describe that sinister method to you—

Mr. Bryden: There is nothing sinister at all and you know it.

Mr. Sopha: In my view it amounts to—ah, this touches the raw nerves, does it not?

Mr. Bryden: Why do you not say where your party gets its money? Where does the federal Liberal Party get its money?

Interjections by hon members.

Mr. Sopha: I will just wait until this substitution of talk for thought subsidies.

Mr. Bryden: Are you quitting now?

Mr. MacDonald: As Mitchell Hepburn said, he was going to make the liquor interests pay for every election from that point forward.

Mr. Sopha: Have you finished? In my humble opinion, the methods used—I do not have to describe them, you know them—

amount to a violation of the universal declaration of human rights. Nothing short.

Mr. Bryden: Is it a violation of human rights for a union to make a decision by majority vote?

Mr. Sopha: Article 20, section two, of that declaration says in words: "No one may be compelled to belong to an association."

Mr. Bryden: And nobody is.

Mr. Sopha: No one may be compelled to belong to an association. Is it an assault on human dignity to compel a member of a trade union to opt out? That is what he has to do. In undignified fashion, he has to go down to the union headquarters and opt out of this compulsory, conscriptive, sequestering of five cents a month.

What difference—I ask you, Mr. Speaker, being a man of immense common sense and reasonable understanding—what difference is there from the indignity of requiring the Jewish child to walk out of the public school room rather than engage in prayers with his Christian brethren?

What difference is there in it? And our friends here would be the first to declaim against that practice in our schools; these children having to separate themselves from the religious observances of other children. And yet they require trade unionists, and I am going to leave it at that, to march down to the union hall and sign their name. Often they suffer the—

Mr. Bryden: We do not require them to do anything. You are attacking the trade unions, not us.

Mr. Sopha: Often they suffer the jibes of the union leadership about having to—

Mr. Bryden: The unions make their own decisions.

Mr. Sopha:—about wishing; jibes against not being a member of the team. Indeed, I have seen the practice in trade unions—

Mr. Bryden: We do not tell them to do anything. We cannot compel a union to do anything.

Mr. Sopha: No, I am talking about the union leadership, and the idea—

Mr. Bryden: The good old Tory approach: attack the leaders.

Mr. Sopha: Indeed the union leadership, and it is only the union leadership, really, that supports this party—

Mr. MacDonald: You will find out when the votes are counted.

Mr. Sopha:—They seek to inculcate that you are not with it, you are not acceptable, if you do not support the NDP. You are a pariah, an apostate. You are outside the main stream.

Now those are the devices that they use, and I have seen them used and I have seen it with personal experience.

Mr. MacDonald: What does the Liberal Party do in raising its money?

Mr. Sopha: I want to draw your attention to that—to these declamations. This oratory of the member for Woodbine—he gets up in that righteous way and looks across and scourges our friends opposite, who are bad enough; heaven knows they are bad enough, and they deserve it. But surely in a Parliament we are entitled as members to call attention to guile when we see it.

Mr. Bryden: There is no guile in what we do.

Mr. Sopha: And the Provincial Secretary is right when he invites us to consider that these eight are the harbingers of all that is pure and virtuous, wise and just, holy and pristine. But I fully expect someday to hear one of them begin his remarks with the words of the Pharisee, Lord we thank thee that we are not as other men. They are going to stand up like some Indian fakir, or something, with the hands above the head, because they look at the rest of us—

Mr. Bryden: You are obviously terribly worried.

Mr. Sopha:—with feet of clay right to our waist. We admit that, being human and being with sin, but we try to do the best we can.

Mr. Bryden: And nurture their sin.

Mr. Sopha: And I resent that super virtuous attitude which is always—

Mr. Bryden: It obviously worries you.

Mr. Sopha:—inflicted upon us. But as I say to my colleagues, all we can do is our best, being humans. And I leave them by saying that all human progress in this country did not begin in 1932; it did not begin in Regina in 1932. We had the ancestors of this party before 1932. We had Baldwin and Blake, Mackenzie and Dow, long before 1932. And they made great contributions to the history of this province.

And the people of Ontario, mindful of those things that the Provincial Secretary said in his speech and which I have said today, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, are not going to be so misguided the next election as to repose their trust in this party.

Mr. MacDonald: What is the member worrying about, then?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: I just say one more thing, if I may presume to give the hon. member a little advice. One day I stood in my place down there and spoke about some practices around here. I made some references to the Lieutenant-Governor. I do not know if *Hansard* records my friend's interjections, the member for York South, but I want to refer to them. At one point in my remarks, in saying what I believed about the constitutional form in this province, he interjected to say, "How many votes will that get you?" Do you see the significance of that? Everything is directed to votes. It is said principles may be sacrificed for votes and I could not put it better than the Hon. George Brown put it —

Mr. Bryden: The man who prosecuted his printers for criminal conspiracy because they wanted a 10-hour day.

Mr. Sopha: He was one of the founders of this nation; his contribution to the founding of this country was immense and critical. Let us read what he said, and he wrote in the *Globe*. It is worth putting on the record for those who may read it to see:

Let it be distinctly understood that when a man seeks public confidence from certain principles he is to stand by those principles whether in or out of office. And the end of his principles is not to hold office, but the end of his holding office is to enable him to carry out his principles.

It could not be put better than that. This is a piece of advice that I give gratuitously to my friend in his search for votes around the province. I have no doubt that the coming election campaign will see the wildest excesses from him as he harries the bone, like a terrier, from one end of the province to the other.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, the member is obviously very worried.

Mr. Sopha: Now I turn my gaze to starboard and look into the east at that strange collection of hominis sapienses that inhabits the Treasury benches over there. Two years

ago, on February 23, 1965, I stood in my place and out of the spirit of public duty that moved me I reorganized that Cabinet. But—and it is an important but—I was acting in good faith. And in making the suggested changes I at that time proposed, it was at great peril to the fortunes of my own party. By reorganizing that government, I set out to reorganize it for victory at the polls.

Of the large number of additions that I suggested to the Prime Minister, I only got four in November 24, 1966: the Minister of Labour, the Minister of Lands and Forests, the Minister without Portfolio from Scarborough North and the other half of the Bobbsey twins, the boy soprano from Kent West.

Now, let me stop and ask the House to consider that pair of fauna, neither of whom are in their seats. What is a Minister without Portfolio? You would search the pages of *Hansard* in vain, your honour, to find some disposition by the Prime Minister as to what function a Minister of nothing performs.

Now surely in the genetics of political biology he must be some kind of eunuch. I would have thought that the Prime Minister would have given these young men something to do instead of leaving them in a nether state of innocuous desuetude.

Where could he have found something, I wonder out loud? He could have found it in the realm of the permafrost of this government; that is where he could have found it. Because as of this date, according to information that is absolutely unimpeachable, there are still nine of the Treasury benches who are hold-overs from the regime of Leslie Frost.

That is to say, another Minister without Portfolio, the Minister of Public Works, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister of Public Welfare, the Minister of Mines, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, the Minister of Reform Institutions and the Minister of Agriculture and Food, are all hold-overs. One would have thought that any number of those might have gone without pain, quietly; that he might have dropped any number of these.

And I do not speak idly when I say that. Because as I looked back at my remarks of February 23, 1965, it is very coincidental that I should say this today. I observed that in my major overhaul for victory of this government, I said the former Minister of Lands and Forests should be the first to go and he was the first; indeed he was. And you will recall the manner of his going. It was right in your own city, Mr. Speaker.

The Prime Minister was down there, like one of the war lords from Assyria with all his satraps around him in a conference. And the Prime Minister announced the resignation of the Minister of Lands and Forests, who earlier in the afternoon had released his own letter in Toronto. And he was not going to go in ceremonial fashion like the rest of them. He was going on his own terms and he was very much the first to go.

Now I would have thought—and I was never more serious—that the second to go would have been the Minister of Mines. Surely, the Minister of Mines must have only a 90-day reprieve before he goes. But I have read what I conceive to be an indictment of him that would impel the Prime Minister to send him into some form of senatorial retirement; as he has done with that very able man, the former Provincial Treasurer, probably at his own wish.

Some of the others I study with great intensity, because I think that Cabinet-watching is a very rewarding experience around here. And let me intervene to say that it is perfectly proper for us in the Opposition to make these critical remarks. That is the pea that the first citizen is going to feel in the contest at the polls coming up this year. This is the body to whom he is going to ask the people of Ontario to give their re-endorsement for another four years of office.

And it is proper that somebody has the unequalled opportunity of sitting here so close to them, as one has to express his own views of how they perform their tasks in carrying on in this fulsome atmosphere of the parliamentary institution.

One of them that I study with great intensity is the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart). He to me is the prize example of cultivated asininity. I am positive that every morning when he trims his moustache he looks himself in the eye and he says, "You know very well, Bill, that you are the greatest thing that ever happened to agriculture in this province".

I would not go out of his way to cultivate his antagonism, your honour, were it not for the fact reported to me by my rural colleagues in this House that since they have criticized him in the area of his public responsibilities, he has all but stopped speaking to them. A very sensitive man, a very narcissistic man that he does not like to withstand criticism.

As an example, and I like to use examples, when I say asininity—an incredible remark emitted from him one day when the member for York South was chastising the Prime

Minister about his Confederation for tomorrow conference, and I caught this remark which came across the House from the Minister for Agriculture and Food.

He pulled himself up in his chair and leaned forward and he said to the member for York South: "Do you not read the *Globe and Mail* editorials?" And I hope *Hansard* picked that up. In other words, as if the morning edition of the *Globe and Mail* is the word from the TV station on Mount Sinai. That is it.

Or to put it another way, he would not have an opinion, other than good morning to his secretary, until he read the *Globe and Mail*. That is about it. An incredible statement to come from a Minister of the Crown.

The *Globe and Mail* is a very fine newspaper, very fine in every way. But we in this party do not look on any newspaper in the life of this province as being the be all and the end all and the repository of everything omniscient, wise, just, virtuous and pure. Just because the *Globe and Mail* has approved the Confederation conference of the Prime Minister does not mean the leader of the Opposition is going to get up here in fulsome praise of the first citizen and say: I wholeheartedly support your proposal.

That will not be the attitude of this party and we will have to withstand the censure of the *Globe and Mail* with all the fortitude that we can muster at that time. Or any of the other newspapers in this great city.

And what a difference in temperament, sir, one finds in the best administrator of the government. I refer to my good friend and fellow northerner, the Minister of Municipal Affairs. No matter how we get on his back, or what shafts we direct his way, his good humour and courtesy never fail him outside the House. And again I wonder out loud, I really wonder—I think there is a song to that effect. I really wonder, in heaven's name, when the first citizen was selecting the successor to one of nature's noblemen, the Provincial Treasurer, how he could have overlooked the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the most important post after his own—how he could have overlooked him.

It is very depressing to view the plight of the younger and able men who sit on the government benches and I have said this before. I have reflected how depressed they must be—bright young men of ability who bring much to the public area of responsibility in this province, and they have to sit here and their brightness gets them nowhere. There seems to be no path of progress and promotion ahead for them.

There are the hon. member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), who has been here longer than most of the able young men who came into the House in the last election; his namesake from one of the Ottawa seats, another Lawrence; the hon. member for Halton (Mr. Kerr), the hon. member for Nickel Belt, the hon. member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Peck), and others. But the member for St. George is revealing of how the executive council is picked in this province, and it is revealing in that it points out that it is not always the quality of reasonableness with objectivity and assessment of ability.

One saw it in Diefenbaker's comment made to him; I am going to paraphrase it, as well as I can remember that comment. The member for St. George, in the cloistered confines of privilege, the Albany club, got up and looked Diefenbaker in the eye as is his wont, and he said—very kindly, I took it from the newspaper reportage of it—"Sir, why do you not quit? Why do you not quit in dignity? In dignity go, and you will have the admiration of all of us in the Conservative Party." And that was a nice way to put it to him, from a young man, if you can put things in a nice way to John George Diefenbaker; though I must say that when he and I occupied the same platform, I found him a very charming and ingratiating man. But that is the way the member for St. George put it and how did Diefenbaker respond to him? It is very revealing. He said, "Oh yes, I have heard about you. You cause a lot of trouble to your colleagues in the Conservative Party in Ontario," Mr. Diefenbaker said.

Now where would he get that information? Where would he get it? He would not get it from Dalton Camp. Very revealing. And that of course is the mute testimony of the failure of the member for St. George to be promoted. There is no doubt he has his enemies in the Treasury benches.

Well, that is the team. That is one of the ways that the team is selected and let me say this about them, before I go on to say some more. We in the Liberal Party here have profound admiration and respect for the first citizen in this province, the Prime Minister. We have a warm feeling for him. That is said sincerely. And for these people who occupy the Treasury benches, whereas we do not have much respect for their ability, personally we have nothing against them. I have nothing against them. They are fine individuals as persons.

Outside the House there is not a more likeable gentleman or a genuine person to meet than the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond). But that does not mean that he should continue to be the Minister of Health, not when in excess of 1,200 people are waiting for hospital beds in the district of Sudbury. Now that is an indictment of him, so that one wonders whether he is entitled to continue to occupy that important portfolio in view of the plight of 1,200 people with what they call elective surgery in the lexicon of the doctors, whatever that means. I am very suspicious of that term, elective surgery. Either a person needs an operation or he does not. Either he needs it or he does not. It is not a question of being elective.

Then the other thing about them that makes one wonder, is that one looks at the hon. member for Stormont (Mr. Guindon)—or are we not entitled to view him in his plight—and what has happened to him. Who is this young man? Who is he, this young scion of French Canada? Well I will tell the House who he is. He is the person they selected in September of 1961 to make the keynote address at the opening of the blood bath at Varsity arena. That is who he is. They selected him, and a very fine speech he made also. He did not speak in French, he ought to have. He did not say anything in French, but he made a very fine speech in English. I sat in my den and I watched him. And one would have thought that his credentials were very respectable to promote him to the Treasury benches. But then one gets a glimmer of how promotion takes place and what has happened in the executive council.

I have identified two of them, French Canadians. They were not promoted not because they are French Canadian, but were not promoted because they supported Macaulay. That was the reason—the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the hon. member for Stormont. In case the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) is here—he has not been here for about three weeks—he mentioned Macaulay and he has been out looking to see if it is Thomas Babington, Leo or Bob that he was talking about. Well, it was Bob that they supported.

And as the result, Eric Dowd of the *Telegram* summed up aptly what happened here. The real power, the inner circle of that government now revolves around London, in the bush. That is where it is. The real power is the new and mediocre number two man, the Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton), followed by the Minister of Agriculture, with Elmer Bell and Ernie Jackson, and yes, the

member for London South (Mr. White). That is the real power, the inner circle in the corridors of power out here.

I understand that now in the government benches there are 78 of them, and no doubt you have heard it, Mr. Speaker, that they now talk about the inner clique. It is now a common expression between them, of this unholy quintuplicate that now directs them. I would not raise the matter except that the Prime Minister raised it himself. Aside from the larger Cabinet, the London Cabinet, now we have a third one—the mini Cabinet. There are only two in that one, and the members know who they are. The Attorney General has recently found out who is in the mini Cabinet. There are just two and I will not identify them further.

Mr. Bryden: That is just the Cabinet on trading stamps.

Mr. Sopha: But from now on when the executive council starts to promote some legislation, it had better get on the phone to London to see if it is going to go—at the mini Cabinet meeting.

He raised it himself; we did not raise that at all. But I say to you sir, that in politics the old political ploy always wins out—love your friends and smite your enemies. Those who hold the power are those who supported the first citizen in his thrust for power in Varsity arena in September, 1961. To prove that, one has only to look at who are his chief advisers; one has to look to see where the bright young man of the Cabinet ended up a year ago. He was a person of immense prestige and his seat is vacant now; he is on the edge of darkness right on the end of the row—the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis). One does not hear nearly as much of him; one little push and he will be right off the end of the row, as the Provincial Treasurer and the Minister of Agriculture—as these two war horses from London and region—consolidate their position.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sopha: I do not count; I have not got power—as yet. That is in the future.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sopha: To sum up—the people of this province ought to know that men of ability do not get ahead in this government, and I have named a number of them. The Prime Minister reassembled his team to face the electorate and I merely say this because like

Durocher, you never get any marks for being nice. But I say this seriously and sincerely, we will go about the province and we will be able to say to the people with some justice that in reorganizing those Treasury benches in the way he did—the incredible assertion of that man from Exeter and the number two position—the Treasurer of this province—in the face of demonstrated ability of others, in his reorganization he gave to the people of this province the greatest collection of mediocrity that has ever sat on the Treasury benches in the history of this province.

Now I turn to a—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): What about the split in that party across the way?

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): There is no split here at all.

Mr. Bryden: No split—just fragmentation!

Mr. MacDonald: They know what mediocrity is; do not interrupt him.

Mr. Bryden: They are authorities on mediocrity.

Mr. Sopha: Nobody has said anything during this session—it is revealing to note—about the alleged difficulties that we might have, sir, after the events of last November that took place in the city of Ottawa at the Chateau Laurier hotel, and it is not by accident that that has not played a part in the cut and thrust of debate in this House. With the sending of the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) to the earlier meeting and the handshake of the Prime Minister when he came in and shook hands with Dalton Camp—that was the thrust that pushed John Diefenbaker over the cliff.

Mr. MacDonald: What about Sharp and Gordon?

Mr. Sopha: Who are they? Who are Sharp and Gordon?

Mr. MacDonald: I do not know.

Mr. Sopha: I have nothing to do with Sharp and Gordon. I have to do with Nixons and Gaunts and Singers; I have nothing to do with Sharps and Gordons.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: How about the Bobbsey twins?

Mr. Sopha: The only Bob I have to do with is the leader of the Opposition—he is the only one.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: These interventions, inane as they are, are very useful to allow one to study his notes.

An hon. member: What happened to Douglas Fisher?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. MacDonald: What happened to Dick Taylor and Farquhar Oliver and a few others? Would you like to go through that list?

Mr. Whicher: What will happen to Donald MacDonald?

Mr. Bryden: Cheer up, he is here, and he will continue to be.

Mr. MacDonald: People who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Mr. Sopha: I turn now, sir, to a very important subject and that is the expression of my concern for the strength and stability of this institution of Parliament in which we are all so honoured and privileged to sit. And I want to address some remarks to the strength of the institution of Parliament itself and the manifestation that we see of the old British parliamentary system in the province of Ontario.

There will be those who will say that my criticisms are negative—I will answer that by saying that I believe in progress. Sometimes progress can only be achieved by calling attention to weaknesses and begging for their correction but I, like other members who have been privileged to sit here for eight years, can point to certain accomplishments from which one derives immense satisfaction.

The one that gives me the greatest pleasure, I think, is the result of my own declamations which, I might add, I made with some vigour—that is to say, my urging to the Prime Minister of the return to the traditional practice of he himself engaging in the Throne debate right after the leaders of the other two parties and he did so this year and his participation was welcomed greatly by this House. He made a major and significant contribution to the debate and I do not want to downgrade the contribution of others because the speeches of the three leaders—my own leader included and the leader of the New Democratic Party—were of very high quality and those of us who listened to the several hours of debate were indeed treated to a very thoughtful review of the problems and the facets of the life of this province.

No doubt I cannot take all the credit for that matter of compelling the Prime Minister to take part right after the leaders of the other parties, because a large measure of it must go to a member of his own staff and that member is William Rathbun, who recently joined the staff. Mr. Rathbun is one of those refugees from the junior Valhalla—many of them were in here a moment ago but they have departed and he is one of those we have seen who, with increasing frequency, leave the security of the press gallery to more inviting prospects of security of tenure in the civil service of this province.

Mr. Rathbun, to whom I direct attention, on January 30, 1966, in his programme on radio station CKEY—he was one of the “good” guys of CKEY—had a very significant and impressive six-page disquisition he made about the opening of the Legislature of Ontario and it is worth listening to what Mr. Rathbun—as a reporter from the press gallery and a person who viewed the scene here and was very close to it—it is worth listening to what he had to say, and I quote:

Our Throne speech, which comes at approximately the same time as the United States president delivers his State of the Union address each year, fails greatly beside this American statement of accomplishment and intention. It is my view that reform of parliamentary procedure in Ontario should begin with the creation of a state of the province speech. The session of the Legislature would begin with the Premier making the speech, perhaps as in the United States, an evening prime time affair.

Now the people should know that the Prime Minister has one bright young fellow in his expanding entourage—and I must say his entourage is expanding. Perhaps during his estimates we may be able to point with more precision to the expansion of his own private, personal empire down at the end of the hall.

Mr. Speaker, you cannot see this from where you sit, but during one of the major speeches of the Prime Minister they all came in and they occupied those seats to your right and behind you. I saw them all come in to listen to the boss and master deliver the disquisition which, no doubt, they had a hand in preparing and they wanted to come in to hear the product and they filled every seat!

They are like a company from the Jordanian army when they move, the numbers of them. Some of them are such recent additions that I do not know their names yet, but these individuals come in here and they

follow the Prime Minister around—no doubt wherever he goes.

But I single out Mr. Rathbun, because I have a special rapport with him and have great admiration for the very far-seeing views that he harbours about certain of the institutions around here and I wish him well. I hope that he is truly a fifth column in that office and that he wreaks great wonders in the shape of parliamentary institutions and in the direction of affairs—whatever time is left for the Prime Minister to direct the affairs in this province.

So there is a possibility of progress; that is the point I want to make, and if you talk loudly enough and long enough around here there is a hope that they will make some progress about the things that they talk about.

For example—and it is very germane and very opportune to refer to this—when I first came into the House and sat, I think, for my friend from Etobicoke, one of the earliest speeches I made was about the unsatisfactory nature of the securities regulations in this province, the operations of the Toronto stock exchange, the lack of protection for investors and equity security. Every year I referred to that again and *Hansard* will reveal the nature of the comments I made, but I had to wait nearly seven years.

My friend from Downsview is another whose voice was very powerful in this area but we had to wait for seven years for some action and in the meantime several financial institutions collapsed and the statute so far as I know is not proclaimed in its entirety yet. We are still waiting and we know in this party that an important member of the government—the man who resigned his seat this afternoon, the man in very poignant circumstances, who after a long period of service to the people of this province took his leave and walked out that door—shared our view about the lack of protection of investors.

No sooner did he put down the mantle of responsibility as the Minister of the Crown, then he was downtown in this city making a speech to a service club about the lack of protection. As a private member he was making a speech and he left this government today, I dare say, because of its failure to grapple with these problems. That is what probably impelled him out the door. But as I say, there is a possibility of progress if one talks about these things.

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, I am worried about the health and strength of this institution of Parliament and it urges me on to speak about

it, to draw attention to some of the things that I think are wrong. I say to you sir, with the deepest respect, that one of the greatest things that I am bothered about is the pretending that we engage in around here. It is not worthy of reasonable adults—the sham, the artificiality, the mythology, the fiction, the trappings, the antiques that we surround ourselves with here. I say to you, sir, it separates us by a wide gulf from the people we seek to serve. It creates a lack of relevance and I am desperately afraid that that gulf will ever widen so that advanced opinion or enlightened thought in the electorate gets too far ahead of the elected representatives.

In that regard I believe that among people who think outside in the body politic in the electorate, received and congealed opinion about social problems is away ahead of the politicians. They are away ahead in the area of divorce reform that we have discussed here. I think that if the Parliament of Canada and of this province, inaugurated a system of wide-ranging reform in the divorce laws, it would not cause a ripple because social opinion, advanced opinion, is so far ahead of the politicians.

To put it graphically, that amazing document of genius, this Carter report that has just been handed down, has hope in it that we can have a major reformation of our taxing system in order to bring equity and fairness, especially to the lower income group. But I say sadly if only we could keep that report away from the politicians. Keep it away from the politicians of all parties; keep it away from Robert Macaulay, an ex-politician. His declamation of this morning about the Carter report points to privilege in the mining companies. After four and one-half years' study, this group, led by that able man, says that the mining industry has got too many privileges; it is not paying its fair share of taxation. Robert Macaulay this morning was saying on the radio that to implement it would kill the mining industry. So every politician of partisan interest and those sitting in the House of Commons will select one aspect of it and condemn it for their own partisan motives, when the Carter people have said that in order to be successful this report must be implemented in its entirety.

That is demonstrative of the assertion that I make that in many, many areas of human ingenuity and human thoughts and opinions, people outside the House—students, businessmen, clergymen and other groups—are away ahead of the politicians and the politicians

are always bringing up the rear. We politicians are always racing to catch up to where public opinion is on the frontier.

What is another example that comes to my mind? The flag debate at Ottawa; the flag debate that went on interminably—when the Canadian people, insofar as opinion could be congealed, were ready to accept the new flag. They were ready to accept it and yet their politicians went on for weeks and months arguing about it; its nature, its make-up, its replacement to another symbol. And the politicians, like my friend from Simcoe East (Mr. Letherby), were away behind advanced social thinking in the country.

Those are the things that worry me and I wonder about the school children who come here. Do they, as they sit in the galleries, have a conception of a nether world of unreality as they look at this place?

I am struck by two propositions of Toynbee. I do not go out of my way to sound particularly erudite; I read a lot and I make no apology. There are two propositions that he makes in his volume IV, his monumental study of 22 civilizations.

He says that political institutions must be flexible and adaptable if they are to serve the people they represent, and must change with changing attitudes or they will decay and disappear. He points to examples of those that decayed and disappeared and he says, secondly:

Whenever the exercise of human faculty and ingenuity is followed by success in human affairs in one environment, there is an attempt to transport that ingenuity to another and different environment, and the attempt inevitably leads to disaster.

Now that is a striking proposition for that eminent historian to make. Whenever human ingenuity has created something with success and you attempt to transplant that creation to a different environment, it leads to disaster, he says.

That is what is attempted here. So my proposition, put to this assembly, Mr. Speaker, is simply this: we have in 1967 become cluttered up with too many antique trappings that have no relevance to the seventh decade of the 20th century. And it is a great comfort to me that no less a person than Dalton Camp who will commend himself to my friends opposite—appears to agree with me.

Dalton Camp told the meeting (and I am reading from a report in the *Toronto Telegram*) that all the old definitions of political sovereignty, the monarchy and the British

empire, bear little relevance to the Canada of 1967.

Now I am glad to march forward in the company of that man. He is a bright man; he is alert; he is alive. He has his finger on the pulse. Whatever you think of Camp's machinations, you have to accord Camp that he knows what is going on in this country. It is very significant that he would say that to a group of students. All power to him—I hope he says it more frequently to wider audiences.

We have too much pretence around here. We start off with the Lieutenant-Governor pretending to be the Queen. He is not the Queen; he is Earl Rowe from Newton Robinson, but he pretends to be the Queen. He reads a speech that he pretends he has written. He just pretends that he has written it; he has not. Bill Kinmond has written it, or Bill Rothman, or Dr. Reynolds. And then one of the members, the junior Valhalla, reports that he has had Cabinet Ministers rush up to him in a great state of exhilaration: "I managed to get a paragraph in the Speech from the Throne." Great. That is who has written it. That is a major victory, to get a paragraph in.

But the Lieutenant-Governor pretends he wrote it. He calls the government "my government" and when the Prime Minister speaks on the television—I have seen him—he says to the people in their living rooms, that "It is your government." The Lieutenant-Governor says it is "my government," but the Prime Minister says "it is your government." Whose government is it, Mr. Speaker? Whose is it? Another example of the pretence.

I turn now to a delicate matter. I have reflected long on how I should put this. You, your honour, come in here every day, and you intone those opening words, of those petitions to almighty God:

O Lord our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes.

You ask us to pretend that up on some heavenly throne there is a divine being like that, that there is somebody like that, as those words portray. Those words were written in 1529 and probably suited the Tudor ego, "the only Ruler of princes." "Lord of lords." "King of kings." What nonsense.

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): How would the hon. member phrase it?

Mr. Sopha: What a conception of an almighty being; how would I phrase it?

Mr. Letherby: Yes.

Mr. Sopha: What Lord doth man require of thee but to do justly and walk humbly with thy God. The words of Micah. That is how I would phrase it.

Mr. Letherby: Make a resolution.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Love mercy.

Mr. Sopha: Love mercy, do justly and walk humbly with thy God. Micah 8. Get out that Bible and blow the dust off it and have a look.

Those words, I say to you sir, the description of a heavenly being like that, are unsuitable to the year of Our Lord Jesus Christ 1967.

Those words—I would say, if he were but here, to my friend from Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Downer)—are a direct contradiction in Romans 8: 38 and 39 where St. Paul said: “For I am persuaded that neither principalities nor powers shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord,” and I paraphrase it. But the prayers that you read, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, are in direct contradiction to the interpretation of St. Paul in Romans 8: 38 and 39.

I offer the gauntlet in saying this, but I say that if theology is the queen of the sciences, then let the theologians be consulted. Let them be consulted. And I suggest to you most respectfully—

Mr. Bryden: Do you want to start a real donnybrook?

Mr. Sopha:—submit those words to Archbishop Pocock, Bishop Snell, Reverend Howse, Rabbi Plaut, and I do not leave out any of the other leaders of the faiths by design. Submit them and ask those people: Are those words in sovereign Legislature a petition to almighty God; are they suitable for the year 1967? And get their opinions about it. I would suggest to my friends from the press that if they have a moment, they might call up some of those spiritual leaders of this city that I have mentioned, and read those prayers to them and see if they are not pretence—suitable for 400 years ago, but unsuitable to an enlightened ecumenical age when these things in religion have changed immensely.

I say that to you most humbly and respectfully, notwithstanding the grimaces that I spotted in the House when I ventured in this subject. To assault anything old is with some people around here, the greatest heresy—the traditional, the antique. Notwithstanding that,

I believe in progress. I believe we can be mature and bring ourselves up to date.

At this point I was going to embark on another subject and I beg leave to move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

Clerk of the House: The 18th order; second reading of Bill 17.

COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS AND ACTS

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview) moves second reading of Bill 17, An Act to provide for the appointment of a commissioner to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies, and to define the commissioner's powers and duties.

Mr. Speaker, in speaking to Bill 17 and in asking the House to give second reading to this bill, I suppose that this effort is doomed to failure in the same manner that two previous efforts—

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): You would not go into court when your case is ill-prepared.

Mr. Singer: Well no, our case is not ill-prepared and I am sure my friend the Minister of Municipal Affairs, as he listens, and he always does, will agree with me that it is well prepared. But the failure of this bill to obtain second reading this afternoon will be because the Minister of Municipal Affairs and his colleagues are once again going to turn a deaf ear to a very logical, reasonable and important advance that is needed in this province of Ontario.

This is the third year in a row that this bill has been on the order paper, and I predict—I hope I am wrong—that this bill will not be given second reading this afternoon. I would have thought that this might have had some sort of an effect on the all-knowing gentlemen who inhabit the Treasury benches.

I would have thought perhaps, sir, that they might even have paid attention to a certain gentleman—my friend from Sudbury (Mr. E. W. Sopha) did not refer to him this afternoon, but we might as well have his name before the House, I think his name is Edwin A. Goodman, Q.C.—who looms rather large in the councils of the Conservative Party. He was chairman of a resolution committee and he presented an interim report to the committee of the Ontario Progressive Conservative association at their annual meeting held on

October 30 and October 31 and November 1, 1966, at the Royal York hotel.

In that interim report that he presented, was a series of resolutions dealing with individual liberties and this is what he and his committee had to bring before that important meeting:

This meeting commends the government of Ontario—

Well this is sort of typical Tory-ese. It comes from almost any Tory gathering.

This meeting commends the government of Ontario for its broad legislative programme in the field of human rights, consumer protection and for the appeal process it has established in individual statutes.

Well the analysis of that particular paragraph could be the subject for another long debate and I will not dwell on that at any length. And this is "Be it resolved" each one of these headings:

2. That the government of Ontario appoint a joint standing committee of the Legislature on civil liberties.

A very commendable thought.

3. That the government of Ontario appoint a provincial ombudsman with such staff as is necessary to carry out the duties hereinafter briefly defined. The duty of a provincial ombudsman would be to receive complaints from all citizens, of injustice suffered while dealing with the various departments of government and to make such inquiries as the ombudsman may deem necessary so as to ascertain the validity of the complaints. The ombudsman would report directly to the standing committee of the Legislature on civil liberties who would then take such action as they might deem appropriate and necessary.

Well Mr. Speaker, I am advised that that resolution, along with a whole group of other resolutions, in due course went before the annual meeting of the Progressive Conservative association and it was unanimously passed.

I would imagine that present at that meeting were many of the hon. members who sit on the Conservative side of this House, and certainly would have been present, many of the members who sit on the executive council.

This is why I was a little dubious at the remark earlier of my friend, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, because he really does not pay too much attention to the ideas that are put forward in this House—he does not pay any attention. He and his colleagues do not pay too much attention to the public clamour

that has arisen in this particular field, and most strangely of all perhaps, he and his colleagues pay no attention whatsoever to the resolutions passed at annual meetings of the Progressive Conservative association.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Not so.

Mr. Singer: Well, what action is the government taking? The Minister of Public Welfare says "Not so."

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Check off the long list of resolutions passed in the past, and carried out by the government.

Mr. Singer: No, I am talking about—I could go through this, but in this limited time that I have available for debate, Mr. Speaker, let me ask the Minister of Public Welfare why there has not been action in this regard. Rumour had it that we were going to hear something interesting about the ombudsman in the Speech from the Throne. No mention, no mention at all. From time to time, the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) tells us that these problems are being investigated and Mr. Justice McRuer has investigated this, amongst many, many other problems. As the days and the months and the years go by we wonder if Mr. Justice McRuer is ever going to report and whether or not this government seriously believes that this kind of reform, even recommended by its own party, is the kind of reform that it wants in this province.

Now, why do we want it? Why do many people urge that this would be a logical and sensible step that the government should take? I will tell you why, Mr. Speaker: It is because people are becoming increasingly concerned, and well they might, with the power, the influence and the authority of nameless and faceless civil servants whom they cannot get at. They are no longer satisfied that just because big brother in the guise of the Tory government or in the guise of an individual Cabinet Minister says it is so, that that is good enough.

Let me give you a few instances of where an ombudsman might have been of some help to people who had been trying to get at the majesty and the authority of the Ontario government. Two physiotherapists who reside in my constituency approached me not too long ago and told me they were anxious to establish themselves in practice in the riding of Downsview at a certain location. It was important, in order to be able to do that, that they be recognized and accepted by the Ontario hospital services commission.

They had made application to the Ontario hospital services commission for this privilege and the Ontario hospital services commission said, "We think there are enough physiotherapists in that particular area." The situation was fairly canvassed and within a short time they came up with a petition signed by 40 practising medical doctors who live and practice in that area, suggesting there was need for additional physiotherapy service which could be provided by these two gentlemen in that immediate geographic area. Somewhere along the line, as these petitions and the correspondence and the representations were falling on deaf ears, they appealed to me.

I was able to arrange, in due course after correspondence and conversations with the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond), some sort of a meeting with a sub-sub group of advisers to the Minister of Health.

We spent a very interesting afternoon; I give them full credit, they listened very carefully. But it was obvious that throughout the course of this whole meeting they knew in advance what their decision was going to be.

After the meeting—it had taken us two hours or whatever it took—they said, "We are sorry, we do not think this is proper at the present time. We will take it under advisement whether we will canvass the 40 doctors who said this was an important service, but we are sure they did not understand the petition they signed and we will think about it a little further and let you know. Maybe in six months you can come back." Fascinatingly, 48 hours later, they wrote to these two gentlemen who wanted to practise in physiotherapists in this specific location, and said, "No, we won't let you go there, but if you move two and a half miles away, that is where you are needed and we will give you permission to practice there."

Mr. Speaker, how do you cope with a situation like that? It is not a matter of substantial enough importance to take up the time of this House in debate; it is not a matter that one would expect the Minister of Health would be aware of, nor would he know the advisers or the sub-advisers or the sub-committee that advises the sub-advisers. But certainly it is a problem when it interferes with the ability to earn a livelihood of two men who have very substantial training. There is really no way of getting at that kind of a problem under the present system.

Let me tell of another instance. A friend of mine, who is a very capable and honourable gentleman in the life insurance business,

told me of an incident where he became involved in, and questioned, the approach of another life insurance agent. He brought the matter to the attention of the registrar of insurance, or whatever the official's name is, laid all the facts before him and the first reaction was, "Oh, this is a terrible thing. The second agent should not be allowed to continue on in business. We are going to have to do something about that." After seven hearings, involving all the big brass of the insurance company that was being accused of having an agent who carried on improper practices, the gentleman in charge of the insurance office, on behalf of the people of Ontario, suddenly said, "Well, I guess really we have served our purpose; we will slap them gently on the wrist and let them carry on."

Then he wrote my friend a letter and said, "Dear Mr. So-and-So, Thank you very much for being such a good public spirited citizen and bringing this matter to my attention". End of the incident.

Where do you go, sir? How does that kind of a matter get dealt with so that the public interest is protected? I am satisfied from what I was told and from the documents I have seen relating to this particular matter, that the second agent had acted in a manner most unsatisfactory, most improper and most unethical. But if the only appeal is to someone whose conduct stands completely for itself, who can make one decision and reverse it later, when obviously some kind of representations have been made further and beyond the public hearing, then I ask, who speaks for the public in these matters?

I spoke in the House at the beginning, at the time the Attorney General's estimates were introduced, about some opinions I had about the handling of trust funds by the office of the official guardian.

How do you get at that? How does one get to look at those files and find out if these matters have been expedited in a manner that is reasonable in the public interest? Mind you, sir, in this instance I said at that time and I say now, I am not saying that any civil servant put his hands in the till and put the money in his pocket. But I am saying there was complete negligence in some of the actions there. But how do we get at that?

Surely there should be some official who has the power and the authority to investigate these matters. And since I made those remarks in the House, may I say that I have had many people contact me and tell me of different incidents of exactly the same thing.

A lady called me this morning to tell me about some money that was in the hands of a public trustee; some money belonging to her child who had been in Orillia for some 20 years, and the child died there. It was a small sum of money, \$500, and at the time of death of the child the money came back to her because the child had died.

The same \$500 that had sat in the hands of the public trustee for 20 years. And she asked, "was there no interest," and they said, "Oh, no, you don't get any interest. The amount is too small. Whatever interest there would have been would be taken up by administration fees."

I do not know, sir, how that kind of an approach can possibly be justified. We are about to vote whatever salaries are required and moneys that are needed for the running of the office of the public trustee. Five hundred dollars was in his care for a period of some 20 years. In the normal course of events, even if it had been put in the bank and allowed to collect bank interest, in 20 years it would have more than doubled. Surely there is an injustice being done in this case and in many others. But how do we get at these things unless we have a public official that can inquire and make recommendations and bring publicity to these matters?

And again, sir, as I said and as the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) said, in trying to cope with the various matters dealing with this important department of government, that of the Attorney General, how can we possibly find out what is going on and make a logical constructive series of criticisms if we are denied the important information that the people of Ontario are entitled to?

How can we tell if the magistrates' courts are running well or badly, or better than last year or are in worse shape than last year, if we do not get to see the report of the chief magistrate of the province of Ontario? Or we do not get to see the report of the Ontario police commission? Or of the Ontario Provincial Police, or of the chief county court judge?

How can we tell what has happened in the Prudential investigation, Mr. Speaker, when the files are denied completely to all the members of the Opposition?

All we find out about the Prudential investigation is that some group—apparently detached from the securities commission; and apparently it did not extend to Mr. Kimber when he was chairman of that commission—is conducting some kind of an investigation.

Who these people are, whom they are investigating, what they are investigating and what questions they are asking we do not know, and we have no way of finding out.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that the day has long since passed when it is sufficient to say to the people of Ontario, "Big brother will look after you." But big brother in the guise of the Tory party is just not looking after the people of Ontario, and they think it is beneath their dignity to let the people of Ontario find out what really is going on in the government offices. And this, sir, I think is the substantial argument for the passing of this bill, for giving it second reading this afternoon.

This is not a new idea. It is an idea that has been talked about in the western world for many, many years. I am sure that anyone who has been interested in this important reform must be aware of such writings as this book produced by Donald C. Rowatt, entitled: *The Ombudsman: Citizens' Defender*.

Mr. Rowatt has gone to substantial trouble to obtain a series of papers, some 29 different contributions, about ombudsmen and dealing with what goes on in some 13 different countries.

The story is here, and this is only one of many books. There have been books and articles and so on. The experiences are known and should be well-known to a government that tries to cast itself in the role of being a progressive government. I say, not with surprise, but with sincere regret, that this is a reactionary government that is afraid of this kind of reform. It is unlikely to benefit by the experiences in other democratic jurisdictions because, unfortunately, we have to conclude that they have something to hide and they do not want this kind of investigation to go on so that the rights of the ordinary citizens of Ontario can be properly protected.

I am sure that anyone who is at all familiar with this field will recognize that Sweden's experience has been a good one. In Finland this has been an institution of long-standing importance. Denmark, Norway, West Germany, New Zealand and even the inspector general in the United States army has a system that parallels the operation of an ombudsman.

The Philippines and the United Kingdom have moved substantially further along this line than we ever have. The United Kingdom is about to have that office created. There have been intelligent discussions in Ottawa, and Ottawa seems to be moving

along the line. But that is not enough; we need an ombudsman here in Ontario for provincial purposes and for municipal purposes.

I could go on at some length, Mr. Speaker, in quoting from sections of this book telling of the experiences and so on. But with the limited time available to me I will not go any further than to commend to the attention of anyone who is interested—and I hope I include in that group the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs—this important book by Mr. Rowatt.

And I hope you will read it and maybe—he is not long for the Treasury benches; the whole group of them are going to go because these are things that are being added up. Maybe hopefully, if they are there for another month or two, we might get some action in this important field.

Let us look at this bill, Mr. Speaker. I was reading it again just a few moments before this debate started to refresh my memory. With not too much modesty, let me say that I think this bill is a well-drafted bill that presents to the Legislature of Ontario the obvious and logical way in which this important measure could and should be carried out. I am not going to go through it section by section, but section 9 which deals with the functions of an ombudsman is set up in this way: Section 9. (1) The principal function of the commissioner—and we do not call him an ombudsman, we call him a commissioner—is to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies and to define the commissioner's powers and duties. In section 9 (I) I suggest that:

The principal function of the commissioner is to investigate any decision or recommendation made, including any recommendation made to a Minister, or any act done or omitted, relating to a matter of administration and affecting any person or body of persons in his or its personal capacity, in or by any department or agency, or by any officer, employee or member thereof in the exercise of any power or function conferred on him by any Act.

That is the principle of this legislation and I say, sir—all the remarks that I have made have necessarily had to be condensed because of the limitations of time that face me in this debate—is what is so desperately needed in the province of Ontario. We have to have an official who can investigate decisions and

recommendations made to Ministers or acts done or omitted relating to matters of administration and so on.

And why this does not seem apparent; why this is not obvious to those people who are responsible for bringing bills before this House backed by the Tory majority, I just cannot understand.

This ombudsman, by his nature, should be completely independent of government. He must be the servant of the Legislature; he must be responsible only to the Legislature and he must be given sufficient freedom to act as the enabling statute directs him to, and be responsible only to the Legislature to whom he can appeal in the event that his actions or his recommendations are having no force and effect.

It is not too hard to picture in my mind some of the gentlemen who are giving good public service in this province who might occupy that most important position. One man who immediately comes to mind is chief justice Gale, the chief justice of the high court of the province of Ontario. And I would think if the government was sincere at all in trying to protect the interests of the ordinary citizen, that not only would they immediately enact a statute such as this one, but they would solicit the service of such a person as chief justice Gale.

There are many others and I am not going to single them out by name, but I would bring his name before the Legislature for that kind of an appointment. My bill provides that:

(6) If any question arises as to whether the commissioner has jurisdiction to investigate any case or class of cases under this Act, he may, if he thinks fit, apply to the Supreme Court for a declaratory order determining the question.

I think this safeguard is most important, because I can see a certain gentleman—the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart)—throwing up his hands and saying, “I do not want any commissioner wandering around my office and looking in my files; he might find out something that I am not too anxious to let the public know.”

That sort of thing might arise, Mr. Speaker, and again I do not think that the decision should lie in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture and Food or the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme), or any of them.

I think if the ombudsman is there, and the parliamentary commission is there and is

appointed and he has sufficient stature and independence—he must have—and he interprets his problem as having to look at certain files no matter in whose custody they are, and if the Minister concerned with the department concerned says no, then there can be an appeal to question this to the Supreme Court. I think this is logical and fair. I say, sir, if there is any real worry on the part of government that there might be an over-officious person in the position such as this, then there is a safeguard there.

But the big safeguard in the protection of the public, Mr. Speaker, has to be the ability to call people to account. Notwithstanding how hard we work, we in the Opposition work in an effort to call the government to account, our hands are tied behind us because we do not have access to the information the government has. And we are denied, deliberately denied access to that kind of information and these are in the obvious matters too.

In the administrative matter, how do the ordinary people cope with the majesty of government? How do they cope with this nameless, faceless civil servant who makes a decision that cannot be appealed and cannot even be talked about because nobody knows really who is responsible for it? Well, the obvious vehicle, Mr. Speaker, is the appointment by the Legislature of the province of Ontario of a commissioner. This is the kind that I am talking about.

Then, sir, it may be suggested in argument that if we have such an official here, he would be infringing on the rights, the privileges and the duties of the executive council. Section 15 deals very well with that. Section 15 provides that where the Minister of Justice and the Attorney General certifies the giving of any information or the answering of any questions or the production of any document or paper might involve the disclosure and the deliberation of the executive council or the proceedings of the executive council or any committee thereof, relating to matters of a secret or confidential nature that would be injurious to the public interest, then the commissioner shall not require the information or the answer to be given, as the case may be.

But I think that sort of safeguard is necessary and the Minister of Justice or the Attorney General must take that positive step. It should not be sufficient that we should get someone like the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman) who stood up in this House a year or two ago and said: "Oh, don't you dare talk about what we are

doing," in Mercer reformatory, I think it was. "That's being investigated by a committee in my department so it's almost *sub judice*."

Well, that sort of answer from a responsible Minister of the Crown is arrant nonsense, Mr. Speaker. And it is just another indication of a whole series of incidents where government has set themselves up as the be-all and the end-all of the judge and jury and executioner. They will only let the public know so much as they think is good for the public.

I see, sir, my time has run out. This is a subject I can get very excited about and very emotional about and I could speak for yet another half hour if this was allowed to me by the rules in this particular debate. But I commend this bill to all members of the Legislature, Mr. Speaker, as an outstanding reform, an urgent reform and a needed reform. I know my voice is not alone in urging that this step be taken. Again I would refer to no less a person than Edwin A. Goodman, Q.C., who brought it before the Ontario Progressive Conservative convention just a few months ago, and no less a group than the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party in convention, unanimously adopted this recommendation. Why then are we waiting any longer, Mr. Speaker? I urge all members of the House to vote in favour of giving this bill second reading.

Mr. H. E. Beckett (York East): The hon. member for Downsview is to be congratulated for the introduction of Bill 17, an Act that provides for the appointment of a commissioner, to investigate administrative decisions and acts of officials of the government of Ontario and its agencies, and to define the commissioner's powers and duties. Many articles have been written on this subject in numerous countries around the world. It has been the subject matter of legislation and proposed legislation in several jurisdictions, and the persons already appointed and acting are known as ombudsmen. Although the hon. member does not use that word in his bill, I think it means the same thing as the commissioner.

The system originated in Sweden in 1809, and was adopted in Finland in 1919, in Denmark in 1955 and later, sir, in Norway and New Zealand. It has been proposed in Britain, India, Ireland, the United States and several provinces in Canada. The Nordic countries and New Zealand are confident they have adopted a worthwhile institution. The other democratic countries of the world are considering the desirability of its adoption.

One asks, is it needed in Ontario or in Canada? It has been said where the administration has been riddled with political patronage and corruption, the problem is too big for an ombudsman. A reform of the whole system is required. Even where this is not the case, the need for additional protection against arbitrary and administrative action is now so great in most Commonwealth countries that other reforms will be needed if an institution is not to become overloaded. Canada, like other Commonwealth countries is now living on its past reputation for the rule of law. And as one writer has said, we are like the dog in the anonymous rhyme:

There was a dachshund, one so long,
He had many notions how long it took
To notify his tail of his emotions
And so it was that though his eyes
Were filled with tears and sadness;
His little tail went wagging on
Because of previous gladness.

Faced with our failure to solve the problem of protecting the rights of the citizens in a modern, administrative state and with the progress made in solving this problem by other democratic countries, our eyes fill with tears and sadness but our tails go wagging smugly on because of previous gladness.

It has been suggested that the following should be the qualifications of an ombudsman: He should be a senior citizen in good health and full of vigour; must have impeccable standing in the community; legal background preferred; should be able to regard the performance of public officials with cool detachment and cast a critical eye on heavy-handed administrative rules and bureaucratic procedures; must be willing to listen with traditional patience to even the pettiest complaints of the lowliest citizens and be prepared to speak out and act for the individual in all cases where he is being wronged by government; must be impervious to pressures and indifferent to rank; candidates with political obligations or ambitions need not apply.

The University of Pennsylvania Law Review dealt with ombudsmen in America and said they were obligated to criticize the administrative actions. The idea, coupled with our ingenuity to adopt this to our constitution, may have considerable potentiality for our various governments—federal, provincial and local.

Bills to establish the office of parliamentary commissioner were introduced in the House of Commons, Ottawa, in the years 1962, 1963, 1964 and 1966. All four bills were

exactly the same with the exception of the 1966 bill which provides:

That no public money shall be expended directly or indirectly in performing the duties of parliamentary commissioners as set forth in the Act and as provided in section 3 of Bill C113.

Section 3 of the 1962, 1963 and 1964 Acts was left out, which dealt with the term of office. And the 1962 and 1963 bills made provisions for the parliamentary commissioner to charge a fee of \$5 before he makes an investigation and that money the commissioner would contribute to the expenses of the office.

In September, 1964, the standing committee on privileges and elections of the House of Commons met to consider Bill C7, an Act to establish the office of parliamentary commissioner. Sir Guy Richardson Powell, K.B.E., C.M.G., E.D., LL.B., the parliamentary ombudsman for New Zealand, has held that position since 1962. Sir Guy Powell stated:

I think there are definite problems here. However, I think the institution of ombudsman is flexible enough to be adopted to various types of government, but I do think there needs to be a fairly close measure of personal control and influence on the part of the ombudsman himself and that necessarily limits the number of complaints with which he could effectually deal with in one year. So, if you are going to establish it in a larger country, you would have to construct some form of filter. The Wyatt report recommended complaints should come only through members of Parliament. In other words, members of Parliament would be the filter.

The standing committee adjourned and took no further action.

The 1966 bill, introduced in the House of Commons as C113, provided that the parliamentary commissioner may accept moneys, securities or other property by gift, bequest, or otherwise, and may spend such moneys, securities or other property in carrying out the duties of parliamentary commissioner, including the retention by himself of such recommendations as may be reasonable for the performance of his services. The bill provided that he would be appointed by joint resolution of the Senate and the House of Commons, to hold office during good behaviour until he reached the age of 65.

In July, 1963, Bill HR7593 was introduced in the general assembly of the state of Connecticut concerning the appointment of a commissioner ombudsman to investigate decisions, acts of departments, agencies, institutions and certain other organizations, and to

define the commissioner's functions and powers and make appropriation therefor. The Act was entitled, The Ombudsman Act of 1963.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. What good is listening to this talk if they are not going to support it and put the bill into action? We have a bill before the House which they are not going to support and yet they are spending all this time on it.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the member not to interject at this time.

Mr. Beckett: The government of Premier Duff Roblin in Manitoba has announced its intention to apply the provincial ombudsman with power to investigate citizens' complaints against bureaucratic rulings, and a study of the proposal is being made by a legislative committee.

The Manitoba bill provides that persons wishing to have complaints investigated will not take them directly to the ombudsman but would ask their member of Parliament to present them for investigation.

The province of Alberta advertised in January of this year for applicants for an ombudsman, a commissioner of the Legislature. Quebec, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan are also planning to adopt the ombudsman. The House of Assembly for the province of Newfoundland in December, 1966, adopted a motion to constitute a select committee to inquire into and report to the House on the advisability or otherwise of there being appointed a parliamentary commissioner or an ombudsman or similar officer to investigate any and all complaints on the part of any citizen that they may not have received fair and impartial treatment from any and all agencies of the government.

Although there is no special provision in Bill 17 to provide for the payment of the commissioner, there is in section 8 provision for the commissioner to appoint such officers and employees as may be necessary for the efficient carrying out of his functions under this Act. And the number of persons that may be appointed under this section, whether generally or in respect of any specified duties or class of duties, shall from time to time be determined by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

There is no provision in the bill as to how the commissioner or his staff is to be paid, but the bill does provide that he will be an agent for the government of Ontario. I contend that moneys would have to be provided

by the government to make it possible for the ombudsman to carry out his duties. Private members are subject to the rule which forbids them to introduce any motion or bill calling for an expenditure of public money. Such bills can only be introduced by the government and then only after presentation of a message from the sovereign or her representative recommending the expenditure.

Rule 112 of the parliamentary procedure on Ontario states:

Section 54 [the 54th section] of The Imperial Act, 30 Victoria, Chapter 3, The British-North America Act, 1867: It is provided that the House shall not adopt or pass any vote, resolution, address or bill for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue or of any tax to any purpose where it has not been first recommended by a message of the Lieutenant-Governor in session in which such vote, resolution, address or bill is proposed.

Rule 113 provides:

If any motion be made in the House for any public aid or charge upon the people, the consideration and date thereof may not be presently entered upon but shall be adjourned until such further date as the House shall think fit to appoint, and then it shall be referred to the committee of the whole House before any resolution or vote to the House do pass thereon.

On page 143 of precedents as recorded in the journal the Speaker wrote:

The House shall not adopt or pass any vote, resolution, address or bill for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue or of any tax or impost for any purpose that has not been first recommended by a message of the Lieutenant-Governor in session in which such vote, resolution, address or bill is proposed.

The English rule is stated in May's Parliamentary Practice at page 691 as follows:

This House will receive no petition for any sum relating to public revenues, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of moneys to be provided by the Parliament, unless recommended by the Crown.

This makes it clear that any bill or resolution that seeks to authorize direct payments from the public fund is not within the countenance of a private member.

On Friday, May 1, 1964, the Prime Minister of this province made a statement in the House, and I would like to read from *Hansard* of that day. It is on page 2694:

In the opinion of the government the time has now arrived when we should pause to examine with the greatest of care changes that may have taken place to increase the power of the state to the detriment of the individual and his basic liberties and freedoms. We must ask ourselves if we are providing adequate safeguards to protect the rights of our citizens even as we seek to solve some of the very aggravating problems that bait us. We must ask ourselves if we are extending the power of state far beyond the point required to achieve the social purposes and requirements of our day. These very questions have been raised in other countries which share with us the common tradition of protecting personal liberties and freedoms.

Among other things, we must concern ourselves with the authority granted to boards and commissions, both in their administrative functions and their investigative powers. We must review the right to appeal from the decisions of boards and commissions and we must also review the powers that may have been given to these boards and commissions by statute over a very long period of years. We must examine very closely the various means that can be devised to strengthen and maintain these guarantees, such as the desirability of the creation of the position of a public defender; the possibility of the development of a comprehensive civil rights code, which might be a further extension of our present human rights code, in which we all take justifiable pride, or perhaps it might be the adoption of the Canadian bill of rights in relation to the powers of the province.

To this end, the government has decided to appoint a Royal commission to conduct an exhaustive inquiry into the matters that I have mentioned. From their studies and recommendations, it will be our hope and purpose to be able to draft and to present to this House at as early a date as possible, the necessary legislation to insure that within the statutory power of this province, the rights, freedoms and liberties of our people here will be protected for all time.

Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference:

To examine, study and inquire into the laws of Ontario, including the statutes and regulations passed hereunder affecting the personal freedom, rights and liberties of Canadian citizens and others resident in Ontario, for the purpose of determining

how far there may be unjustified encroachment on freedoms, rights and liberties by the Legislature, the government, its officers and servants, divisions of public servants, boards, commissions, committees, other emanations of government or bodies exercising authority under the administering laws in Ontario.

After due study and consideration to recommend such changes in the law, procedures and processes as in the opinion of the commission are necessary and desirable to safeguard the fundamentals and basic rights, liberties and freedoms of the individual from an infringement of the state or any other body, it would therefore appear to me, Mr. Speaker, that one of the Royal commissions, etc., should explore the office of an ombudsman. Until the House receives that report, it does not appear to me proper at this time to adopt Bill 17.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, in rising to support the bill which has been presented by the hon. member for Downsview, I would simply like to draw attention in the first instance to the area of abusive power which is caused not so much by any direct act of anyone as it is by a degree of procrastination or inefficiency in government. For that reason we feel that the bill is of great public importance and requires urgent attention. The hon. member for York East, Mr. Speaker, may very well be technically correct about the matters which he indicates are going to eventually be dealt with, but this will not help the kind of abusive power which is taking place almost daily in the province of Ontario.

The first letter I would like to read into the record, Mr. Speaker, is a letter received by Mr. Egon Hesky, the president of Hesky Flax Products Limited, from his solicitor a very short time ago in connection with an appeal which he made on behalf of his client to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for the province of Ontario on appeal from a decision of the Ontario municipal board. And his solicitor wrote to him:

Dear Mr. Hesky:

You have asked me to summarize the delays experienced in obtaining relief from the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on the petition filed by you on February 17, 1965. No acknowledgment was ever received to my letter forwarding the petition, and accordingly in the month of May, I visited Queen's Park in an attempt to locate the responsible official charged with processing petitions of this kind.

I then learned that the only person with whom I could deal was the secretary of the Cabinet and he was out of town. I was promised, however, that I would receive a report from him immediately upon his return. One week later, not having received such a report, I telephoned him and was able to talk with him on May 18. At that time he told me that this appeal had been delayed, so it might be dealt with others in the same area. He hoped at that time, however, to be able to give me a report of some nature within the next week.

No such report was forthcoming and a number of telephone calls proved fruitless. As a result of one of these calls, however, I did receive a telephone call from the secretary of the Cabinet about September 7, when he told me that he would be giving me a report on the progress within a week. On September 21 I wrote to the secretary pointing out to him that at that stage I had already telephoned his office on a minimum of ten occasions and had as yet to receive any written acknowledgment of the appeal. I then asked him to confirm that the appeal was in the process of being dealt with, and to give me some indication of when it would be disposed of. No reply to this letter was received and I subsequently sent a reminder to the secretary on October 27, 1965.

When again no reply was received, I contacted the secretary by telephone and on November 18, he told me that a recommendation with respect to this case and other similar ones was to go before the Cabinet the following week. I was not of course told what that recommendation might be, but the suggestion was that I could expect a final disposal of the matter at that time.

A follow-up letter was then sent to the secretary on January 4, 1966, and again there was no reply. Having been completely unsuccessful in obtaining any written document from the Lieutenant-Governor's office, I then spoke to the chairman of the Ontario municipal board and solicited his support. On his recommendation I then wrote to the Cabinet Minister residing in the Ottawa area, the Honourable Mr. Irwin Haskett, and on January 13 I sent him a full report outlining the difficulties that I had experienced to date and asking for his assistance in seeing that this matter was dealt with. No acknowledgment of this letter was ever received.

On February 3, I spoke to Mr. McIntyre in his office during the course of one of my visits to Toronto, and was told that he was carrying on discussions with department heads in connection with the appeal and hoped that the matter would soon be disposed of. Not having received a report from him, I then sent him a reminding letter on February 24 with a copy to Mr. Haskett. When these attempts failed I then sent a night letter to the Prime Minister on March 15 asking for his assistance in seeing that the appeal might soon be dealt with. No acknowledgment was ever received in connection with this telegram.

On April 19 I went to Toronto and attempted to see Mr. McIntyre. I first spoke to Mr. B. Lawrence, the MPP for my own riding and went in with him to see Mr. McIntyre when we were told that the appeal was on the Cabinet agenda for Thursday, April 28th and that it was expected that a decision of some kind would be made at that time. Mr. Lawrence put it in his diary and agreed to follow it up with the Cabinet office on that day.

No report was received and on May 4 I spoke with Mr. McIntyre again and was told that the case was not reached on the agenda but that it was now expected to be reached on the following Tuesday. No further report was received from the secretary so I attempted to see him on June 24.

He was not available, but having met Mr. Rowntree, who was known to me, in the corridor, I asked for his assistance. He told me that he could make no promises but asked me to give the full particulars to his secretary, which I did. Nothing ever developed from this encounter.

On June 27 I again endeavoured to contact the secretary but could only speak to a member of his office staff who told me that he had left a message to assure me that the appeal had come off the appeal agenda and would be placed before the cabinet for disposition on the coming Thursday.

When no report had been received, I went to the Parliament buildings again on July 25 where I waited for an hour in the hope of meeting the secretary. And when he came in he told me that the matter had not been disposed of at the earlier meetings but that it had to be disposed of at the coming Thursday meeting, or he would not be able to get away on holidays. He did in fact proceed on holidays with-

out any further report having been sent to me.

On September 2 I then sent a long letter to the Prime Minister outlining all of the delays which we had experienced and making a personal appeal to him to expedite this matter. No acknowledgment was ever received from the Prime Minister's office, but when I next visited the secretary's office on September 16, he told me that the Prime Minister's office had received it and that he hoped it would help me in expediting the matter. At that time he indicated that the Cabinet was leaving on a tour of the north and since he would then have a captive audience, he felt that he would be able to get the matter through while away on the trip.

On the return from the trip I again learned through telephone calls that no action had been taken and received the personal promise of the secretary that the matter would be dealt with at the next Thursday meeting. This did not develop. But on Thursday, October 13, I telephoned the secretary and was advised by him at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon that he had just come out of a Cabinet meeting at which the Cabinet had confirmed the decision of the municipal board and that he would be writing to confirm this to me in due course.

A letter was received from the general municipal council of The Department of Municipal Affairs dated October 18, 1966, enclosing a copy of Order-in-Council 4259 of 1966. I then wrote to the general municipal council and requested particulars for the reasons upon which the decision was reached and received a second letter stating that it was not possible to provide any such reason. These two letters are the only communication I received at any time from government officials with respect to your petition.

Mr. Speaker, I think that letter in itself is eloquent evidence as to why we need some official such as the commissioner, proposed by the member for Downsview in his bill before this session of the Legislature for debate.

Mr. Speaker, the next case which I have received—and I am quite certain that all members receive cases from time to time which illustrate these particular procrastinations which result in an abuse of power by the government. This one is dated January 20, 1967, from an inmate of the Don jail:

Dear Sir:

I have been following the articles concerning your party in the Toronto *Star* and have been quite impressed by your platform. It is regrettable that my first contact with your organization must be in the form of a plea for assistance. I am convicted of forgery and uttering and have been sentenced to five and a half years. A pauper's appeal to the Ontario court of appeal was dismissed in May, 1966, and notice of appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada was filed in June, 1966. In answer to a request for documents essential to the appeal, the registrar of the Ontario court of appeal informed me The Attorney General's Department was preparing them and that they would be sent to me.

This letter was dated September.

The Ontario court of appeal informed me that The Attorney General's Department was preparing them and that they would be sent.

This letter was dated September 13, 1966.

In reply to further enquiries, I received on November 3, 1966 from The Attorney General's Department assurance that these documents would be ready later that month or in early December at the latest. I have written twice during the latter part of December and the prison officials have phoned his office three times since the New Year with no results. I feel this undue procrastination on their part is unjustified. I have written the law society of Upper Canada and have had no acknowledgment.

In reply to that letter I wrote, Mr. Speaker, to The Attorney General's Department in due course I received a letter from the Deputy Attorney General saying:

I have received your letter of February 6 and I am now advised that the material relating to the application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada was mailed on February 1, 1967. As you know this material has to be collected, compiled, indexed and bound by the department and we then look after the filing of the material at Ottawa.

Having written to the inmate at the Don jail who had written to me in the first place, I received a further letter stating:

Thank you for your letter. I am sorry to have put you to the trouble of writing the Deputy Attorney General, because a week after I wrote you I filed an application for writ of mandamus requesting The Department of the Attorney General to supply with due haste the materials needed.

The application was adjourned from January 27 to February 3 at the request of counsel for the Attorney General so as to permit the material to be procured and delivered. The material was delivered on Thursday, February 2, 1967. The application for mandamus was dismissed on Friday, February 3, 1967. I am now awaiting notification from the registrar of the Supreme Court of Canada as to the date of the hearing at which time I will be taken to Ottawa to present my argument.

Shortly afterwards, because the Deputy Attorney General himself was concerned about the procrastination, he wrote to me on February 27 simply saying:

You will recall our earlier correspondence with respect to this particular case. I was concerned about the delay so that after my recent letter to you of February 9, I did speak with the lawyer who looks after these matters to see how the delay arose. One of the difficulties is that while we have developed a fairly efficient system in dealing with the prisoner's appeal in our own court of appeal, we have not yet been able to develop the same procedures in the Supreme Court of Canada. As you are possibly already aware, this is a little more difficult dealing with that court and it is taking a little more time to develop a uni-

form method of procedure that can be followed in all cases.

In any event, in this particular case we did not receive the argument until September and consequently our own preparations of material was delayed until after that time so that we would be aware of what was necessary from his point of view.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I simply suggest that there is no excuse whatsoever for this kind of delay in the administration of justice in the province. Again it points eloquently to the need for this government to introduce and to seriously consider introducing at this session a bill which would be along the lines of that suggested by the member for Downsview and which we support.

Mr. Singer: No vote?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will deal with a resolution by the leader of the Opposition in the afternoon and we will continue thereafter with the estimates of the Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, March 9, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, St. William's separate school, Toronto; St. Marcellus separate school, Weston; in the west gallery, Ridge public school, Leamington, and Transfiguration separate school, Weston.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. E. Reuter (Waterloo South) from the standing committee on private bills, presented the committee's ninth report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments: Bill Pr31, An Act respecting the University of Western Ontario; Bill Pr35, An Act respecting the board of education of the city of London.

Your committee would recommend that the fees, less the penalties and the actual cost of printing, be remitted on Bill Pr31, An Act respecting the University of Western Ontario.

As the committee has not been able to complete its work, it recommends that the time within which the House may receive reports upon private bills from the committee on private bills, be extended to March 16, 1967.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the following reports:

1. The annual report of The Department of Highways of Ontario for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1966.

2. The annual report of the Ontario energy board for the year ending December 31, 1966.

3. The annual report of the Niagara parks commission for the year ending 1966.

4. The liquor licence board of Ontario, 20th annual report, March 31, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS ACT, 1966

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act, 1966.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the hon. members will recall that on January 24, 1967 the government named an advisory committee to consult with, and give advice to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs. It is proposed to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act to incorporate the establishment of the advisory committee under the statute.

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1966

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, this Act has been proclaimed effective April 3, 1967. It provides for the establishment of a consumer protection bureau.

There is a relationship between The Consumer Protection Amendment Act and The Consumer Protection Bureau Act. The comments apply to either or other of these two pieces of legislation.

Bill 100, as it was known, which is An Act to establish and provide for the duties of a consumer protection bureau, has been proclaimed effective April 3, 1967.

It provides for the establishment of a consumer protection bureau which shall: (a) disseminate information for the purpose of educating and advising consumers, respecting consumer protection and lending and borrowing practices; (b) promote and assist existing counselling services in respect of consumer credit; (c) receive and investigate complaints

of conduct in contravention of legislation for the protection of consumers; (d) enforce legislation for the protection of consumers.

The consumer protection bureau will be located on the mezzanine floor of 123 Edward Street, Toronto. It will come under the jurisdiction of Mr. S. Douglas Turner, B.A., S.C., a Toronto-born lawyer, who will assume duties March 13, as director of the consumer protection division of The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Mr. Turner, a graduate of Osgoode Hall law school, returns to Toronto from Alberta, where since 1961 he has been a member of the research council of that province. He has experience in both general practice, corporate law and is a former manager of the Alberta division of the Canadian Petroleum Association.

The organization necessary to carry out the intent of the legislation is established and approved, and recruitment of needed personnel is now underway.

Until The Consumer Protection Act, 1966 is proclaimed, the consumer protection division director will be concerned with the selection of staff, development of public information facilities and with assisting the industries and individuals affected by the operation of the bureau through the period during which industry will wish to modify its practices.

Sections 1 and 33 of The Consumer Protection Act, 1966, will become effective as of May 1, 1967. The balance of the Act will take effect July 31, 1967.

Section 1 deals with interpretation, and section 33 provides for regulations.

Regulations in draft form will be available to the industry as of April 1, 1967.

Hon. members will appreciate, I am sure, that special care must be taken to ensure that the changes proposed will be both effective and workable insofar as the industries and individuals affected are concerned. The three month period between May 1 and July 31, 1967, we believe will give ample opportunity for any final representations to be made with respect to those regulations.

It will also give the industry time to prepare the proper forms and make whatever other changes are necessary to meet the provisions of the Act and the regulations.

I would like also today to propose two amendments to The Consumer Protection Act, 1966, which are contained in the motion providing for the amendment to the statute.

Section 1(c) will be amended to provide uniformity with similar statutes elsewhere in Canada, and I am referring of course, to the disclosure of the cost of credit.

Section 1(e) proposes that the registration and examination branch of The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs shall become part of the total consumer protection division. This takes into consideration, Mr. Speaker, the fact that when the Act was written, it was anticipated that the consumer protection bureau would be part of the registration examination branch. The change is suggested in keeping with the government's view of the importance of the whole field of consumer protection.

THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS ACT

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Public Hospitals Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS ACT

Hon. Mr. Dymond moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Private Hospitals Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, these are relatively simple amendments. The first, in the case of The Public Hospitals Act, establishes two groups of hospitals, group H and group I. Group H is to designate public hospitals for active psychiatric treatment, and group I is to designate public hospitals for the treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction. The amendment also states that these hospitals will not be forced under The Public Hospitals Act to admit patients other than those suffering from the disabilities for which they are being given specialized treatment.

It also proposes to put these two new groups of hospitals on a par with group A hospitals for the purposes of striking the municipal rate for indigent admissions.

The purpose of the amendment to The Private Hospitals Act is to give the municipality which signs an agreement with a private hospital respecting treatment of indigent patients resident in the municipality the right to recover the cost of such treatment to the patient or his estate if action is taken within one year after the patient's discharge from the hospital or his death in the hospital.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the hon. Attorney General. Would the Minister reconsider his refusal to launch an inquiry under The Public Inquiries Act into mortgage transactions which the city of Toronto officials think contributed to the creation of slums in the city's east end?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, I am still of the same opinion as that which I expressed to the officials of the city of Toronto, that such an inquiry is not properly one which comes under The Public Inquiries Act, but is more appropriate under section 241 of The Municipal Act.

I might say that we have had long and thorough discussions. I have met delegations from the city and have had considerable correspondence. The matter has been most thoroughly reviewed.

The city of Toronto—and this is a matter pertaining particularly to the city of Toronto—has a course of action, a method of inquiry which it may conduct. The course is clear on which it may proceed, and I see no reason why I should change my decision.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister.

How many applications have been made to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council during the past ten years to have decisions in respect to rezoning referred back to the Ontario municipal board?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is going to entail examination of a great many records for the past ten years. I think I know how many, but I could not be certain until it has been checked. So if the member will just give me enough time to allow the officials in the clerk's office to check back, I will give the member, in a day or so, what I think will be an accurate answer.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education, and there was one held over from yesterday. Perhaps I can give him the new question and he can deal with both at the same time.

In view of the announcement that Sacred Heart college in Sudbury will be closed at the end of this academic year, would the Minister explore the possibilities with the board of education of that city of developing within the public secondary school system a school which would provide education completely in the French language?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, The Department of Education has been informed of the possible closing of Sacred Heart college in Sudbury. Our area superintendent has been asked to provide full cooperation and assistance to Sudbury, and perhaps any other boards in the area where the systems might assume some responsibility for the education of the students involved.

I think the hon. member fully appreciates that at the present time, secondary school boards that wish to do so, where the economics or the number of students so allow, can provide instruction in the French language in history, geography and Latin, and also in certain portions of the commercial and technical subjects as well.

Mr. MacDonald: Is the Minister in a position to answer the earlier question?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes. The questions asked yesterday, Mr. Speaker, were in respect to the physical site of the northern Ontario college of applied arts and technology in the Timmins area, and whether or not the government would initiate a review.

One of the basic responsibilities of the board of governors, which was allocated to them under the legislation of course, was the selection of site. The selection of site is subject to the approval of the Minister upon the recommendation of the council of regents, and of course this procedure will in fact be followed.

But I should point out, Mr. Speaker, that really the local board of governors are close to the situation. This is one of the major responsibilities that we intended them to assume.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough—

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) asked a question with respect to any notice from the council of Metropolitan Toronto and the metropolitan school board that they intend to approach us for financial assistance.

I have had some indication, Mr. Speaker, that they will be approaching us. Quite obviously we would be prepared to see them. I think it is premature to ask the Minister what his response would be until we have had a chance to chat to them, although I understand there is to be some debate on the matters of assistance to municipalities, and I shall have some further information that

could perhaps relate to this problem during the course of that debate.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister. Is it correct that certain members of the Niagara parks commission have recently resigned? If so, would the Prime Minister give an explanation of these resignations?

If there are any letters of resignation, would the Prime Minister table them?

Have there been any changes in the policy of the Niagara parks commission and if so, what are they?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I have received certain communications from members of the Niagara parks commission. These were marked personal and confidential, or private and confidential, and therefore, I do not propose to make the contents public.

In answer to the last portion of the question—there has been no change in the policies of the Niagara parks commission.

Mr. Bukator: A supplementary question. I do not believe my first question was answered. Were there resignations?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I am pointing out to you that I received letters from various members of the board and they chose to mark their letters private and confidential. Therefore, I do not propose to disclose what they contain.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Surely the people who resign cannot do so confidentially?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Singer: Big brother again!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They marked them, I did not.

Mr. Singer: Is that not terrible!

An hon. member: They are still drawing the pay—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): How do you know, if it is private and confidential?

Mr. Singer: Appointed by the Crown, apparently!

Mr. Speaker: May I advise the members that a member has the floor, and is trying to ask a question.

Mr. MacDonald: I asked a question yesterday of the Prime Minister.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is a habit.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, do you wish me to read it again?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Not particularly. I have read it thoroughly.

Mr. Speaker, as far as the question is concerned, I am not considering at the moment the creation of another department of government as suggested in the question of the hon. member. We have a very active Minister who is in charge of the housing programme of this province. Unfortunately, he is on the sick list at the moment, which perhaps has delayed certain things we might have done earlier, but the report I have is that he is in good condition and will be back with all his usual vim and vigour very shortly.

The latter part of the question states: Is the government now willing to give major stress to the large scale programme?

I would simply say in answer that not only have we always been willing so to do, but we have in fact done so. The Ontario housing corporation is an arm of this government set up to deal with housing. I think it would be fair to say it has done more in two years than has been done in the province in 20 years.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That is not saying much though.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, we have to needle certain municipalities. The hon. member knows as well as I do that there has been a distinct reluctance on the part of the municipalities to deal with this problem.

Mr. Bryden: Always blame somebody else.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would just state the facts as they exist, and I would point out to the hon. member that the Ontario housing corporation has been able, in the period of its existence, to do more than has been done, I would suggest to you, in the last 20 years. Therefore, we have an organization which we think is handling this task in a proper way and we are, of course, giving stress to programmes of construction of public housing. I think you need only look at the activities of the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) in the last considerable period of time, in his relationships with the federal government, to see that we have been able to start programmes which must, inevitably, in the final

analysis, be a matter of consideration by the three levels of government. I am not concerned about what the hon. member says about who blames whom. You simply cannot do it without a high degree of cooperation—this we are seeking and I might say, at long last, this we are getting.

Mr. MacDonald: By way of a supplementary question, if the Prime Minister will accept it:

How does he reconcile this greater amount of activity with a 59 per cent drop in housing starts in January in Metro?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not think that it has been the responsibility of this government to ensure that there is no drop in housing starts in the metropolitan area of Toronto, or in any other part of the province. I do not think that it is really a germane question to ask me how I equate this.

We are into a situation here and I can probably speak on the subject—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): It is a real mess.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —for some considerable time because the roots of the problem are enormously complex. They vary from one part of the province to another and all I am saying is that we have a programme with which we have been able to achieve a higher degree—

Mr. Bryden: It is obviously not coming to much.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —a higher degree of action in this area than we have had in many, many years in the province. We have managed to spark the federal government into new approaches and our degree of co-operation with them is very high indeed, for which we are duly thankful. I think that between the federal government and the province, the Ontario housing corporation and the municipalities involved, we can find solutions to these problems.

Mr. Bryden: Well you are not doing much yet.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Chapter 262 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario 1960, is The Niagara Parks Act, which sets out that a commission shall be created in a certain way. There is nothing in it that attaches any privilege to the appointment or resignation of the members of that commission.

Therefore I would like your ruling, sir, as to whether or not it can be claimed to be privileged and confidential, or personal and confidential, if a member of that commission has resigned or not.

Mr. Speaker: The ruling that I would make is that if certain correspondence that has been received by the government is marked private and confidential, it would be their privilege to keep it private and confidential.

Mr. MacDonald: For how long?

Mr. Singer: No, sir. May I speak a bit further? It is my understanding of the rules of this Legislature that—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Why does the member not accept the ruling?

An hon. member: The member asked for the ruling.

Mr. Singer: It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the rules of this Legislature would allow correspondence itself to be withheld on that basis. Part of the question addressed to the hon. Prime Minister was, "Have there been any resignations?" He refused to answer that on the grounds that if those matters were dealt with in the correspondence, it was private and confidential.

I say there is nothing in this statute that sets that out. The statute requires certain appointments to be made. This is information that the Legislature is entitled to, and I want to know on what basis it can be legitimately claimed in this House that the information as to the resignation or not resignation is privileged, or private and confidential.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I would say to the member that it has nothing to do with the rules of the House. If the Prime Minister perhaps is in a position that he wishes to answer the correspondence, he may do so or not do so. A Minister does not have to answer a question if he does not wish to do so.

Mr. Singer: Well it is the most flagrant and arrogant flouting of the democratic process.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, if I received a letter addressed to me, and believe me, I receive hundreds of letters a week, and if it is marked personal, I treat it as the person intended.

Mr. Bryden: Did somebody resign?

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —and I do not think these people who have written to me in this way, would have put that comment on the top of the letter if they did not expect me so to treat it.

Mr. Singer: Well how could you resign confidentially?

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Are there any vacancies?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, there are no vacancies—at least I am not certain.

Mr. Speaker: Order! I rule all further discussion on this matter out of order.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I am prompted to rise on this occasion because of a news item which appeared in the North Bay *Nugget* on March 6 which relates to a high honour which has recently been bestowed upon a member of this Legislature.

I refer to the hon. member for Parry Sound (Mr. W. A. Johnston).

During a dinner which was held at the Canadian forces base at North Bay, two senior officers of the Algonquin regiment—which is, of course, well and favourably known in not only northern Ontario, where the regiment was recruited, but in all parts of Canada as well as the Canadian forces and the forces overseas—these officers received scrolls of commission. One of these officers, Mr. Speaker, is a resident of the town of Haileybury, Brigadier G. L. Cassidy, who has been principal of the Haileybury high school since he returned from the armed services in the year 1950.

The other is Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Johnston, honorary colonel of this same regiment.

In an address by Lieutenant Colonel R. W. Irwin, Algonquin commanding officer at North Bay, he pointed out that it is the first time in the history of the regiment that both posts of honorary colonel have been filled at the same time. He also made reference to our late departed member of this Legislature, in the person of the late Mr. Leo Troy, the former member for Nipissing, who was also an honorary colonel of this regiment.

Commanding officers of the regimental units throughout northern Ontario attended this gathering at North Bay. I think I should

also make mention of the distinguished military careers of these two honorary colonels.

Brigadier Cassidy went to war in 1940, as a lieutenant in the Algonquin regiment in charge of a carrier platoon. He emerged as a major. He returned to civilian life as an educator and wrote a most interesting second world war history, entitled, *War Path* and I would recommend it for study to any hon. member who would be interested in knowing more of the career of this fine regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel W. Allister Johnston, is, of course, as the newspaper item says, best known in northern Ontario as the member of the legislative assembly for Parry Sound since 1948, and, of course, he shall be member for many years to come. He is also well known for the very important position which he filled so ably, that is as chairman of the Ontario northland transportation commission.

Lt. Col. Johnston joined the regular army in 1940 with the rank of captain. He served with the Algonquin regiment, fourth armoured division in Canada, England, France and Holland, attaining the rank of major. I feel that this is an important occasion, Mr. Speaker, that an honour of this magnitude should be placed upon the very able shoulders of our friend from Parry Sound and I use this occasion to wish him all success in his new position, and also all success to the Algonquin regiment.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister), moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into committee of supply.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): I move, seconded by Mr. Singer, that the motion of the Prime Minister be amended by the addition of the following words:

That this House view with great concern the rising cost of municipal government and particularly the intolerable burden of the cost of education among ratepayers in Ontario, and this House deplores the failures of the government to take steps to alleviate the situation and lessen the financial burden upon the citizens of Ontario at the municipal level.

Mr. Speaker, in supporting the amendment that I have put at this time, I want to draw to your attention, sir, that it has been about ten years since this type of debate has been permitted by the rules of the Legislature.

I believe it was early in 1961 that the custom began, that the House moved into committee of supply simply by the inclination of the clerk of the appropriate order number under the direction of the House leader. And I am very glad that my predecessor in office as leader of the Liberal Party, together with the other leaders of the House, have been able to persuade all parties to once again bring back—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He did not.

Mr. Nixon: I do not know what the hon. Prime Minister is talking about, but no doubt later in the afternoon he will be able to add his contribution to the substance of the debate.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): If it is not private and confidential.

Mr. Nixon: If it is not private and confidential. But I would say that in the reintroduction of this vehicle for debate, we have something that has come down from years of British tradition and is a tradition in the House of Commons in Ottawa. It gives us in the Opposition an opportunity, when the occasion arises, when an issue of importance and concern to the people of Ontario has not been adequately dealt with by the government, it gives the Opposition an occasion to indicate what this issue is, to place its position strongly before the Legislature and the people of Ontario, and to do everything in the democratic process that is possible in this House in order to gain redress for the difficulty that is created.

I would say that the subject of the debate this afternoon is worthy of the importance of the occasion. We are discussing, Mr. Speaker, the inability of the present government to take concrete and definite action to relieve the growing costs of municipal services, particularly education services, that have been loaded on the local taxpayer in ever increasing amounts in the years and months gone by.

I would say to you, sir, that this is a matter of great importance and we are approaching it in this respect. It is essential in this session of the Legislature that additional funds be found to relieve the inordinate weight of taxation responsibility, particularly in the cause of education, sir, that has been lowered onto the shoulders of the homeowners and landowners and business proprietors in our municipalities, towns and cities.

At the outset I would like to recall to your mind, sir, two announcements made by the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) in recent

weeks. These were made in addition to announcements made in the Budget of the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) himself, and the announcements were made separately to emphasize the contribution that the province is making in this particular regard.

In absolute terms, the sums of moneys spent by the province of Ontario for the support of education are astoundingly large indeed. But the needs are large; the province is large. We have seven million citizens with a growing requirement for education if we are going to meet the needs of the young people and those not so young who must avail themselves of every opportunity to create an educational background that will, in the first place, permit them to find jobs and useful occupations for themselves, and secondly, to carve out a position in their own communities; a position of service and beyond that for those who have grown beyond the normal age of being a student; to upgrade their capacities so that their ability to earn a living and contribute to the technology of our province is improved.

The Minister's announcements have been too full. The first was an announcement of \$60 million extra in support of the direct grants at the municipal level. I would like to compare this, sir, with a similar announcement last year of extra grants amounting to \$52.4 million and these are the figures that must be compared. This year our expansion does little more than keep pace with the growth in student population and certain changes in the curriculum and programme that would require the assistance that the Minister announced with all the fanfare at his disposal.

His second announcement has to do with some increased assistance in the provision of capital construction in the education system. Although this is an extremely complex formula, of the type that the Minister seems to enjoy, the formula when you work it out would appear to cost the taxpayers, or at least the province of Ontario, something in the order of \$1 million in the year that lies ahead. This, in a Budget of \$2.2 billion shows that the efficacy of the Minister's efforts has been very weak and useless in the provision of the assistance that the taxpayers need now, and that we in the Liberal Party are urging the government to provide.

When the amendment was framed, we tried to keep it in broad terms. Many of us who have been dealing with the municipalities in the past few months are aware that not only the cost of education, but the cost of keeping their roads in repair and the provision of a

good many of the services that have been left with the municipal level of government by the decision of this House, the provision of these services is falling behind because there are inadequate funds to service them. The excuse or the reason that is usually given is that the heavy burden relating to the cost of education makes it practically impossible for most municipalities to meet their other responsibilities at the same time.

Most of us as members of this House have been in contact with our friends on school boards and our friends in municipal councils and know the heart-rending sessions they are having as they meet together to try to work out some accommodation whereby the growing and immediate needs of the municipalities will be met out of the tax revenues available at the municipal level. Because it has become apparent from the statements of the leader of the government and the Minister of Education that no further assistance is going to be forthcoming in this session, and that in fact the government is going to stand pat in this regard. When the Provincial Treasurer with pride stands up and says there will be no new provincial taxes, those of us, and it includes everyone in this House who pays taxes at the local level, know where the tax increases are. They know that they are unfair and they know that the province is not taking the proper steps to alleviate this situation.

Very briefly, I would like to recall to your mind, sir, that the costs of education in the period between 1955 and 1964 rose at the municipal level—that is the provision of education in the elementary and secondary levels—from \$220 million to \$260 million. It is now closer to \$500 million and the increase is 300 per cent in that period. Now, this is associated with an improvement in our educational system that all of us are in support of. We have urged it from this side, and we have supported the measures that the government has taken in years gone by in this regard. The costs have gone up 300 per cent in something less than ten years and this, of course, must be attributable not only to improvements in the situation as far as the curriculum is concerned—facilities—but also to the large increase in enrollment which amounts to 57 per cent. So we compare an increase in costs of 300 per cent to an increase in enrollment of approximately 57 per cent.

Now, while I am listing these causes for the improvement and expansion in the cost, I would also like to say that teachers' salaries, while improving, have considerably done more than just kept pace with the expansion of the system in general. The

teachers—although in my view their pay is inadequate for the type of person that must be attracted into the profession—have had their salaries increased, and this of course is an expanding burden on the taxpayers.

As well as this there have been higher debt charges associated with the new construction, and the fact that the moneys available for construction have been borrowed at a higher rate, although this has been alleviated somewhat in the last two years by the provision of the Canada pension funds for the loans that come under the direction of the provincial government.

So we have a number of reasons for the expansion of costs. I would like to point out one that is sometimes overlooked, and it is a fact that the government has not provided the leadership in this particular situation that would assist the local boards to keep their costs down. The grant system has evolved like an octopus under the direction of the Minister. The government has been seriously criticized by many people, including the auditor of the province; that it is incomprehensible in its complexity; that it is necessary for the Minister to buy a very expensive computerized installation in order to see that these grants are sent out. Since he has computerized his department, the grants are no longer just one month late, but three to four months late. Associated with that are the extra bank loans needed at the local level to service this difficulty.

But the grant system itself, besides being inordinately complex, provides at the local level something like \$50. In the township in which I pay my taxes, they are actually \$40, sir, because the government does pay approximately 60 per cent of approved costs in that rural area. But in many other areas such as the municipality of Toronto and the Metropolitan Toronto area in general, the government meets something like 30 per cent of these costs. The grant system then, Mr. Speaker, is leading the whole system into the acquisition of the responsibilities which, in the years that lie ahead, simply cannot be borne under the present tax system.

This is what we are discussing this afternoon. We are discussing reform of the tax system; we advocate the province of Ontario taking over a larger responsibility for this and I will come to this in detail in a few moments.

I have been saying that the leadership from The Department of Education, and from the government, has been inadequate in this regard. There has been no provision of standardized plans to cut the costs of educa-

tional construction. Insofar as we know, there has been nothing but the most superficial examination of what has been carried on in other jurisdictions. Not simply the provision of five or six standard plans for schools but the whole new idea of modular construction in education that was explained to the House by the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher) and others.

It occurs to me, as well, that the province is very much in need of further consolidation of its school districts. My own view is that elementary and secondary education should be consolidated under one board. The Minister, in the past, has shown his ability and his desire to move ahead in organization and education, and this is one area that really requires some action very soon.

It seems strange that there should be a patchwork amounting, I understand, to still more than 3,000 separate jurisdictions, which administer education in fairly small areas. It is obvious that in a good many of the areas—let us say between here and Windsor and elsewhere—we must consolidate the areas of jurisdiction for efficiency and must bring together elementary and secondary education under one elected board.

In fact, we can improve the democracy of the system in this way, rather than remove the autonomy from the local level about which the Prime Minister and his Minister without Portfolio have been so concerned.

Well, the problem is growing steadily. We have a real crisis—one that confronts us in the news reports from all media and every day. I suppose this is the period in which municipalities across the province have to sit down and hammer out a mill rate, whereby they can finance their municipal requirements in the year that lies ahead.

When you come from London or Brantford, or Goderich, or Ottawa, or any other place, you know that heart-rending and lengthy discussions and arguments are going on at the present time, in an effort to keep the tax increases down to something like 25 per cent for this year.

Many of the school boards have been successful in paring away their costs to the bone. The city of Toronto has publicly said that the best it can do is simply to put roofs over the heads of the students and its capital construction requirements have simply had to be abandoned for this year.

I was astounded to see that the council of this city had required, or at least requested—they cannot require—the school board to pare their financial requirements by something like \$74 million.

There was a compromise at about the \$50 million level, but when you think of the inadequate services that, under these circumstances, will be rendered by the school board, something is wrong. It is approaching crisis proportions. I would like to read you from two or three publications—just the headlines—in today's *Toronto Globe and Mail*:

We find that there are difficulties associated with the provision of adequate teaching staff;

Teachers reject salary offer and demand 20 per cent in Etobicoke—Threaten to strike;

Teachers reject Hamilton offer. They vote 744 to three to reject the latest proposals;

78 threaten to resign in Sturgeon Falls.

This is an area of expanding difficulty. One that we look at with some apprehension when we see what the sister province of Quebec had to undertake, just a few weeks ago, when this particular problem simply got out of hand, had to be abandoned by the local administrations and taken up by the responsibility of the province itself.

I feel that all of these problems are associated with the present grant system. The pressure that is put on the local boards to economize, not only by the ratepayers on the one hand, but the municipal council on the other, simply puts them in a situation in which they cannot go to the people and extract from them, the funds that are needed to properly service expanding education at this time. There is only one other place where there is the accessibility of funds on a fair and broad basis, and that is from the province of Ontario. The province has said that they will not move in this.

The Prime Minister has indicated in speeches he has made recently, that he is afraid that if more funds were made available to the municipalities, these people who have the responsibility at the municipal level will let the water rise up in the well to the old level, and go out and start patching streets or buying parks, or something like that.

For some reason, he is afraid that the democratic process at the municipal level is inoperative. He and his Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), have lost contact with those people who have this responsibility; those people who must return to the electorate more often than we do and are, in fact, in closer touch with the requirements and the moods of the people.

It seems strange that the government, in their dealings with the municipal governments, would be so stand-offish. I hesitate to use the word "arrogance" because it probably just appears that way when you read it in the newspapers. The Minister of Municipal Affairs treats them one way; the Prime Minister himself, says if we provide you some additional assistance for education, it will not be passed on to the taxpayers because you will just spend it on something else.

The implication is that the other thing that they are going to spend it on is wasteful and useless. We all know that the costs of education have forced a good many of the municipalities to forego important projects associated with the development of their own towns and cities simply because all of the tax dollars or a large proportion of them, are funneled into education leaving the municipal councils with only a meagre paper covering as far as the financing of their other responsibilities is concerned. So we find that the mill rates are going up; they are going up in all parts of the province and very rapidly.

I want to bring to your attention, sir, that in Owen Sound, it is estimated that if the present budget is struck, the taxes will go up by 24.11 per cent in the coming year. Central Elgin district high school will go up 22 per cent, Brantford, 22 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: What tax are they dealing with?

Mr. Nixon: This is the school levy.

The Brantford requirement will go up 22.9 per cent and, coming from the area and reading the local newspaper carefully, I know that this past week, the council and the board of education have been engaged in lengthly, and acrimonious, debate over this matter. The council says, "We simply cannot get this money from the taxes," and the school board says, "Where else is it going to come from, because the province is adamant in its position".

The Waterloo public school board, 20.97 per cent; St. Thomas public school board, 21 per cent; Guelph board of education 25.5 per cent; Chatham, 26.46 per cent.

It is a pattern that is followed across the province and it seems to have been unobserved and unnoticed by the government but at least they do not heed the serious needs of reform in the payment of education in this particular situation.

Now, we are concerned with the effect that this has on local governments and, local

boards of education—but I suppose I am concerned much more than that with the effect it has on the excellence of education, and the equality of opportunity, that was raised in the Speech from the Throne just a few weeks ago.

I see nothing in the new grant system, proposed by the Minister, that is going to achieve this equality of opportunity more rapidly than we have been moving toward it in the past. There is always the possibility of these special grants that have been mentioned but we are a long way from providing educational facilities, dollar-for-dollar, with the urban and rural communities across this province.

The difficulty has come to a point and I quote from the Woodstock newspaper:

Woodstock city council last night enthusiastically endorsed a resolution that the Ontario municipal association make arrangements for a special emergency conference to define and discuss the present crisis in municipal financing related to education costs. Reasons for the resolution were passed on the 1967 Speech from the Throne which provides only for insignificant changes in provincial-municipal education cost sharing.

So the difficulties are there. We find that the elected representatives of the people at the local level are deeply concerned. They have approached the government in an orderly and businesslike way every year for the past ten years. The answer is always the same: "We will consider it." But nothing has been done.

As is so often the case in the problems that this government should be able to cope with, the problems begin something like a cloud the size of a man's hand on the horizon, they grow year by year until suddenly the government is confronted with a crisis situation and then finds it much more difficult and much more expensive to accommodate the solution because they have not been able to grow with it and deal with those people who are personally and deeply concerned.

How does this affect not only the education system but the people at the local level? Naturally, the taxes required for education are extremely oppressive, and it has been said in this House before that one of the root causes of the housing problem we have discussed here so frequently and will again in the days that lie ahead, is associated with the high cost of education and the way these costs are loaded onto the requirements of the purchase of new housing. We know from the paper a

day or two ago that the housing starts are down over 50 per cent in comparing January of this year with January a year ago.

Those people who have the responsibility and are in the business of developing land for housing say that one of the most difficult things in the provision of housing at a price that people can pay is that built right into their monthly payments is the tax bill, and the education taxes being so high it is making this monthly payment something that the ordinary man in the street with a regular job simply cannot take on. We are told that the average cost of a house and lot in Metro Toronto approaches \$30,000—\$29,000—something.

It is incredible that the situation in this area should have been permitted to go to this extent. Who, as a working man, with a young wife and a growing family, can take on that sort of responsibility, with the cost of education loaded on to their monthly payment the way they are? It is an impossible situation.

The same kind of pressure is being exerted on these young families when by necessity they move into the new, elaborate high-rise apartments. The pressure on these rents—not only in Toronto but right across the province, Windsor, London, Brantford—are very great indeed, and they are really coming to bear on all the regular people in the province who have ordinary jobs and want to have the responsibilities of home ownership and the pleasures and responsibilities of raising a family. They are thinking twice about this, and more often than that.

The Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) told us a few days ago that the birthrate in this province was down by 16,000 compared with last year. We know in our minds the things that caused it. But when the medical profession brings us to a point where this decision is a little easier to make than it was, Mr. Speaker, in your day and mine, then it is obvious that the responsibility in home ownership is a very important part of the decision that is made.

So when we are talking about housing, Mr. Speaker, we are talking about one of the solutions that lies in some relief in education taxes that would permit the expansion once again of the whole housing industry.

In my particular constituency there are a number of older people. They have moved into small towns from farms. They have had a productive life in the days when farming was prosperous and they have moved into small towns to live out their years in dignity

and comfort, maybe driving out to the farm to see how the young people are doing. As an aside, many of them are troubled with the same difficulty the young people are having. We are talking about old people who are living out their days in comfort and dignity in their own home on a fixed income. Year by year they see their taxation requirements for education and other municipal services going steadily upward.

I was interested in one specific case that was drawn to my attention in the press. A man named Holgate in this province, in this city, who makes \$1,260 a year, a fixed income. His taxes on his home are \$270 and this year they are up \$50. I do not know whether that \$50 is going to be the straw that breaks the camel's back, whether it is going to be the payment that will force him out of his home and into a public institution. But whether or not it is so in Mr. Holgate's case, it is so in the cases of many of our older citizens across the province.

I am glad that there has been private legislation brought forward by some forward-looking municipalities to provide this kind of relief. Of course we hope that this can be made into general legislation, but the relief we look for is a general relief on the costs of education as they are applied to the local homeowner.

The Canadian economic council has indicated clearly that money spent efficiently in the development of a public education system is going to give the very best possible returns in terms of trained people, and financial returns through taxation as well. So we are not afraid of an expanding system. We are not afraid of meeting these requirements as long as the money is spent effectively and efficiently, with some thought for economy.

We are objecting as strenuously as we can to the inequity of the division of the taxation responsibility between the province of Ontario and the homeowners in the municipalities across this province.

I did want to say something about farmers themselves. The hon. Minister of Agriculture—

Mr. Speaker: May I interrupt the member just a moment? I would advise him that it is the understanding in this debate that the mover of the motion take 30 minutes and each subsequent member take 15. There are ten speakers on my list this afternoon, which means that the debate should conclude at about 5.50. The member is over his time now, so if he would not be too long—

Mr. Nixon: I appreciate that, Mr. Speaker, and I apologize for paying attention to my friends across the aisle and not watching the clock more carefully.

I would say that the motion that is before the House is a motion of censure, it is a motion of non-confidence. I say to you sincerely that it reflects the censure and lack of confidence of the people of Ontario when they look at what the government has done in the financing of education. The difficulties that are apparent in every level of society are apparent whether they are in agriculture, business or the professions or labour. We know that the difficulties in maintaining home ownership and providing for the growing cost of education are simply insurmountable.

We must, as members in the Legislature, make strong decisions that will relieve this situation. We in the Liberal Party are on record as to what our platform and position is. We will take the strong decisions needed to provide the additional assistance at the municipal level. This is an election promise, if you want to call it that, but it is entered into carefully and thoughtfully and provides the kind of alternative that the people of Ontario are looking for.

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, in rising to participate in this debate, I must say at the outset that in fairness, I would suggest to the hon. leader of the Opposition that he is not the only one concerned about the whole question of educational finance. It is a question that has received and is receiving the continuing and careful consideration of this government. I think in fairness, Mr. Speaker, I could state that this is one of the most complicated and one of the most difficult problems that face this province and other jurisdictions across this country, and it is one, as a government, we are coming to grips with, I think, in a very effective fashion.

I was interested in listening to the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker. He outlined what his party would do if they had the opportunity to administer the affairs of this province. I hope he is not sitting there in suspended animation because the possibilities of this happening are, I suggest, somewhat remote. But during the course of these remarks, I intend to analyze carefully just what, in fact, he is suggesting with the assumption of 80 per cent of the educational costs of the school boards of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I had two or three boards in to see me just a few days ago, and they said: "Mr. Minister, why would the Opposi-

tion suggest that they assume 80 per cent of the cost of education when we are already receiving 85 per cent or 90 per cent? What will happen to us if this were to take place?"

I assured them, Mr. Speaker, of course that to the best of my abilities at least, I would see that there would be no reduction in the grants that would be available to those boards that are receiving now, Mr. Speaker, in excess of the 80 per cent that—

Mr. Nixon: That 80 per cent is an average of course.

Hon. Mr. Davis: —the hon. leader of the Opposition has suggested.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): What per cent are getting that?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Davis: I was also concerned, Mr. Speaker—I just put this in as a personal note—with the reference that the hon. leader of the Opposition made to himself and myself with respect to the population problem in the school system, and I assure him that I hope he was speaking for himself only.

I was interested in his observations with respect to further consolidation of the school areas in the province. It has been the policy of the department, one that I think I have enunciated right across the length and the breadth of Ontario, that we agree and not only agree—we are supporting—the principle of enlargement of educational administrative areas. We have supported this not only personally, but through legislation, and I think, Mr. Speaker, we can say that substantial progress has indeed been made.

But with great respect, I suggest that if the leader of the Opposition feels that we are going to solve the great financial problems involved through consolidation, he should look very carefully at his figures, because while educationally I see great advantages in moving towards integration of elementary and secondary under boards of education, I must warn him that I question whether this in fact will have substantial savings, as far as the investment in education is concerned, which is really the subject of the debate here on this occasion.

Mr. Nixon: It is more efficient.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I was interested also in the observation he made about the working man with a young wife and a growing family.

I do not want to get into simple explanations that perhaps could be traced to one's own experience, Mr. Speaker. If you are referring to this group of people; if you go to a municipality like the great town of Brampton, where I happen to reside, and where the average tax rate, Mr. Speaker, could be in the neighbourhood of \$400; where 50 per cent of this is going to education, which means \$200, Mr. Speaker; and let us say you have this growing family that the hon. member refers to, let us say that he only has two children in the family, instead of five, like some of us; and he is receiving from that school system a service that is costing in the neighbourhood of \$600 to \$700 of the most valuable service he can receive for an investment of \$200 on his real property tax.

Mr. Sargent: That is elementary.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Can the hon. leader of the Opposition state in fairness that this is not value received for the investment that is being made? I acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, that it creates a problem for those people who are on fixed incomes, pensioners, and so on, and this I am sure will be dealt with during the course of the debate itself.

I would point out one further thing that I thought was a bit of a contradiction on the part of the leader of the Opposition. At one stage, he criticized us for not giving leadership with respect to the effecting of economies in the school system, and in the next breath, said that the grant system was so rigid that the boards did not have the flexibility and it was imposing, shall we say, conditions upon them that made financial situations difficult for them.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, this in itself was a contradiction of what the hon. leader of the Opposition was attempting to say.

Mr. Nixon: Never.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Now let us deal with some of the questions as they relate to educational costs, and I perhaps know as well as any member of the House really the great problem that is involved.

I was interested in one of the leader of the Opposition's own speeches when he said that this solution must come from further provincial and federal assistance to education. Yet unfortunately he did not mention the solution here on this occasion today.

I could get into this whole question of the termination of the federal-provincial technical and vocational training agreement which takes place at the end of this month, a deci-

sion taken by the government of this country, a government which the hon. leader of the Opposition so enthusiastically supports.

Mr. Nixon: How many of this—

Hon. Mr. Davis: I would say, Mr. Speaker, if the leader of the Opposition is so concerned about the educational costs that we face in this province, then surely he should join us in urging the federal authorities to make more funds available for the provincial jurisdiction.

Let us have a good view, Mr. Speaker. I regret that I only have 15 minutes, I would love to debate this for a couple of hours, but let us just view some of the history of the situation as it has existed here in this province.

For 1943, total legislative grants were some \$8 million. In this current year, Mr. Speaker, some few years after the last Liberal regime, it is 58 times as much as was provided by the last Liberal government.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: You still only have—

Hon. Mr. Davis: I will try and point out what is happening on a more current basis for the members opposite. In 1962, Mr. Speaker, the figure was some \$221 million. In 1966, \$335 million, an increase of 50 per cent in a four-year period.

Mr. Nixon: What was the overall percentage?

Hon. Mr. Davis: The sum of \$443 million is included in the estimates for 1967-68, that is a \$61 million increase. I realize and I regret that the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) is not here, because a year ago, with respect to library grants when they were increased \$1 million, he said: "What is a million dollars?" The leader of the Opposition here today says it is \$60 million or \$61 million. I recognize that he may feel a million dollars is not a great deal, but to some of us, Mr. Speaker, a million dollars is a great deal of money.

The cost of education for elementary and secondary school boards throughout the province, on a calendar year basis, rose from \$545 million in 1962 to \$780 million, in 1965, an increase of 43 per cent.

Mr. Sargent: Figures only.

Hon. Mr. Davis: I realize, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the great problems with the proposals being put forward by the Opposition,

that figures do not mean anything. Let us read some of them.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Nixon: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think the member has a point of order. We have just a couple of minutes. I think that the member was not interrupted too often while making his remarks.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, at this point it is very important, because you see we used his own statistics which were printed in error last year.

Hon. Mr. Davis: With great respect, the only errors related to separate school errors, which, I suggest, the hon. member did not even mention today. When the hon. leader of the Opposition says there were no increases in grants, I think he should take a look at the effect of the grant regulation change on the entire separate school situation here in this province for this coming fiscal year.

Now, let us get back to some figures, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sargent: Time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Take some of the relevant statistics, take them by ridings.

Brant county—1962-66, an increase from 3 to 6.4; percentage of cost met by grants is 66.4.

Take the area of Ontario south. The percentage of costs met by grants, 59.3. Bruce county, 71.6; Grey South, 73; Stormont, 67.3—

Mr. Sargent: Grey North?

Hon. Mr. Davis: In fact, in this great riding of Timiskaming, 78.7 per cent is being met by provincial grants.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): What about Toronto and Hamilton?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): You have covered about ten per cent of the people of the province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, there was some discussion earlier about what the Prime

Minister had been saying; what I had been saying with respect to moneys available as far as grant regulations were concerned this year. There has been some discussion over the past several weeks over the termination of the technical-vocational agreement. As a result of the termination of the agreement, this has imposed a very major problem on the taxpayers of this province.

I am very pleased to announce today that after very careful discussion and after very detailed consideration the province of Ontario is going to continue the capital grants for the technical vocational secondary schools of this province for a further two-year period.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): No thanks to Ottawa!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Included will be all such projects approved for construction to the end of the fiscal year 1968-69, and spread over this period of construction, Mr. Speaker—I think it is a fairly relevant figure—the estimated cost will exceed \$200 million—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Davis: For the member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis), who asked questions about the metropolitan area, I should say that included in this sum will be some \$50 million to apply against their capital problems for this year. This, coupled with some \$7 million, has now been approved under the new capital grant regulations for academic and other classrooms and would probably pave the way to the solution of the capital problem facing the metropolitan area here in this province.

Mr. Speaker, I have one or two examples here of what the 80 per cent suggestion—which I really do not understand—from the leader of the Opposition will, in fact, mean; what it means to the whole question of equalization and distribution of funds from a central authority.

Mr. Sargent: You are talking yourself into a hole!

Hon. Mr. Davis: Oh no, I am not. I would be delighted, Mr. Speaker, to give the hon. members an example, but let us use some other figures, because I think one should look outside one's own borders. Ontario this year is contributing something in excess of 45.4 per cent of the educational costs for elementary and secondary education.

This does not include the significant sums being spent for capital purposes at the secondary level for technical vocational accommodation. It is based on 1965, when it was 45.2 per cent. Look at some of the other provinces: British Columbia—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, may I ask what 45.4 per cent applies to? Is that the current fiscal year?

Hon. Mr. Davis: This is the 1965 figure; 1966, we anticipate, will be a shade higher again.

Saskatchewan, 44.3 per cent; Alberta, 43.0 per cent; British Columbia, 44.8 per cent.

I have been asked, and it is suggested, that I look elsewhere with respect to capital programmes. Look at the operating grants available in some states of the union bordering on Ontario: New York, 44.8 per cent; Pennsylvania, 45 per cent; Ohio, 24.3 per cent—this is state contribution to the local resource for educational purpose—Illinois, 25.3 per cent; Michigan, 44 per cent; Wisconsin, 26 per cent; Minnesota, 39.8 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that I have only two minutes left, and I would draw to the attention of the House one other very important aspect of what is happening, with respect to educational costs in this province.

We are embarking on a programme of some significance with respect to the colleges of applied arts and technology. Millions of dollars will be spent at no cost to the local ratepayer community as far as real property tax is concerned. In almost every other jurisdiction where a community or a junior college programme is in operation, a substantial portion of that cost is borne by the local ratepayers of that community.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that this indicates very clearly that when this programme was initiated, we were keeping in mind the burden that is—and we admit that there is a burden—on every taxpayer—but we were keeping in mind, very clearly, the problems of the real property owner when we embarked on the college programme here in this province.

Mr. Speaker, I listened—and I do not participate in debates too often in this House; I feel I take up enough time of the House when dealing with my own estimates—but I could not help but sit here and listen during the Throne debate to some of the observations from the Liberal benches, in particular, with respect to phrases, gimmicks and terminology used in various speeches.

I could not help but observe, when I read in the paper a few days ago, that the leader of the Opposition, when referring to the Prime Minister's statement with respect to the Budget of the province this year that we were trying to cut back and maintain the line and that we have done so with respect to the capital programme of the colleges of applied arts and technology, had used the phrase, "credibility gap".

I said to myself that Madison Avenue means nothing any more; this comes right from the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue—where was he getting his advice from?

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House is a motion of censure. We shall support it because I know of no government that is more deserving of censure than this government.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald: In fact, I do not know of any hon. member, who is not hidebound by partisan support to this government, who will not support the motion if he is at all alive and sensitive to the kind of problem that is faced by homeowners and by municipal taxpayers.

The situation is bad; the situation is going to get worse; we now face the prospect of education taxes and other municipal taxes that are going up by many mills—in some instances more than 20 per cent. In fact, we have reached a stage of crisis in the province of Ontario. Apparently everybody recognizes it except this government.

Mr. Speaker, the really disturbing thing about this situation is that there is no solution in sight. This government, five years ago, appointed the Smith committee to study the basic problem of taxes, a greater equity in taxes and a way to remove some of the burden from the most inequitable of taxes at the property level. Five years have gone by and we still have not got a report. I asked the Prime Minister on February 1 of this year and he told us that the Smith report was imminent. He did not know what was going to happen with the Carter report, he had been hearing rumours for so long.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the Carter report is with us; now we are getting his rumours with regard to the Smith report. Indeed, the information we had from the Provincial Treasurer was that 17 of the 40 chapters have not yet been completed and, therefore, the best we

could expect was completion of this report in the month of May.

After five years, Mr. Speaker, I will believe it when I see it. But this was going to be the pattern of a solution by this government to this basic problem. This kind of situation I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, is inexorable. If this government, with a budget of over \$2 billion really believed that this is a problem of such concern to the suffering people of the province, it could have focussed enough resources, in terms of personnel and money, to have gotten that report out.

I suggest that this government has not got the right to go to the people and to ask for a renewed mandate until they have the Smith report and, more important, until they put into legislation their revision of the Smith report, if it is necessary, as a solution to this urgent problem.

What we have had up until now from this government, Mr. Speaker, is its alternative—at best, piecemeal palliatives. The government is scattering percentages around of what it has been doing and it is comparing what happens now with 1943. It is comparing what happens here to what happens in other states.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest to you that that is all irrelevant. Let us compare Ontario with Ontario; let us compare this government's Budget with what it was doing last year and, Mr. Speaker, if you will examine the figures that were given in the only place where we have an overall assessment, namely, in the Budget itself, you will find that last year this government provided, in grants to the municipalities, 44.6 per cent.

In the Budget, as they presented it this year, they are presenting 43.3 per cent.

In other words, with the flexible tax sources that this government has, it is actually providing, in grants to the municipalities to face the problem which it pretends it knows about and which it pretends that it is disturbed about, a smaller proportion of its provincial Budget to assist the municipalities.

Now what more evidence does one want, Mr. Speaker? Let us not run off to other jurisdictions; let us not run off to 20 years ago; let us deal with this government's record this year; and its proposals; and what it did last year. There we have the conclusive evidence that it is providing less of its provincial Budget to the municipalities this year than it did last year.

Having said, Mr. Speaker, that I am in favour of this motion because it is a motion of censure and it is stated, as the leader of

the Opposition has said in general terms, I want to add emphatically that, in my view, the handling of the motion by the Liberal Party is irresponsible.

They have criticized the government and the government needs criticism. They have cast their net in all directions with regard to their criticism but as usual they have not come up with where they are going to get the money. This is the kind of thing we have listened to for too long.

What I want, Mr. Speaker, is to attempt, within the limitations of my time, to present a constructive solution to the municipal problem and to indicate very briefly where we believe the money can be gotten.

First, I suggest that the municipalities have got to be relieved of some of the responsibilities that have been unloaded on them down through the years. The Smith report will conceivably give us a more conclusive suggestion as to what should be done here, but I want to suggest now, in the absence of the Smith report that the government should do it before it goes to the people in this province. The government cannot play political games with this problem any longer. There are two areas where responsibilities have been left with municipalities and where they should be freed of them immediately.

One is the cost of the administration of justice. The second one is the cost of the remaining 20 per cent of welfare. Neither of these is a legitimate charge on the property tax. The property tax is a most inequitable tax and therefore, both of these should be removed from that chief tax source at the municipal level.

That brings us directly to the issue which is being given the most attention this afternoon, and that is the question of education costs. Let us not go into arguments as to what is being given in this little municipality and that little municipality.

I was interested in the Minister naming about 10 different places and saying that they were providing grants for education from 60 to 70, to 80, to 85 and so on, but I will bet if you will take those, and add up the population, it results in about five or 10 per cent of the population of the province of Ontario.

The real thing is to come down to what is being done in the urbanized areas of the province where the burden has become impossible, and where the government makes itself ludicrous when it talks, in one breath, of home ownership made easy, and then, in its taxation and its grants policy, makes home ownership virtually impossible.

Back in 1943, this Conservative government was elected on the promise of paying 50 per cent of the overall cost of education. Twenty-four years later this government has not fulfilled that promise.

Hon. Mr. Davis: Oh, but it has.

Mr. MacDonald: By the Minister's own admission they are now paying 45 per cent and let not the Minister get into dragging in second charges, with regard to institutes of technology.

We were talking then, sir, and I am talking now, on the cost of education at the public and the secondary level. Your promise in 1943 was 50 per cent of the overall cost; you are now meeting 45 per cent. You have not fulfilled the promise of 1943. And let us not bring in other items which the modern day and the modern society demands.

If you are going to meet 100 per cent of the primary and secondary costs, as some municipal leaders are saying, indeed as the Liberal Party in November said that their policy, in November, was 100 per cent of costs.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Different education system.

Mr. MacDonald: Their policy in January was 80 per cent of costs.

An hon. member: Where is the money coming from?

Mr. Nixon: Oh, rot!

Mr. MacDonald: Their policy in February was 80 per cent of costs over one term of office, namely, four or five years. What their policy is going to be in April, I do not know. We shall have to wait and see, it is subject to change without notice.

Let us take a look at all the cold hard facts. One hundred per cent of the cost of education, assumed by this government, means that this government kicks over a \$400 million addition to its Budget. If they take over 80 per cent, then it means that \$260 million more must be added to its Budget. I suggest that if the Liberal Party wants to go around talking about this, they have got to say where this money is going to come from. They have never said so. They have talked only in general terms.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: General terms. I will take a look at where it is going to come from because we have made a few proposals

in this regard. Every time we have made proposals, the Liberals or the Conservatives have dismissed them. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, there is only one place that the money can come from and that is from the sales tax which was fathered by Mr. Wintermeyer and which has, in effect, been advocated by this party at the present time.

Indeed its mentor in the editorial rooms of the *Toronto Daily Star* suggested, after the hon. member was elected to the leadership of the party, that he was right in saying that the provincial government should take over more of education costs but nudged him by saying he might as well be frank and level with the people, and say that the money would have to be raised by a sales tax.

Mr. Nixon: The mentor?

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, your mentor, the editorial writers in the *Toronto Daily Star*.

So what it means is this. If you are going to have that much more money made available—100 per cent of education costs or \$400 million—that means we double the provincial sales tax immediately. So what the municipal taxpayer is going to save one way, he is going to have a bite put on him in the sales tax every time he buys something, along with the 12 per cent bite that the federal Liberals at Ottawa have got on there.

If you accept 80 per cent of education costs, that means that you would have to have a three to four per cent increase in sales tax.

We think the sales tax is just as regressive as the property tax. Therefore we are not in favour of either of those. Just briefly, I would say to you that the sources where we can raise our money, as we have said before many times in this House, are:

(1) It is about time that this government, along with the Carter commission, looked at the flagrant exemptions that have been given to the mining industry and the resources industry in this province in terms of raising more money. It is little short of ludicrous.

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Our steel mills in Canada are going to have to get their iron ore for our mills in Canada from Minnesota, U.S.A., if the Carter commission report is implemented. U.S. ore will be cheaper than Canadian iron ore.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. Minister of Mines wants to debate that let him get up and debate—otherwise let him hold his peace at the moment.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): The Provincial Treasurer agrees with you—

Mr. MacDonald: The Provincial Treasurer agrees and he is more authoritative on the issue.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): He has got no microphone—

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, last year the mining industry of this country produced \$1 billion and the total amount of money that came into this province—and I am separating out the portion in lieu of municipal taxes—the total amount of money that came into this province from our own resources was \$9 million!

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: I agree with you—it went to the Dominion government.

Mr. MacDonald: One company, Mr. Speaker, International Nickel, in 1965 had profits after taxes of \$143 million! How any government, and how the Liberals who a few years ago were saying “Let’s get rid of these resources taxes completely”—that was Mr. Wintermeyer’s statement in Kapuskasing on one occasion—I do not know what their policy now is—

Hon. Mr. Wardrobe: Where does the tax money go?

Mr. MacDonald: But how any government or any responsible person who is in need of money can ignore that source of revenue, when incidentally—as I said to a business-oriented organization in Sudbury last week and it was accepted readily and enthusiastically—if we were to charge it in resources taxes, it could be written off by the mining companies when they calculated their corporation tax at Ottawa, so they give in effect half of it back to Ottawa. If you need the money in Ontario then raise it here where you will get the full benefit. But the trouble is that you have to balance out what you get in your slush fund at election time, so you do not do anything about raising further revenue.

The second source, Mr. Speaker, is in regard to a weight-distance tax. The Prime Minister of this province chaired a committee, of which I was a member almost ten years ago, that brought in a unanimous recommendation for the establishment of a weight-distance tax so you could achieve a more equitable sharing of the cost of our highways from the big box cars, known as “trucks”, that run on the highways. They represent

one-half of the cost that must be put into those highways.

That recommendation has been lobbied into the back rooms where it has remained unimplemented for that ten-year period. There is a second source where money can be raised.

The third one I will concede, Mr. Speaker, is that we have to get more assistance from the federal government at Ottawa. I agree with the Minister of Education completely, when he in effect says, that the federal government is moving backwards in terms of accepting an equitable share of the cost of education.

The final one, is that if we keep our wealth growing in this province with the right kind of policies, each year the gross provincial product will bring more revenues in, which, along with the sources that I have indicated, will make it possible for this government not only to accept the whole of the cost of general administration of justice, not only to accept the whole of welfare costs, but also, every year for the next five years, in a responsible sense of commitment, to assume five percentage points of the cost of education. So that this year it is at 45, next year it will be at 50, the year afterwards at 55, then at 60, the next at 65 and the next at 70 per cent, so that after one term of office you would have at least gotten to the 70 per cent.

Now, the difference between us and the Liberals is that they are going to get to 80 per cent with a sales tax, so they say. We are going to get to 70 per cent in a responsible fashion—which I submit to you, Mr. Speaker—is the kind of thing that anybody who wants to sit down and examine the need, and examine the revenues to meet that need, will agree is responsible, instead of vague electoral promises.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): All for free.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, my time is up, I think I have said all I need to say, and I will be glad to sit down.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, when I read the essence of this motion by the leader of the Opposition re the rising cost of municipal government, I think we all realize that—but he goes on to say that he deplores the failure of the government to lessen the financial burden upon the citizens at the municipal level.

There has been a great deal said about education and as you all know, it was my privilege last week to present the estimates of

The Department of Highways. Nothing has been said about the assistance which we have given to municipalities that way.

I think in all debates such as this, that we cannot alienate any money which we give to the municipalities and just talk on one particular issue. And I think if the members will refresh their memories as to the amounts of money that The Department of Highways is giving in subsidies to the municipalities of this province, they will find that it is indeed a very sizeable sum.

We are contributing to them in many ways and the first way is the development of roads. Back in 1963, it was approximately \$11 million; in 1964, \$14 million; in 1965, \$17 million, and up to this year we are at \$20 million. Then we have the grants to unincorporated townships, which have risen in that time from about \$1 million and doubled now to \$2 million. We have the municipal subsidies: In 1963-64, \$88 million; up to \$97 million the following year; \$102 million in 1965-66; \$117 million in 1966-67; and this year \$124 million.

Mr. Sargent: Is that not wonderful?

Hon. Mr. Gomme: It is wonderful. And the department's share on connecting links has risen from \$4 million in 1963-64 to almost \$9 million this year. Then we have the department's share in the construction of ring roads and special agreements. There was no such thing back in 1963-64, and in this way we are giving the municipalities almost \$7 million this year.

We have had the rise in the property cost. Back in 1963-64, we spent \$104,000 and this year we are spending \$2.5 million for the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot emphasize too greatly to the members of this House the great rise which this department, and this government, has made to the municipalities as a contribution to the roads problem, and thus helped to keep their taxes in a better level position.

Back in 1963-64, we were paying to the municipalities a total of \$105 million; in 1964-65 this rose to \$121 million; in 1965-66, up to \$133 million. The members know full well that this year that figure is up to \$164 million, an increase in our contribution, over such a short time, of 60 per cent to the municipalities, for their benefit. And I might also point out, Mr. Speaker, without any reservation, that this department is spending more than 40 per cent of its money as a relief to municipalities.

I listened to the leader of the Opposition point out all the things about education, and talk about some of the small municipalities and some of the large ones, but the one thing, Mr. Speaker, that no member of this House cannot afford to do, is to point out to his own people what the government has done, and is doing continuously, for the benefit of the taxpayer.

It just happens, by coincidence, that I have the figures of the assistance we have given to the county of Brant. I know the leader of the Opposition will know that territory very well.

Back in 1961-62 we did spend \$503,000 on construction in his county, and he knows, if he has seen the statement, that the amount spent this year, or to be spent this year, is \$2,404,000.

Mr. Nixon: Does the Minister know the county roads are 82 per cent—

Hon. Mr. Gomme: We refer to connecting links, and back in 1961-62, there was no money spent in his township on that. This year we are spending \$12,358. In development roads in 1961-62, there was no money spent there, and this year we are spending \$406,000.

I can go right down all the figures and see the improvements which his people have received from this government. If he was fair in his assessment, and the story he wants to tell the people, he would certainly tell them how we have assisted them.

Municipal subsidies in his own county, \$1,045,000. The total expenditure has risen; in 1961-62 we were spending \$1,812,000 in that county. I want him to go back and tell his people that this year, this department is spending, down there in his own county of Brant, \$4,185,000.

Mr. Speaker, it is as simple as this—no one in this House can take figures of one department and try to use them as a whipping boy for the rest of the assistance this government gives to help the people.

Mr. Sopha: Now, Mr. Speaker, I intend to carry on the debate from the point where it was left by the member for York South, because this intervention by the Minister of Highways certainly took it to a veritable Everest of meaninglessness and irrelevance.

Anyone with an iota of common sense and, as I am wont to say, with glass in one eye and sand in the other, can see the total irrelevance of reading naked, involved statistics about a quanta of money that is spent in any

county. It struck me to wonder when he read this, whether the constituency of the hon. leader of the Opposition is getting special treatment as a result of the beneficence of this person who holds himself out as being a veritable cornucopia. I had better look into it to see whether the riding of Sudbury, itself an Opposition riding, is being discriminated against in the light of what is given to my friend from Brant.

Now, a number of things impinge themselves upon my attention. The Minister of Education has left the House; the Minister of Municipal Affairs has not yet arrived and has not been present during any of the debate; but I was struck by the emphasis of the Minister of Education—

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Sopha: What is bothering this Minister?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: On a point of order, the Minister of Municipal Affairs has been present. Does the member not like to tell the truth? The member just told a falsehood to the whole House.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I say to my friend as one lawyer to another, I had no *mens rea*. I have not seen him.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: It is the member that has one glass eye and sand in the other.

Mr. Sopha: I have only 15 minutes—will you make a note of that, Mr. Speaker, that two-minute interruption?

The Minister of Education, I was saying to you, sir, dealt, of course, at great length with the formulae that are used in calculating the grants in the world of education, education financing at the municipal level. I can say after a long and reflective study that this government is absolutely obsessed with formulae.

They have a great love for them and they seem to take a delight in working them out in the utmost complexity. They really think they have achieved the ultimate when they get the formula to the point of obfuscation where no ordinary man, without the benefit of two university degrees, could understand them.

Mr. MacDonald: Including the Minister.

Mr. Sopha: Yes—as my friend says, including the Minister. And that is so, in respect to the formula. If you care to look at it, your honour, at some time, it is to be found in

regulation 30, made under The Assessment Act. And that formula is the one whereby grants, under the title of mining revenue payments, are made to the municipalities in the Sudbury basin.

As I say, the people whom I represent have always been in a state of complete and utter incomprehension about how these rents are calculated. It makes no matter because they lump each year as the total amount.

The total amount is forthcoming from the government and they compare that with the local municipal revenue. And up to now, after some 15 or 16 years, they are still in the state of utter depression which results from the realization that it is not enough.

Now it is to be expected, in respect of formulae to which this government are completely dedicated, that in a couple of weeks time, hopefully before the Easter recess, but probably afterwards, since the first citizen has informed us through the media of the press. We only know what we read in the newspapers, he has told us through the press that this House is coming back after Easter. At least for a short time.

Now, probably after Easter, he is going to wander in here with the report of this so-called Graskey commission which according to all the rumour—and as well as one can tap the grapevine and talk to people in the know, like the member for Perth as well as the member for Prince Edward-Lennox (Mr. Whitney) and others of that ilk—the cognoscente, as far as we can determine, is going to have another formula. He is going to revise the formula. Well, I for one, and I will take the responsibility for saying it, that I am sick and tired. I am sick and tired almost to the point of expiration of his formula and any sophisticated change or improvement on it, because really when the ratepayer, the citizen, the father of the family goes to the city hall and pays his taxes, that payment is part of his income and has nothing to do with formula. It is no comfort to him to know that the government and its civil servants with the assistance of the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers)—who is not here—and the Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle)—who in turn is not here—with their assistants in ex-officio capacity, that the formula has been improved.

The only real and vital and essential thing that will bring some solace to the heart of the person who is deprived of the right to tax the industry upon which he depends is the total amount of dollars that the Provincial Treasurer is going to send in a form of a cheque over his and the provincial auditor's

signature. That is the only thing that counts, plus anything I can say for my community in order to hold the line against the mill rate that is threatened and will be something in the neighbourhood of \$2.5 million to \$3 million.

That is the figure I would like the Provincial Treasurer to note down. Put in his black book. Perhaps pull it up over his bed at night so he looks at it first thing in the morning and says that that is the amount of money the city of Sudbury needs in order to hold the line against a further dramatic increase.

You note my emphasis on that phrase holding the line. Last year we had a 10 per cent increase, approaching eight mills. Public school supporters—I just single them out because they are the most numerous—had to bear the municipal taxes. This year, reading that organ of opinion, the *Sudbury Star* which watches the deliberations of the municipal council very closely reports to us that there is likely to be a further eight to 10 mills increase in the local levy.

The member for York South properly points out all this emanates from the fact that because of the archaic, historic and traditional concessions made for the mining industry in this country, the burden of municipal services must be borne by the people the industry creates.

Note that—the people the industry creates. I do not mean creates them in any biological sense. It does not create them in the sense that the Provincial Secretary states as he talks about the population, comparing 1943 with 1967. He takes credit for virility and fertility. The whole government does as if they are more virile and fertile than Liberals or our friends to the left of us. That is the impression he wants to give, but I am talking—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sopha: —I am talking about the collection of population that the mining industry itself brings to the site in order to exploit the ores in the ground. That is the sense in which they create the population. And what is wrong? Well, let me say this first.

I have an abhorrence of complexity. As soon as a man gets up—I have made up my mind now that I have passed the age of 40—in almost every case when a man starts to talk to me about things being complex, as soon as he starts off with that proposition I am

going to stop listening to him because that is sham and artifice.

In human relations and human intercourse things do not need to be complex. They can remain simple, and this device of saying this is very complicated is only an artful dodge to obscure meaning, to confuse. It is intended to confuse. I say that by way of parenthesis before making this statement. Remember sir, all the profound things in life, all the great statements that were ever made by men, were simple—simple statements.

The proposition I put is this: What is wrong with us saying to International Nickel Company of Canada Limited, a foreign company—Americans—that we like them? We have got along with them for 200 years—for almost 200 years—as a nation. We welcome them. It is good to have them, their technical skill and their ingenuity, their industry, their perseverance, their Yankee artfulness. We are accustomed to all of that. Glad to have them. What is wrong with us as a people saying to them: “You are welcome here. You are welcome to develop these resources, provided that in doing it you absorb the costs of all those services that you create. After you pay the costs on them, then you can take your profit away from the exploitation of that ore body.”

Mr. Bryden: How about paying us something for our minerals?

Mr. Sopha: What is wrong with that proposition? Well, my friend says what is wrong with paying us for our minerals. I make this observation about it. These companies complain about this additional tax at the local level. They say this is a harsh and unjust additional charge for doing business. I would prefer that the income tax authorities in Ottawa would see to it that they pay what is truly 52 per cent of the gross profit. And in respect of this company, I say to my friends here that the total gross profit of last year's operation was \$245 million.

Mr. Bryden: \$260 almost.

Mr. Sopha: I think \$245 million to \$250 million. They paid it in income tax, corporation taxes \$93 million—\$93 million. Yet 52 per cent according to the Act would be somewhere around \$125 million.

Mr. Bryden: Your Liberal government in Ottawa gives them huge depletion allowances.

Mr. Sopha: They got away somewhere with \$30 to \$40 million. The Carter commission

points out that this is the depreciation allowances and all these other special concessions that are made and ought to be abolished.

Indeed, anyone who has superficial knowledge of The Income Tax Act knows that it is not really a taxing statute, it is only a taxing statute incidentally. It is a subsidy statute. It is an exemption statute and in its inch thickness it has become so overgrown and so overencrusted with various special exemptions and subsidies that its true taxing nature, I say to my friend the Provincial Treasurer, is almost obscure.

So I say to my friends here, let us forget about the peanuts of a few million dollars in the mining tax, and let us get at the real nub of the problem and make sure that of every dollar of profit they make out of their operations, they are truly going to pay 52 per cent of it into the treasury, of which a large slice will eventually come back here.

Mr. MacDonald: We cannot get it from Ottawa.

Mr. Sopha: No, we cannot. We are not likely to get more, because the Carter commission has bolstered the backbone of the federal government and they have said: "Resist the demands of the provinces." I think we will have to face up to it here, those of us who are going to remain in provincial politics, that we have to—

Mr. MacDonald: That is a royalty tax.

Mr. Sopha: —we have to make up our minds that we have to come to an arrangement with the federal government that we obtain sources of revenue which are exclusively our own. I am not going to go into that today, but it is a matter that needs—

Mr. Bryden: Let us go into it.

Mr. Sopha: —a very great deal of serious study.

Mr. MacDonald: You are talking—but what about your programme?

Mr. Sopha: There are many other things that could be said about this. It is very apt to reflect. The Prime Minister was not here yesterday when I referred to the constituents of the Minister of Mines and the telegram they sent him, the lengthy telegram that he will remember, where they said: "We are wringing our hands in anguish." That is a terrible state; an emotional state that people of this province should be in.

That ought to weigh on the conscience of the first citizen—to imagine the constituents of a Minister of the Crown with whom he himself has sat for upwards of five or six years around the executive council table, and now to have a picture of the constituents up in Port Arthur at the Lakehead, one of the great industrial areas of the province, wringing their hands in anguish.

Well, so it is all over the province. It might be said that municipal ratepayers are in a similar mental state, and many improvements could be suggested by the various speakers on this side.

My friend has referred to one, the cost of the administration of justice, with the great complexity of trials that take place nowadays that are not related to property at all.

Mr. MacDonald: Is that part of your programme?

Mr. Sopha: They are not related to property at all. My last sentence, sir.

Mr. Speaker: The member's time has expired.

Mr. Sopha: There is no moral justification that the administration of justice ought to become a charge upon real property in this province. So I as one, in support of our young leader here, heartily endorse the tenor, spirit and the wording of this resolution and I will vote for it.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I will vote against the motion.

Mr. Bryden: Will you really? You have no good reason.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: In reading the motion, it starts out reasonably sensibly: "But this House views with great concern the rising cost of municipal government" and with this I agree. I have always agreed. I have always been viewing with some concern—

Mr. Singer: And alarm.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The problems not only throughout the province of Ontario but of the people in Bellwoods. I am one of those who walk up and down Palmerston and Euclid and Manning, and I know the tax bills of those homes, those very modest homes in my riding, how they have increased over the years. I keep records, and I never attend a political meeting in the riding of Bellwoods, including a nomination meeting, but that I take with me, as the exhibit A, the tax bills

that I have paid over the years on my home in the riding of Bellwoods.

The one thing that I have noticed, is that when the hon. member for Sudbury speaks about glass in one eye and sand in the other, he should turn to his friend on the right, the leader of the Opposition, and ask him to take the blinkers off, because that is exactly what he has had on in this debate. When the Minister of Highways began to take some part of those blinkers off and show what this government had done in other directions, the Opposition would not listen, they would not see.

The hon. member for York South touched on a factor, the relationship of this government and the municipal expenditures in welfare. Mr. Speaker, if this administration should be lauded for one thing amongst all the others, included in that long list of its achievements will be the field of welfare.

Mr. Bryden: You contribute precisely 30 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: When you consider, Mr. Speaker, that in the estimates of this government there are for the welfare needs of the people of this province, \$208 million, as compared with \$40 million ten years ago, you can see the package that this government has picked up for the welfare of the people of the province of Ontario.

Let me remind you and refresh your memories how this government has gradually taken over the long term responsibilities: old age assistance, blind persons' allowances, mothers' allowances, dependent fathers' allowances, disabled persons' allowances, allowances for widows and unmarried women at the age of 60 years.

At one time, no more than 15 years ago, before I became a member of this House, Mr. Speaker, all these people had to turn to the municipality for help. Now these people, totalling some 100,000 have been taken over by the province of Ontario during the course of this administration.

Mr. Bryden: And by the government of Canada.

Mr. MacDonald: Now be fair, the government of Canada pays half.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I will come to that.

Mr. Bryden: You pay 30 per cent of general welfare.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: We initiated the action for the old age pensions. We initiated the action for the disabled.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Go back to 1949 and you will see. At the present time, Mr. Speaker, we have 20,000 people drawing disability pensions, over \$17 million. At one time, those people would have turned to the municipalities. Now they do not have to turn to the municipalities.

Mr. Sopha: A large share is paid by the government of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: At one time the municipalities had to look after the needy mothers. Ten years ago there were 7,000. Today there are 14,000 mothers with dependent children and dependant fathers looked after by other than the municipalities, by this government.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): They are not getting enough.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, it was very recently that this government introduced legislation for pensions for the widows and unmarried women over the age of 60 years. I remember when the then leader of the Opposition, I forget which, claimed that that was an election gimmick. Some election gimmick—10,000 such women drawing \$9 million have been looked after by this province!

I cannot take the time, Mr. Speaker, to touch on every welfare programme in which this government has transferred the burden from the municipalities to other shoulders. I will have other occasions, but in almost all these respects, 100 per cent of the maintenance costs have been taken off the shoulders of the municipalities.

Mr. Speaker, the important portion of this resolution, and the reason I will vote against it, is that: "This House deplores the failure of the government to take steps to alleviate the situation."

These are just a handful of the items we have done in recent times. Something so fresh because it is just as fresh as yesterday that this government stepped into is child welfare costs. Some years ago the municipalities would have been faced with \$12 million in child welfare costs. This year they are only going to be faced with \$5 million. We have taken over \$7 million of those costs—of child welfare costs.

Mr. Nixon: When are you going to proclaim those—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: We have. I have proclaimed the portion. If the hon. leader of the Opposition was paying attention two weeks ago, I proclaimed the Act that removed from the municipalities another third of the costs in child welfare.

Mr. Nixon: What about special assistance to the blind and—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker!

Mr. Nixon: They are all packed away in your hip pocket.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, they are not packed away.

Mr. Nixon: What does the hon. Minister mean, he proclaimed it? Is he the Lieutenant-Governor?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: In general welfare assistance costs, the short term needy people, our experience has proven they are better looked after within the municipalities.

There is something to be said for larger areas of government and the hon. leader of the Opposition touched upon it in respect of the field of education. There is room in the field of welfare for larger administration units and we are encouraging this and sharing in the costs of administration.

Now, to assert flatly that welfare would be best run for the whole of the province from one centralized location in the East Block, from my office—

Mr. Bryden: Nobody ever suggested that—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: —that has to be proven to me, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in 1956, a little more than ten years ago, the municipalities had to pay 50 per cent of the cost of general welfare assistance. Then it was reduced to 40. Now it is only 20. Is that a failure to alleviate? Maybe I can persuade the hon. member for York South to vote against the motion because he was in this House when these steps were taken.

Mr. Speaker, a longer list—municipal costs in TB sanatoriums after-care; in incapacitation allowances; in supplementary aid to pensioners for such things as drugs and housing, sharing in the cost of nursing home care. The value of day nurseries and homemakers' and nurses' services programmes has been recognized, and we share 50 per cent in the outlay of the municipalities. Is that a failure to alleviate?

One item after another of a long list of welfare costs that have been assumed and shared in by this government. Within the past eight years the province increased the maintenance subsidy to municipal homes for the aged from 50 per cent to 70 per cent.

In speaking about the economies of modular construction, when the hon. member for Bruce mentioned that in his speech from the Throne debate, I went right from this House to my people and said: "Take a look; what is there in that?" I was assured everything has been done by way of providing standard sizes in this. The economies have been made, but one building that is good for northern Ontario is not necessarily good for Essex county.

One of the pieces of legislation—and I ask the hon. leader of the Opposition to pay attention—is The Family Benefits Act, and I want to tell him it is no longer in my hip pocket. It is going to be announced very shortly. Those, too, will be of assistance to the municipalities and it will be quite a package deal for the recipients, the people who have been benefitted by this increase from \$40 million to \$200 million, Mr. Speaker, spent by this government.

Mr. Sopha: Why have you been saving it for so long?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The people will get it in time, I will assure the hon. leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, the leader of the NDP group used the figure of 20 per cent—20 per cent of the cost to municipalities. Just a few minutes ago and subsequent to his remarks, the member for Woodbine used a figure of 30 per cent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the member was talking about 30 per cent of the welfare costs of this province. I have before me the percentages and it is in the percentages the facts are. I draw the attention of the member for York South to this—that the average percentage in the province of Ontario is now 14.79—the municipalities are paying 14.79 per cent of the cost of the welfare of this province.

When you consider the tremendous package deal of welfare services that the people of the province of Ontario benefit by, how that has increased through the years—and that will come out in my estimates as in the estimates book before you—that the municipalities are paying an average of 14.79

per cent of the total welfare costs of this province—

An hon. member: What about the cost of administration?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am saying the total welfare cost—everything spent on welfare in the province of Ontario—the municipalities are paying 14.79 per cent average.

I bring to the attention of the hon. leader of the Opposition, that the county of Brant—

An hon member: Not again!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Only 10.49 per cent of the welfare costs in Brant county are paid by the municipalities.

It is too bad the hon. member for Bruce is not here. For in the county of Bruce, 7.51 per cent of the welfare costs are borne by the municipalities. For the county of Grey only 7.05 per cent, of the welfare costs are borne by the municipality. Mr. Speaker, in order to save time, may I have the indulgence, for their information, to table this, so that each and every one will know what the percentages of the welfare costs are.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, \$208 million from \$40 million ten years ago; a 500 per cent increase in the payment of welfare costs. The members opposite should take those blinkers off. Mr. Speaker, just to show the direction we are going in; in 1965 the municipalities, on a provincial average, expended \$4.17 per capita. In 1966, the per capita cost was \$3.87 and in 1967 we expect a further decrease to \$3.49 per capita.

Mr. Speaker, the chart is pointing in the right direction. The people of this province are enjoying welfare benefits as no other jurisdiction in Canada has provided, and at the same time we have taken the burden off the municipalities.

The rules of the game do not permit me to make the following amendment to the motion but if I had the right, as the member for York South often asks for the right, if I had the right under the rules of the game to make an amendment, I would strike out all the words after the words "municipal government" and say "and this House commends the government for the outstanding job it has done in alleviating the costs and commends it for the direction they are pointed in even alleviating more."

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, in this debate the government has lined up its heavy artil-

lery. All of the speakers who have spoken to date, and I believe those whom the government plan to put in subsequently, come from the front bench across the House. This is proper, I certainly do not criticize the government, this is what the government should do on a censure motion. It should treat a censure motion as a matter of the utmost gravity and it should bring in its strongest debaters to deal with such a motion.

I have not yet had the opportunity, of course, to hear all of the government speakers so I have to judge merely on the basis of those who have spoken till now. And when one considers these are part of the heavy artillery of the government, one can only say that the bankruptcy of this government is even greater than seems possible.

It has nothing to say at all. In the old days, you know, when they brought up their heavy artillery, at least they put up a big smokescreen.

These fellows cannot even put up a smoke-screen. They stand and mumble meaningless statistics, unrelated figures; they have nothing to offer, but go over the same old tripe they have gone over every year for the past 15 years; long lists of statistics that are not related to anything and, therefore, are not capable of any interpretation but mean, essentially, that the municipalities of this province are getting a raw deal.

This is the essential thing. Then you see the cheap, the peurile type of politics which occupies their entire thoughts. Every one of them, one after the other, had to deal with what was being done in the county of Brant. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that the county of Brant is being dealt with in exactly the same way as every other municipality in this province. And what is happening in the county of Brant is totally irrelevant, except in this respect, Mr. Speaker, that it shows the total incompetence of those people over there to deal with the problems of government. They cannot think of anything except the pork barrel. We have tremendous problems in the second half of the 20th century and these guys are still living in the age of the pork barrel.

On the 100th anniversary of Confederation, those fellows have not even caught up with Confederation. They are dealing with problems as they were dealt with about 1850—a little piece of pork here and a little piece of pork there, and all the major problems of the province undealt with.

This is what has been revealed completely by the speeches that have been made to date in this debate.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Bryden: Now, insofar as the Ministers who have spoken had any consistent line of argument at all, Mr. Speaker—and one had to really study and consider their speeches very carefully to see any underlying theme at all in them—but, insofar as they have an underlying theme, it was this: “We have taken over and are continually taking over burdens from the municipalities”—that was the essential line, if there was any line of argument at all.

Let us take a closer look at this proposition, Mr. Speaker. What in practice happened is this, that the government over its 23 or 24 dreary years of office in this province, has steadily permitted the municipalities to be saddled with responsibilities that they have no business undertaking. They should never be responsibilities of the municipalities.

That is what the government has done. Then they have come and taken off part of the burden that they have improperly permitted the municipalities to be saddled with, and have said, “See what generous fellows we are; we have put on you double the burden you should have; we have taken back 15 per cent or 20 per cent, now be thankful to us for our generosity.”

The particular matters that the hon. Minister of Public Welfare, for example, was talking about should never have been in the hands of the municipalities at any time. We have had as a matter of fact, from Confederation forward, a continuous battle to get over a totally antiquated notion that municipalities should be responsible for welfare, for the maintenance of people who, for one reason or another, are unable to provide for themselves. There is no law of God that says this responsibility belongs there, and it should not be there; it never should have been on the municipalities in the first place.

We have gradually, by battling for the last 50 years, got the higher levels of government to accept some responsibilities in this field—and let it be said, Mr. Speaker, that the overwhelming bulk of the responsibility financially, has been accepted by the federal government, not by the provincial government.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, that is not so!

Mr. Bryden: You do not know what you are talking about! Take old age pensions by itself—over \$1 billion for old age security entirely assumed by the federal government—now that is more than half of the total right there.

I am not going to get into a dispute with the Minister about who carries the burden of welfare, but there is no question at all that the federal government carries most of it and it took 40 years of battling to get it to accept its responsibilities.

This government had nothing to do with any of those battles; it just took what came along. At any rate, we still have, in this province, the municipalities with a larger share of the cost of welfare than, I believe, in any other province in the whole of Canada—certainly a larger share of the cost than in most provinces.

There are some provinces where the municipalities have none, but I admit that in most provinces they have some.

I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that they should not have any, and it is not generosity on the part of the government to leave them with 15 per cent of the cost of welfare, when they should not have to carry any of it.

Now we have come to the point, Mr. Speaker, where we can no longer get by with the sort of recitation of bits and pieces of grants that we have had once again this afternoon. There is a book, this thick, describing all the grant programmes that the government has for the municipalities. It has, so many that most of the municipalities, except for those with very large staffs, do not know half the time what they are entitled to. You see, you do not solve the problem by a little grant here, a little grant there, and a great massive confusion of grants.

You solve the problem by having a policy with regard to municipal government, an overall policy, not merely to grease squeaky wheels when the squeak gets very loud which is the sum total of this government's policy. The approach of the province should be to look at the responsibilities of the municipalities, decide those that properly belong to a level of government with an extremely narrow tax base and then take the rest of the responsibilities away from them. That would be a rational, coherent approach.

There has not been the slightest evidence of that sort of approach in any speech made this afternoon or, indeed, in any statement made by any spokesman of this government in all the time I have been here and for a long time before that. What is happening

now is that the municipalities are getting into a position where it is almost impossible for them to operate.

The Provincial Treasurer made a big fellow of himself when he presented his Budget, saying that there will be no increases in taxation this year. This was hardly news. In fact, he could not even muster much applause from his own supporters when he made that startling announcement. But of course, Mr. Speaker, what he said was totally false; he was quite wrong when he said that there will be no increase in taxes this year. There will be a punishing increase in taxes this year, but the municipalities have been made the goats; they are going to have to impose this increase.

Everywhere in the province as far as I have been able to observe, we have the tragic picture of municipal councils sitting down faced with an impossible burden of expenditure trying to consider every conceivable way of cutting costs; cutting out essential item after essential item in their Budgets. When it is all done, they are still going to have to impose increases in the mill rate of 7, 8, 10, 12, 15—heaven knows what, but punishing increases in the mill rate, even after cutting out a great many services that are absolutely essential.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I would say that it is a fortunate thing that the people of this country have a long tradition of respect for, and obedience to, the law—because the kind of situation that this government has created is the kind of situation which, in a more volatile country, would lead to a revolution. That is the level of the increase in taxes.

Mr. MacDonald: Like you forced it upon the farmers by ignoring them for so long and pushing them around!

Mr. Bryden: And I may say, Mr. Speaker, that we in Ontario can take heart because I anticipate that in the near future we will have an opportunity to undertake the democratic version of a revolution—which is to throw this bunch out at the polls!

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bryden: And that is all they merit!

The bankruptcy of policy which they have shown to date, their total failure even to appreciate the nature of the problem—these are the tragic things. It is not that they have no answers; they do not even understand the problem. All their answers so far have shown that. This total failure merits repudia-

tion at the polls and I have no doubt that that is exactly what they will get.

Mr. Speaker, essentially this resolution is a resolution relating to the incidence of taxation. I would point out to the House that, over the years, this group has called attention, or tried to call attention, to the fact that more and more of the burden of taxation in Canada and in Ontario is being shifted from the rich to the poor. Our representations along that line in the past, when hon. members bothered to listen at all, were usually greeted by derision from both the Liberals and Conservatives. I am happy to note now, Mr. Speaker, that no less an authority than the Carter commission has confirmed our position 100 per cent.

The Carter commission has said precisely what we have said, that an unduly heavy burden is placed on the poor and the relatively poor. Bear in mind, Mr. Speaker, the Carter commission was dealing only with the federal portion of the tax structure, the most progressive portion, and even in the most progressive area this commission, after five years of study, confirms that the tax system weighs unduly heavy on the poor.

When we come down from the rarefied atmosphere of federal taxation which is relatively progressive, into the sales tax atmosphere of the provincial level and down into the property tax atmosphere of the municipality—the most regressive tax of all—then what Carter said should be repeated doubled in spades. He did not “half-state” the case.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that it is time that we started to reverse that trend, and the most important place to start is with the property tax, the most regressive tax. We have to take measures to reduce the pressure on the property tax. I am not going through our programme again. It has been stated by my leader this afternoon, and I have stated it myself in the Budget Debate. We believe that municipalities have to be relieved of some of their responsibilities, and we will not accept the irresponsible position of the Liberal Party. We believe that new sources of revenue should be found to cover the cost that the province would then assume, and we believe that those should be progressive sources of taxation. We have put forward our proposals and we repudiate absolutely any suggestion that there should be any increase in the sales tax which is just about as regressive as the property tax.

We have put forth our ideas on many occasions. I know that they will not have cut any ice with the government. It does

not even understand the problem anyway, so there is no use arguing with it, so I am going to conclude with one plea only. Even if the government is willing to do nothing in respect to the administration of justice, welfare, education, and with regard to resource taxation and so on, at least let it lift the burden of taxation on the old age pensioner. These people are being driven to the wall. They have nowhere to go. Their incomes are frozen or declining and their taxes are going up. It is criminal that we should impose this increasing burden on these old folks.

I made the proposal in the Budget debate, and I will repeat it—let the government as an interim measure, pending everything else, undertake to assume the education portion of the property tax of pensioners up to a specified limit—say \$150 a year. Let it at least do that and give some relief to the old folks who are now being driven out of the homes that they spent all their lives providing. If it will not do anything else, I say let it do that.

Fundamentally, I say to the government, this is important enough as an issue that it ought to be prepared to go to the people on this precise issue. I suggest to the Prime Minister, who is due to speak a little later, that when he makes his speech he should announce the dissolution of this House and say that he is ready to go to the people on this issue.

I know he will not because he is afraid to go to the people on this issue; he would be massacred and his whole government would be massacred. Let them call the election when the new municipal tax bills come out. I say to them that if they are so sure of their position, then let them just have the new municipal tax bills before the people when they go to the polls.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, I have listened very attentively to the remarks here today, and contrary to some of the suggestions that have been made we are quite prepared to hear good suggestions and sensible proposals. As a matter of fact, I say to you Mr. Speaker, I would welcome them and with few exceptions I am disappointed. I propose to describe a few possible alternatives which I think it may fairly be said would be required to implement the proposals, particularly of the leader of the Opposition. I am not going to make these suggestions frivolously, Mr. Speaker. I propose to use them for comparative purposes and then try and draw, I hope, sensible conclusions before I sit down.

There are a number of ways that the proposal to increase the support from the government to the cost of education, shall we say, at the rate of 80 per cent proposed by the leader of the Opposition; or a combination of proposals that might be implemented. When I say that I am not proposing these frivolously, I mean just that. I am drawing them to the attention of the House simply to show in the present circumstances how it could be accomplished.

Mr. MacDonald: Sure, 4 per cent sales tax.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Just listen. There are a variety of ways. Firstly, of course, we could contemplate a deletion of, or reduction of, certain existing programmes, or combinations of programmes. To use a reference to naked statistics which the hon. member for Sudbury made reference when the Minister of Highways spoke a few moments ago, I would say that if we were to consider a shift in the emphasis, if you like, as to how the municipalities are assisted, giving emphasis to education, we might pick up about one half of the \$330 million that would be required to implement it by wiping out entirely the direct aid and the subsidy programme of The Department of Highways. I simply draw that to the attention of the hon. leader of the Opposition as one example; or we might consider picking up closer to two-thirds of the cost if we decided to forego the unconditional grant programme that will be submitted to the House when the Minister of Municipal Affairs presents his estimate. This would provide another \$40 million.

I am not going to ramble on like this. Two illustrations will serve the purpose I think, because we can make any number of combinations, or single proposals that will accomplish what the hon. leader of the Opposition proposes. I think it is of interest to state to the House that total assistance to municipalities as outlined in the Budget is now in excess of \$1.1 billion.

Nevertheless, let me put it another way. Provincial subsidies paid to municipalities and local boards increased at three and a half times the rate of corresponding municipal tax levies in the period 1943 to 1965 and in 1965. I think it is very interesting to note that in 1965, for every dollar raised by municipal taxation—taxation at the municipal level—an additional 71 cents was provided by the provincial government, and I say again that the comparison between 1965 and 1943 is 71 cents to 18 cents against that dollar raised at the municipal level.

There are some other ways in which the proposals of the hon. leader of the Opposition could be implemented and I will place on the record some statistics with regard to different rates at different levels of taxation. To do it all in one lump sum, an additional 16 percentage points of personal income tax would accomplish approximately the amount required, or, an additional 14 percentage points of corporation income tax. This would raise corporation income tax from 12 to 26 per cent. And by the way, a 16 percentage point increase in personal income tax would raise it of course from 28 per cent to 44 per cent. Or we could add four percentage points to The Retail Sales Tax Act, to make it nine per cent.

Mr. MacDonald: That is simple.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, that might be a very easy way to do it.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That is the Nixon way.

Mr. MacDonald: Wintermeyer-Nixon.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Add four per cent, make it nine per cent instead of five and we would about pick up the amount.

Mr. Whicher: How high are you going to put it up?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Or, Mr. Speaker, we might consider an additional 17 cents of gasoline tax which would raise the gasoline tax rate from 16 cents presently to 33 cents per gallon. Or we might consider a combination of things. We might just add six percentage points to personal income tax, five percentage points of corporation tax and one percentage point of sales tax.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: You could take a half off.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

An hon. member: Make the sales tax nine per cent.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I only place these figures on the record to show how it can be done. I am wondering if the hon. leader of the Opposition would agree with me that it is a matter of simple mathematics if the government is to pay more in one form of assistance to municipalities—education as has been proposed—something simply must give in another.

Reference has been made to substantial programmes of assistance by several depart-

ments, notably highways, welfare, health, municipal affairs and others. Are the leader of the Opposition and others who have spoken proposing either of the alternatives to which I have referred? Curtailment of one or more, or a combination of programmes that involve equally important areas of assistance at the municipal level? Or is it proposed that these programmes be retained and a combination of the tax increases, such as I have described, be implemented? Or is he espousing excessive use of the credit of the province? I might say that this would have involved a deficit of about \$500 million this year.

Or, Mr. Speaker, does he agree with us that the federal government, with whom he has a close affiliation, should recognize certain priorities and make more way for us to raise more money without corresponding tax increases by the Ontario government?

I am not much of a mathematician, Mr. Speaker, but I have never been able to add up two plus two and get more than four. I simply make that clear today, and I do not think it is possible.

Mr. Sopha: You do not need to elaborate.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Neither, I suggest, can the Opposition members who have spoken, with the possible exception of the member for York South. In fairness I will say at least he had some proposals. He advanced some proposals and I am quite prepared to say that some of them are receiving consideration and I think it is fair to say that they will continue to receive consideration.

Mr. MacDonald: For how long?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, you will have to take me at my word. But I repeat, sir—

Mr. MacDonald: That is the right direction anyway.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I believe it is folly at this point in time to fly in the face of a report that can be expected soon. I have already announced in the House that the Smith committee report on taxation is expected in May, and I say that is only a few short weeks to go.

Mr. MacDonald: That will be the middle of the election.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: I suggest that it is a much more sensible pursuit, rather than fly in the face of the recommendations that

we believe will be of assistance to the government in recognizing some of the various things that have been discussed in this debate, rather than to move into the single line courses, the sweeping suggestions of the hon. leader of the Opposition, without any supporting detail of how he is going to accomplish it, and simply say baldly that he will pay 80 per cent of the cost of education. I suggest, sir, that that is taking a little bit too much political freedom.

Now may I say this.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if the Minister would permit a question.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Well, I am just about through.

Mr. Nixon: I just wondered if he felt that way in 1943, when his previous leader did the same thing—and this government has not even achieved that yet?

Mr. MacDonald: The Liberals are going to do the same thing.

Mr. Nixon: No, sir.

Mr. MacDonald: Promise and never fulfil it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: May I suggest this to the leader of the Opposition before I sit down, Mr. Speaker? It is easy to propose. It is a little more difficult to dispose. He will have to take my word for that, because frankly I do not think he will ever be able to prove it by experience.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, as I have sat here this afternoon and listened to this very interesting debate, it is quite obvious to me and it must be quite obvious to anyone who has listened at all, that my leader's proposal and our party's proposal has really bothered, not only the government, but also this small group here on our left. They have spent so much time declaiming the promise that has been made by the Liberal Party, as a promise which is a part of our platform, and which is one of the tenets of government which we will bring into force and effect when we take over—not yet, but when we take over—that it is obvious, Mr. Speaker, that they are seriously concerned about the effect this is having on the people of the province of Ontario.

Let me say this just to begin. I am not at all impressed by the analysis made by the hon. member for York South as to the method by which he thinks we will accomplish this end. Nor am I interested in

the various permutations and combinations and split percentage points reeled off a few moments ago by the hon. Provincial Treasurer, as to how he thinks we will accomplish this.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What is the split percentage?

Mr. MacDonald: We will listen to him.

Mr. Singer: Let me say this, Mr. Speaker. This is a pledge made by the Liberal Party. It is an honest pledge and it is a pledge that we intend to carry out.

Mr. MacDonald: Give us some evidence.

Mr. Singer: Now Mr. Speaker, once we move over to the other side—and we will after the election is over—we will then have at our hand the ability to examine fully, which we have not got just now. In fact, as this session goes on, it is more and more obvious that we are going to be denied, and continue to be denied, more and more information. But once the election is over, we will have at our behest full reports on the use of credit by the government of Ontario. We will be able to get into what we believe are very substantial evidences of waste, extravagance, and inefficiency, Mr. Speaker.

We will be able to plan and give priorities to various government methods of expenditure. We will be able to review old and new sources of revenue and I say, sir, that for the charges—in complete answer to the charges that we have been irresponsible—that the irresponsibility lies on those who set up straw men, clothe them with the clothing of the Liberal Party and then say, that is irresponsible because this is what you mean.

Mr. MacDonald: Well what have you got instead of the straw man?

Mr. Singer: We would indeed be irresponsible if we were able at this time with our lack of information, with our lack of the responsibility, to be able to spell it out.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: Give us the research money you have got and we will give you the whole programme, fully researched.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Repeat that.

Mr. Singer: Well all right. I will repeat the original premise, Mr. Speaker.

It is obvious, from the hoo-ha-has and the cat-calls, that this is the responsible attitude. I say, sir, that we in the Liberal Party pledge this to the people of Ontario, and we will honour this pledge when we are elected.

Let me deal with the second point, Mr. Speaker. It makes no sense for the members on the Treasury benches to stand up one after another, as they did this afternoon, the same as they did in the debate—you may remember, sir, you were here when we had the debate about Elliot Lake and each one of them stood up and said: "I have got umpteen million dollars for a park and a few more million dollars for a jail, and another few million dollars for a hospital—"

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Oh no!

Mr. Singer: Oh, you did not get into it. I am sorry, if I have wronged the hon. Minister of Health; I withdraw that. But there was quite a parade that afternoon. Six or eight of them stood up, the same as they have done this afternoon and read off amazing figures out of their budgets and this was what they were going to do.

The provincial Minister Public Welfare was talking about donations. The Minister of Highways was talking as though charity just dripped from his hands. Whose money is he talking about? He is talking about the money of the people of the province of Ontario, some \$2-billion-odd that is collected and has to be expended properly in the interests of the people of Ontario—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Singer: And to say, sir, that they are generous, because in Brant county they gave "X" dollars for this or "Y" dollars for that makes absolutely no sense. They have responsibilities, but they have not properly discharged their responsibilities.

Let me tell you why. The Minister of Public Welfare talked about blinkers. Has he not seen the papers? Does he not listen to people in his own riding? Well, if he walks up Palmerston, Euclid and Lennox and Merrick and all those streets—I know them just as well as the Minister—has he not seen the increase in tax burden? Has he not talked to people who are having difficulty holding on to their homes? And does this not get the message to him that there are problems in the province of Ontario because of increasing municipal taxes? Does he not read about the problems that the Metropolitan Toronto council are having in facing the requests, the sincere requests of the Metropolitan Toronto

school board for \$151 million for capital costs to build new schools?

Does he not worry about whether or not the children who live in Metropolitan Toronto are going to have a school roof over their head? Has he not seen the problems that are being faced by the demands of teachers for new salaries? Did he not read in the paper this afternoon, the threat by several of the groups of teachers of the local boards that, unless they can get some means of salary increase, they are going on strike? Whose fault is this, Mr. Speaker?

Is it the fault of the municipalities who say, "We just cannot levy that much more of a new increase in taxes; we just cannot do it!" Where, then, can we go? We, the municipal governments are creatures of the province of Ontario. We have to provide schools, we have to provide roads, sewers, water and parks, welfare and administration of justice—and we are not getting the help that we need from the province of Ontario to keep our tax rate down. It makes no sense at all to me, sir, to suggest that the present help is moved from "X" dollars to "Y" dollars; or to suggest that this is meaningful, unless it enables the municipalities to keep the tax rate down.

The municipalities cannot keep the tax rate down. This is what this debate is about, this is what all the worry is about. This is why poor Harry Holgate is unable to face another increase in taxes and is going to be unable to keep his home. This is one of the reasons why we have this housing crisis because the municipalities are unable, completely unable, to allow new development because they cannot finance the services that new development demands. Mr. Speaker, where can we turn?

The point simply is this: It makes no answer at all to hear these Ministers rise, one after another, as the string is pulled and say, "We will spend 'X' million dollars instead of three-quarters of 'X' million dollars, the year before." Whatever they have spent, whatever they have allocated has had no effect whatsoever in allowing the municipalities to carry out their responsibilities.

Why is it the cry of the president of the mayors and reeves association that we need more money? Why is it the cry of every municipal official today—you can go through them and it does not matter what section of the province you want to talk about, from the head of the lakes down to Cornwall, from Kenora up to Moosonee—the story is exactly the same.

There just is not enough money coming from this government to the municipalities to allow the municipalities to carry out their responsibilities.

Therefore, there is no point in the government saying, "We spent this much money," or in the Provincial Treasurer getting up and saying, "If you are going to do this, it means you are going to do 'A' and 'B' and add 'X' per cent on here and 'Y' per cent on there." Or the socialists setting up these straw men and then knocking them down.

The answer is obvious. This government has refused to accept its responsibility. The situation has gotten completely out of hand. We as a party, and as a responsible party, pledge responsibly that we will undertake, as a term of our being elected to office, that we will do something about this and we will do it in a meaningful way.

Responsibly we say we are not going to spell it out in facts and figures at this moment, but we will do it once we get into office.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: For all of these reasons, and I have often noticed, particularly in this House, that when the cat calls get the loudest and they come from the noisiest section of the House, obviously the speeches are getting to the people who are making the loud noises.

Therefore, sir, I say that this resolution that is here should have the support of every member of this House. If the government of Ontario is serious at all in doing something to protect the individual homeowner; to allow the municipalities to carry on their business in a proper manner; to admit that they have failed in their undertakings today, and that this is what brought about the crisis, then this motion will be supported. I urge all members of the House to do that.

Mr. MacDonald: There is a big void to fill.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I heartily concur with that comment of the leader of the New Democratic Party. There is a void of enormous proportions to fill in this debate. I believe in taking advice where I can get it but I did not get much that I consider to be of any value this afternoon.

Mr. Bryden: Especially not from the Prime Minister's own front benches.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is a truly large void that we have in this particular problem which we face in our province today. I do not

intend to go over the various shifts that have occurred in the policy of the Opposition over the years in regard to this whole problem. I was very interested to note that the leader of the Opposition had dealt really with only one portion of the problem, as I see it, that faces us in the whole field of municipal financing.

He confined his remarks pretty completely to the field of education and, of course, that is only, in my opinion, one facet of the total problem that we face in the whole question of taxation. I would suggest to this House that this is a national problem. It is not a problem that is limited to our municipalities; it is not a problem that is limited to our provincial governments; it is a problem that involves all three levels of government and I propose to develop this theme in a few minutes.

Before I do that, I would like to say, in regard to this hoary old chestnut about some promise made back in 1943, by the leader of the government twice or three times removed from me, it is just completely ridiculous to talk about 50 per cent or 40 per cent of the cost of education in this province in 1943, and the cost of education in this present year of 1967.

Because at that time, just as a very small example, we had, I believe, three universities which were not receiving any support whatsoever from this government. They were receiving, of course, no support from the federal government and, of course, none from the municipality.

We now have 17 or 18 universities which are receiving support from this government. None of this, of course, is counted into these costs we are discussing today; none of the cost of postsecondary education.

When we think in terms of higher education the cost of our institutes of science and technology, junior college programmes, is being borne entirely by this government.

To try and compare 50 per cent of the cost of education in 1943 with 50 per cent of the cost of education in this province in 1967, is a complete exercise in futility. That is my opinion.

It constitutes a real and proper red herring as far as this resolution is concerned.

Mr. Bryden: You fellows always want to talk about Hepburn; why do you not want to talk about Drew?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am quite prepared to talk about Drew; I am quite prepared to talk

about him, but I do not want—in any event, I will not refer, as I thought I might at one stage, to the contribution by the hon. member for Woodbine to this debate, which I thought was something less than constructive.

Mr. Bryden: Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes. However, it seems to me that this resolution, as presented by the Opposition, is more concerned with an election that they seem to be doing their best to arrange—

Mr. Bryden: That is always the refuge of the cheap politician.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, there is the cheap politician, if I ever heard one.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bryden: Why do you not deal with this on its merits instead of talking about the motives of the Opposition?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I can only say that this debate was filled with vacuums—as the hon. member's leader said when I rose to speak, but it really did not start to degenerate until the member for Woodbine got on his feet. He has a complete obsession with pork barrels and with the idea that everyone in the world is dishonest except the members of the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Bryden: That is the greatest compliment that has ever been paid to me in this House.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I just simply find that a little difficult to accept.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It creeps into every speech the hon. member makes. As I pointed out, his leader used to do this job, but that has been turned over to the hon. member—

Mr. Bryden: Oh yes, the old personal smear, the Tory smear.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Now, Mr. Speaker, I would say this to the hon. member for Woodbine: if he will cease his rude interjections, I will not mention his contribution to the debate again, while I am speaking, but it does seem to me that it is hardly fair and honest to this House, or to the people of this prov-

ince, for any party here to present such a situation as the hon. member for York South pointed out, the Opposition said they were going to pay 80 per cent of the cost of education over a period of years.

We do not know what that period of years is and, I suggest to you, that they have put this proposition forward, taken this occasion for this very important amendment, which amounts to a vote of censure for the government, and presented absolutely no alternative. They have presented nothing positive.

They said, "This we will do—perhaps, maybe—sometime over some indefinite period of time," and no statement as to what form, because they know—and you cannot fool the people of Ontario and you need not try—because they know if they do not pay it on their real estate tax, they will pay it some place else.

Either that or you will have to borrow it. You either stop spending, or you increase taxes, or you borrow.

Mr. Nixon: They want to pay it fairly.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They want to pay it fairly? Well, what is your fair system? We do not know what it is and we have no opportunity to judge. If you have any good ideas, I would be delighted to have them because if they have merit I would be quite happy to accept them. I am searching for means myself and I think it is a very peculiar thing for the official Opposition to take this first opportunity they have had in many years to move such a motion as this—because as the hon. member said when he started his speech, this procedure fell out of use some years ago.

His predecessor signed a report suggesting that it be taken out of use, but this government, in its great respect for this House, and the democratic traditions of the House, agreed to replace it, even though the leader of the hon. member agreed to remove it. But he takes this very important occasion—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I am simply saying that your predecessor wanted this procedure, we are following today, removed from the rules of the House.

Mr. Bryden: Which predecessor was that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The hon. member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson). He signed a report and recommended that the procedure we are following not be used.

Mr. Nixon: Does the Prime Minister regret bringing it back?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Not a bit. I am just saying that we were delighted to, even though you did not want it. You have missed, and you have not given, in my opinion, sufficient weight to the importance of this time when you get up and do nothing but criticize what the government has done and offer no alternative whatsoever.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It is none of my concern what you say to the people of this province at any time; that is entirely your affair, but I am just going to suggest to you, do not try to fool them because they will not be fooled. They will know it has to come from somewhere.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: They will know that you cannot say, "We will pay 80 per cent, but we will not tell you where we will get the money", because they know that it is going to come from them some time anyway.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): That is darn decent of you to be so concerned about us.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, my concern ceases right now.

Mr. Whicher: You are getting "Nixonitis", John.

An hon. member: Cool it. Cool it, Ross!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to deal with the aspects of this problem which have been mentioned at great length, namely, the whole financing of our educational system in the province. I think the Minister of Education posed some pretty good answers which do not seem to me to have been met by subsequent speakers from either party in the Opposition. I would like to speak to the broader principle that is involved in this problem.

I would say first, that the problem that faces our municipalities is not one that can simply be solved by the production of more money; not the production of more money by this government, not the production of more money by the federal government, not the production of more money by the municipal governments themselves.

We are in a situation, particularly in the provinces and in the municipalities, of going through a very agonizing process of establish-

ing priorities in spending. This is very difficult, whether one has to do it in one's personal life, or whether a government has to do it on behalf of the people that it represents.

We simply need more money if we are to carry out programmes advanced by different areas of interest. We simply need more money if we are to do everything that everyone really wants to do.

But we must look at where the money is going to come from. If we are simply to say that we are going to give education a greater priority, for instance, than the construction of highways; or if we are going to give education a greater priority than we give to health or to welfare; or if we are going to attempt to tax in such a broad way that we are going to be able to give all these programmes equal priority and do the maximum that everyone asks to be done in each area of spending. I suggest that this is impossible. That is why I say that the answer is not simply the production of more money, because we must go beyond that and look at the whole basic tax structure. We also must look at the whole basic expenditure structure of our governments and, indeed, as far as expenditures are concerned, at all three levels.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I was interested in what the various Ministers had to say concerning the areas of assistance in which we are taking action for the municipal governments at the present time. Certainly we do not do this as a matter of handouts, as has been attempted to be established by Opposition speakers but—

Mr. Singer: Out of the mouths of your own Ministers; they condemn you.

Mr. Bryden: You are the one who introduced the term "handouts".

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not understand that last remark but perhaps I was not intended to. In any event, I will go back to this suggestion I made that we are dealing with a national problem—a problem that was recognized by this government quite a few years ago. It was recognized also by the federal government.

It was recognition of the problem that led to the establishment of the Carter commission. The Carter commission was established some five years ago and it was this government that established the Smith commission in 1963.

I will tell you quite frankly, at the time that committee was established its purpose was simply to complement the study that was

being done for the federal government by the Carter Royal commission.

In 1963 we recognized that we were heading into periods of great difficulty in doing the financing that was necessary to be done, at both levels of tax-raising and tax-spending that concern us particularly—namely, our own level provincially and that of the municipalities. The same problem was recognized by the federal government and I might say that it was a Conservative government in Ottawa that recognized it at that time too.

When the Carter commission was appointed, if you read the terms of reference of that committee, you will find that there was nothing in its terms of reference that brought it into the provincial field or the municipal field at all. I would suggest to you that this is one of the great weaknesses of the Carter commission report as it is today, and as it lies before us. It simply does not deal with the area that is the largest problem for this province and for the municipalities of this province—and, I think, for all the other provinces and their municipalities as well.

All right! That is a fact of life. That is what the Carter commission was set up to do. In 1963 we appointed the Smith committee to deal with and to investigate the taxation and the revenue systems of the province of Ontario, of the school boards, and of our municipalities, with a view to determining whether within the constitutional limitations existing, and having regard to present and potential financial requirements, such tax and revenue system is as simple, clear, equitable, efficient, adequate and conducive to sound growth of the provinces as can be devised.

Mr. MacDonald: What was the date of the appointment?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The date of the appointment was February 26, 1963. I have just quoted from the terms of reference of that committee.

Therefore, to say that this government has not been aware of this problem of course is utter nonsense, because we were aware of it in 1963 and took steps to find a logical answer to it. I would say that it never occurred to us—it never occurred to me—that in 1967 I would be standing in my place here without that report in hand, any more than it occurred to the federal government that it would take five years for the Carter commission to produce its report. But, with all due respect to the comments of the hon. member for Sudbury concerning complexities,

these two, the commission and the committee, ran into matters which were not anticipated, and perhaps could never have been anticipated in the beginning. It simply has taken a very long time to work these things out.

Mr. Sopha: But they ended up with—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: A dollar is a dollar. There is infinite simplicity within the five words, but when you wade through the rest of the report, it is not quite so simple as the fact that a dollar is a dollar.

Mr. Sopha: A 180-page summary—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Pardon? Mr. Speaker, I have given no consideration to this, but if the members of the House are interested in it we will find some means of putting it in their hands. I think perhaps it might be a good idea.

An hon. member: Get it from the Bank of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I do not know whether the Bank of Canada would let us run off a few on our own mimeographing machine but we will check into that and see what can be done.

However, I really think that it should be in the hands of any member of this House who wants it because it is going to have a very deep effect on the fiscal policy and arrangements of this province in the years that lie ahead. In any event, that is the background of the Carter commission and the Smith committee report. Certainly, as I say, it is not as simple as it might have appeared. The two reports will have to be dealt with together and, in my opinion, it would be the height of folly if were to start some immediate tinkering with our tax system at this stage. I do not like to make promises and I try not to, and I do not think I do make very many. But I might offer an opinion that if given the opportunity I would think that three years from now we will have very many major changes in our tax structure in this country and in this province, and I think that this will flow directly from three things:

It will flow from the Carter commission report; it will flow from the Smith committee report and it will flow from the fiscal arrangement that perforce must be made between the federal and the provincial governments. I would just refresh all your memories to the fact that the present, I do not call it an agreement, but I will call it an arrangement, between the federal government and the provinces, because it was agreed to only by the

federal government and we had no choice as I said at the time. I would draw your attention to the fact that those arrangements will only be in effect for a two-year period, not the usual five-year period. They were put into effect for a two-year period only because it was anticipated that those arrangements would not stand up under examination after the Carter report was produced. So we have functioning in the area of this problem with which we are dealing this afternoon, the three elements that I mentioned, the Carter report, the Smith committee report and the whole problem of federal-provincial relationships in the fiscal field. I would say to you that to come forward at this stage and say you are going to accept any fixed percentage of any cost of any municipality is simply, well you may feel it is an advantageous thing to say, but I think it flies in the face of the planned programme of tax revision that this government instituted in 1963.

The various Ministers have pointed out how we have increased our grants to assist the municipalities in the intervening period and the figures are there. Decry them if you will, but they are there, and it is what this government has done. If I had any undertaking to make to the people of this province, it would simply be that I would undertake to take the Smith report and take the Carter commission report and to cooperate with the federal government as we are in the discussions which are completely inevitable, and put these two together and from this let us see if we cannot achieve our original objective which we set up in 1963—that is a rational tax system for this province, which will do the things set out in the terms of reference which I have quoted to you when the Smith committee was set up.

So far as the Carter commission report is concerned, while I am on my feet I might just simply say that while it is, as has been said, full of all the trite phrases, it is a monumental work and reveals a great deal of research. There are certain real gaps in it as far as the province of Ontario is concerned. The first of these of course I have already mentioned, and that is that it does not deal in any way with the problems of the municipalities.

Second, and I think this is a glaring gap in the report, and I do not necessarily blame the commission because I rather doubt that their terms of reference were broad enough to cover it, they simply say: "Of course this will involve a great deal of federal-provincial relationships but that is not our problem." I can suggest to this House that it will inevit-

ably and eventually be the biggest problem in the implementation of the Carter report because it is going to require a very high degree of cooperation between all provinces. There will have to be arrangements made, I presume, which will be suitable to all provinces, because while it is very simple to say: "Well the federal government will take over corporation tax and personal income tax" in fact these happen to be the constitutional fields of taxation of the province. For us to surrender them in full and to get out of them, as is suggested, is a matter that would have to be, of course, examined very carefully by any province that chose to do it.

I would say, too, that the Carter commission report does not deal in any way with our problems of expenditure.

If you read that report carefully, you will find that it deals only with the raising of money; it does not help us in this agonizing situation that we are going through in this province where every spending body is having to establish priority.

And I do not know that it is such a bad idea that we are having a little soul-searching at the municipal level, to be quite frank with you. I do not think it is a bad idea if the metropolitan school board goes in with a proposed budget of \$151 million and is met with a statement that they can only spend \$50 million. There will be some juggling back and forth.

Mr. Bryden: Does the Prime Minister think portable classrooms are a good thing?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not think portable classrooms are a good thing, but I see a great many of them doing a satisfactory job. The present Minister of Education took classes in a boiler room in the postwar years.

Mr. Bryden: Let us go back to the little red schoolhouse.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: When we have an emergency situation, let us deal with it, but let us not always attempt to do everything 100 per cent. We can educate children. All I say is, we have this problem of priorities, we have to get the task done and it is not a bad idea if we are all forced into a position of examining our expenditures.

I can assure you that is exactly what this government did when it came back from the last federal-provincial conference. I am back to my point that the Carter commission report does not deal in any way with the question of expenditures, priorities, or who is carrying

the greatest weight, this was all done and examined by the tax structure committee which was set up in Quebec City in April, 1964. Its recommendations were tossed aside by the federal government after "X" number of years of work.

If we could put together the work of the tax structure committee in the field, in its examination of governmental expenditures, with what the Carter commission report and perhaps the Smith report will tell us about raising money, then bring into the total picture the position of the municipalities vis-a-vis raising money and expenditures, then I would suggest to this House that we may get down to what will be the basis of the production of a logical, national tax system for our country that will reach through all three levels of government.

Mr. Bryden: Meanwhile, you let this rotten system continue.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well now, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest this government and this administration has done a great deal for the municipalities. We are fully aware of their problems and we are sympathetic to them, but I do think the solution to this problem is not just simply to say, "Get some more money and give it to the municipalities". If you do that, you will never have any priorities. What the hon. member is suggesting is that the municipalities will just automatically decide what they want, come to this government, and get a blank cheque to do it. Well, this does not make sense.

Mr. Bryden: Well, it is a little distance from the truth.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, the member is giving us no picture whatsoever of how he proposes to implement his proposition.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will tell the hon. member what we are going to do. We are going to wait until we get the Smith report; we are going to examine the Smith report, and use it as a basis, together with the Carter commission report, together with the arrangements we can make with the federal government, which will inevitably be brought about in the future—and out of this we are going to nationalize the tax system of this province. That is our position, and the position of this government.

Mr. Bryden: Same old procrastinations.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: And when these studies are complete and available, this is what we will do.

Mr. Speaker, I realize that, under the rules of the game of this particular debate my time is at an end.

Mr. Bryden: Fifteen minutes over.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: No, it is not.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Undoubtedly there will be an opportunity to resume the discussion of many of these matters in the Budget Debate and I hope they will receive a full and complete discussion at that time. In the meantime, I would suggest that you see the error of your ways and that you appreciate, as we have pointed out to you, the fallacy of your position, and do not support this amendment, because really it just does not make much sense in the light of what is going on today.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Nixon moves the amendment to the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into committee of supply by the addition of the following words:

but this House views with great concern the rising cost of municipal government, and, particularly, the intolerable burden of the cost of education among ratepayers in Ontario, and this House deplores the failure of the government to take steps to alleviate the situation and lessen the financial burden upon the citizens of Ontario at the municipal level.

All those in favour of the amendment, will please say "aye".

All those opposed, will please say "nay".

In my opinion the "nays" have it.

Call in the members.

The House divided on the amendment moved by Mr. Nixon, which was negatived on the following division:

AYES	NAYS
Braithwaite	Allan
Bryden	Apps
Bukator	Auld
Davison	Bales
Freeman	Boyer
Gaunt	Brunelle
Gisborn	Butler
Lewis	Carruthers
(Scarborough West)	Cass
MacDonald	Connell
Newman	Davis
Nixon	Demers

AYES	NAYS	AYES	NAYS
Oliver	Downer		Spooner
Paterson	Dymond		Stewart
Racine	Edwards		Walker
Reaume	Ewen		Wardrope
Renwick	Gomme		Welch
Singer	Grossman		Wells
Smith	Harris		White
Sopha	Haskett		Whitney
Trotter	Henderson		Wishart
Whicher	Hodgson (Victoria)		Yakabuski
Worton	Johnston (Parry Sound)		Yaremko—51.
Young—23.	Johnston (Carleton)		
	Kerr		
	Knox		
	Lawrence (St. George)		
	Lewis (Humber)		
	MacNaughton		
	Morningstar		
	McNeil		
	Noden		
	Peck		
	Pritchard (Mrs.)		
	Reilly		
	Robarts		
	Root		
	Rowe		
	Rowntree		
	Simonett		

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 23; the "nays" 51.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

All those in favour of the main motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into committee of supply, will please say "aye". All those opposed, will please say "nay".

In my opinion the "ayes" have it.

I declare the main motion carried.

It being 6 of the clock I do now leave the chair, and we will resume at 8 p.m.

The House took recess at 6 o'clock p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, March 9, 1967

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Clerk of the House: The estimates of The Department of the Attorney General.

Mr. Chairman: Before calling on the member for Riverdale, I know the members of the House would like me to say a word of welcome to the visitors in the Speaker's gallery—members and officers from the Parkdale Conservative association.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Continued)

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, in resuming, after the lapse of a few days, the estimates of the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), I comment, first of all, by way of a brief review that on Friday last I covered the question of the lack of an annual report, which makes it extremely difficult to have an intelligent discussion about the estimates of the Attorney General. I covered the question of the backlog of work in the field of law reform which has resulted in the overburden on the Ontario law reform commission, and suggested at least one item of that reform commission's burden of work would be removed from the commission by extracting The Personal Property Security Act and passing it through this Legislature and getting it to the point where it will replace the archaic system that we have in that field of commercial law.

I also touched upon the need for proper statistical information about the functioning of the courts throughout the province of Ontario and the presentation of it by methods of statistics so that we can assess whether or not in fact the courts of this province are functioning efficiently and providing the kind of service which they are designed to provide. I am not quite certain whether I have communicated with the Attorney General that the statistical presentation of information is quite different from receiving the opinion of the chief judge of any of the particular courts as to what the needs of those courts are. I think a statistical assessment would provide

a very real tool and technique which would enable us to decide, in fact, the load of work which is in the courts, particularly in the junior courts in the metropolitan area and I am certain in the junior courts in other urban areas throughout the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman, before I go on and pick up the topic of legal research and scholarship in the province of Ontario, which I will do in a few minutes, I want to draw to the Attorney General's attention my concern when I saw reported in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* this morning, the details released by the law society of Upper Canada, obviously about the regulations under the legal aid plan for the province. But I had, Mr. Chairman, as I am sure many other members in the Legislature had, a sensation of concern that those regulations should be released at some kind of a press conference by the law society of Upper Canada before they had been promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the legal aid statute.

The substance of the remarks that were recorded in the *Globe and Mail* this morning should certainly now give us serious pause about the legal aid plan in the province. I had hoped that the release of the regulations would have been done in such a way that this chamber would be involved in them, that there would have been some opportunity of discussion of the regulations, but that apparently is not to be the case. The regulations have been released in draft form, as I understand it, and I stand to be corrected by the Attorney General if in fact they have been approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council as required by the legal aid plan. They have been released in such a way as to indicate that there is likely an endeavour on the part of the law society, in some way or other either to accustom the public to the fees which are going to be charged under that plan or in some way to gain support for their position.

I would like to spend a few minutes, Mr. Chairman, on the fee schedule as set out in the *Globe and Mail* this morning.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would permit, I should make this very clear that the regulations have not been released at all. The very capable committee of the law society has been working with my officials. The regulations are at present being reviewed by the proper bodies of government, the Treasury board, and will be before the Cabinet very shortly, I would anticipate. But I think the committee of the law society is to be commended in that by calling in editors of papers locally—and I think they anticipate on Friday this week to meet with editors throughout the province—it is indicating in a general way the approach which the law society, which is the body we established by legislation to administer the legal aid plan, is taking towards this legal aid plan or scheme. I do not take particular exception to the publicity which is given to the proposed fees and I must make it very clear that those fees are not final in any sense until the regulations have been before Cabinet and approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

I do not say this in any critical way at all, but one of the results of making some of this approach known is just what the member is offering me now, and offered to this House is his critical analysis, his critical opinion, his judgment as to whether the fees are too large, too small or adequate and so on. This is one of the things that will be helpful and I welcome his remarks. I do not want the House to gain the wrong impression about the regulations. Insofar as the government is concerned, they have not been given out to anyone.

This committee is working and they have a very wide latitude in working up the details of this plan. That is what we expect them to do and I think they are to be commended for the great deal of work they have done and are continuing to do.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I am really delighted that the Attorney General takes this particular view. I take the diametrically opposite one. I believe that when a statute of the province of Ontario confers the privilege on the law society of Upper Canada of receiving substantial sums of money from the Legislature of this province, the obligation of the law society is to comply with the provisions of that statute. This is no minor matter of me objecting personally to this particular question.

I have on occasion asked specifically in writing and orally for information about the plan and have never been furnished with it.

Yet I open the paper and find whether the Attorney General approves of it or disapproves of it. It is irrelevant to find that in fact there had been a public press conference at which the fees to be charged under this scheme had been disclosed, and announced in a public way. This is not the way the statute was drafted, and is not the way it was intended to have become public knowledge. No need for me to read to the Attorney General the provisions of The Legal Aid Act. He knows those provisions, but the regulations are to be approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and my understanding is that they are not made public prior to that time.

Before I move on from the method by which the law society chose a completely improper method to make this information available, so far as I know, I cannot understand why, if this method was chosen, certain of the news media happen to have the information and many other of the papers throughout the province and other news media do not have the information. If they were going to choose this way, at least they could have had an open and public press conference at which questions could have been asked, the kind of questions asked which would have elicited a great deal more information than is contained in this rather scanty report in the newspaper this morning.

But when we move on to the question of the fees, I would like to deal with that question from the point of view not just of the legal aid plan but from what is so delightfully referred to as the charges which would be made to a client of modest means, having nothing, as I understand it, to do with legal aid at all. Mr. Chairman, the method by which I have set this up is simply to state what court the matter is in, what the client of modest means would be paying and what it is proposed to pay under the legal aid plan for those services.

In the magistrate's court, a client of modest means would apparently have the services for a case on summary conviction of \$150 a day fee; under the legal aid plan, \$112.50. If the matter were dealt with in the county court as a criminal matter there would be \$25 per hour for preparation, \$75 for a preliminary hearing and \$200 per day for counsel fees. Under the legal aid it would be \$18.75 per hour preparation and \$56.25 preliminary hearing and \$150 per day.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Those fees are too high.

Mr. Renwick: If it was in the Supreme Court of Ontario, as a criminal matter, it

would be \$35 an hour for preparation, \$125 for preliminary hearing and \$250 per day counsel fees.

Mr. Sopha: Does the hon. member agree these are too high? Certainly they are too high.

Mr. Renwick: Oh, yes. Under the legal aid plan, \$26.25 per hour for preparation, \$93.75 for the preliminary hearing and \$187.50 per day counsel fee. In the county court, if it were a civil matter, \$25 per hour for preparation and advice and \$150 counsel fee. Under the legal aid plan, \$18.75 per hour, \$112.50 counsel fee. If it were a civil matter in the Supreme Court of Ontario, \$35 per hour for preparation, \$250 per day counsel fee, and under the legal aid plan \$26.25 per hour of preparation and \$187.50 per day counsel fee. For an uncontested divorce action in the Supreme Court of Ontario, a person of modest means is expected to pay \$35 by way of advice and \$500 for the fees for counsel to process an uncontested divorce through the court. Under the legal aid plan, \$26.25 per hour and a fee of \$375 for processing through the court.

Mr. Chairman, I think the principal point is that, regardless of the legal aid plan, in fact, the cost in the province of Ontario for the kind of legal services which are required by citizens in our courts has got to the point where it is exorbitantly high. I think that any of the lawyers in this room well know that you cannot get a lawyer to go into the magistrate's courts of this province at \$150 per day except under most unusual circumstances. Certainly—well, I would correct myself, I am not familiar with the other magistrates' courts in the province, but certainly in magistrates' courts in the metropolitan area. When we recognize that these fees which have been published in the newspapers are for fees only—they are stated very carefully to be the minimum fees only—when we realize there is no reference whatsoever to division court—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Would the hon. member yield for a moment? Mr. Chairman, this comes under vote 207, item 12, contributions to legal aid funds and the law society of Upper Canada. I have no desire to curtail the hon. member in his remarks. He is reviewing the legal aid matter in great detail and his remarks are very interesting, but I wonder, are we going to review this again? It would seem to me that the proper place to go into detail would, perhaps, be under the particular vote. As I say, I am interested

in his remarks and noting them, but I just do not want to have to do it twice.

Mr. Chairman: I know the member for Riverdale is familiar with the procedure, where we have the general remarks in advance and then deal with the specific detail under the vote.

Mr. Renwick: I know, Mr. Chairman, but perhaps the House will bear with me while I complete this because I wanted to give the Attorney General ample opportunity to express his particular philosophy and attitude toward this very real problem which has now been disclosed in the legal aid plan.

I was simply saying that there is no reference whatsoever as to what the fees would be in division court or in the juvenile and family court; there is no reference to what the fees would be in solicitors' matters. There is, of course, the reference that a duty officer would receive up to a maximum of \$75 per day for acting as duty counsel under the scheme.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if it was the intention of the law society to provide adequate news coverage and information about the legal aid plan and if this is the kind of information which is available, then it has totally failed in its endeavour to provide adequate information. If, on the other hand, it is intended in some way or other to acclimatize people to the scale of fees, then I think this Legislature is under profound obligation to assess very carefully whether or not at this particular time in the province of Ontario we can afford to pay out of the provincial Treasury the kind of fees to provide that kind of legal service. If they are justified to charge this kind of a fee under the legal aid plan, then I think it is about time we looked at the actual administration of the courts to find out whether or not there is some method of making them both more efficient and less expensive.

I simply comment again about this ridiculous state that the practice of law has reached in the province of Ontario where an uncontested divorce action is going to cost a person something in excess of \$500, if he is a person of modest means, in a province where about 84 per cent of the people who earn any income in the province are people of modest means. People cannot afford this kind of charge if they have to have recourse to the courts. I simply emphasize again the basic point that, next to the actual quality of justice which is administered in the courts, the basic question in an effective administration

of justice in a democratic society is the convenience of the courts. And one very real element in the convenience of the courts is the fees that are charged for professional service and advice.

If it is true, as the Attorney General has said it is, that these fees are not in any way settled, then I would hope that he, undoubtedly as the member of the government who will be advising his colleagues in the government as to what the charges will be, will have a very cold, hard look at the proposition of what the fees will be under this legal aid plan.

I agree with the Attorney General that there just is not the information available to tell us what the total impact is going to be but it is certainly possible to make some reasonable guesses. I do not say that they can be estimates, but some reasonable guesses as to what this total cost is going to be. We have to have a legal aid plan in the province of Ontario, we have to have it placed in force as quickly as possible, but we have to have it on the basis that the courts will provide the function that they are supposed to provide and that those who have the privilege of arguing cases and appearing in those courts on behalf of clients should be only allowed to charge fees which are reasonable in relation to the kind of economy that we have in the province of Ontario at the present time.

Mr. Chairman, I would like now to resume the remarks which I was making on Friday last about legal research and scholarship, and the interest which I think that the Attorney General should take in this field because of the tremendous burden of archaic law which we have in the province, and our inability to provide any stimulus for legal research and scholarship in the province.

I have had the benefit of the assistance of one person who through another person, has prepared some remarks for me in this particular field and which I believe to be an accurate, fair presentation of the state of legal research in scholarship in Ontario.

As change in our society proceeds in an almost geometric rate, many of our laws become less and less relevant. The obvious answer to this problem is continual change in our laws but if it is to be meaningful, such change must be the result of unbiased and disinterested research. There are of course, many conceivable institutions which could carry out legal research and among these institutions, the university law schools should hold an important place. Unfortunately, the law schools in Ontario today are carrying out a

minimum of research. Four factors seem to account for this situation.

One, there are not nearly enough students in Ontario law schools who are working for graduate degrees in law.

Two, research-oriented undergraduates who might conceivably enter law school are attracted by the greater financial assistance available in graduate school.

Three, the curricula at Ontario law schools do not offer sufficient scope for individual research by bachelor of law students.

Four, the pressure of teaching administrative duties makes it extremely difficult for professors to carry out research.

Obviously a number of these factors are interrelated but it is submitted that this classification points up the more significant problems and allows for greater analysis in detail.

At the two Toronto law schools, the average age of students in the third year of the LL.B. course is approximately 25. This group is predominantly male; and 55 to 60 per cent of them either are married or will be within a year from graduation. On graduation from law school, the student, married or unmarried is carrying an average indebtedness of over \$1,300. In order to practise law this graduate must now article for one year at an average Toronto salary of \$72 per week and then complete a six-month bar admission course for which he must pay \$600.

Now, let us assume that this student wants to go on to graduate study in law. The first problem facing him is whether he should go before or after bar admission. Since he probably wants to be able, some day, to practise law, he will then have to accept that, whichever way he does it, if he spends even one year at graduate school he will be 28 before he commences the practice of law. If he goes to graduate school in Ontario he will discover that there is little in the way of financial assistance available. Thus he can either get another loan and plunge into graduate school, hoping to keep his debts low enough that he can attempt to reduce them during his articling year, or he can article immediately and hope to save enough money so that he can start graduate school with a clean sheet.

One could perhaps forgive the man who finds this dilemma insoluble and forgets about graduate school. On the other hand, the student who wants to do graduate work can always go to a university outside Canada. In terms of both prestige and financial assistance

available, the American universities are much more attractive than any in Ontario.

There is also another possibility: The student who wants to teach law and is therefore not worried about the additional years in being called to the bar, if he is willing to make the decision to be a teacher immediately after he gets his LL.B. and before he has any experience of practice, may go on to graduate school in relative financial confidence, but he will almost certainly go to the United States for graduate school, enticed by the far greater financial resources and greater prestige, most of all for the greater prestige.

It can only be concluded that there are not enough people doing graduate study in Ontario law schools because of financial problems and because of the lack of prestige of the Ontario law schools.

Over 90 per cent of the students at the University of Toronto law school have at least one degree. Thus they possess much the same academic qualifications as the general run of graduate students at the university, yet the average married student in third year at the University of Toronto faculty of law is receiving a total of \$120 from bursaries and scholarships. A graduate student with the same academic background is eligible for a tremendous range of scholarships, fellowships and bursaries, notably the Robarts fellowships.

An obvious factor is that, with the exception of Osgoode Hall, the Ontario law schools have been operating for a relatively short time. They can boast few rich alumni who are capable of making grants. Even the outstanding student in law school will discover that he may collect only a few hundred dollars' worth of prizes and many of these are book vouchers. It can only be concluded that as long as law schools are not regarded as being of the same status and priority as graduate schools, the research oriented student will continue to choose graduate school. It is almost impossible for a bachelor of law student at an Ontario law school to do any kind of serious research. Essay courses exist, but they are not compulsory and there simply is not enough time for a student to investigate a problem in depth. The curriculum, still controlled mainly by the law society of Upper Canada, is oriented almost totally towards passing examinations and the methodology is characterized by a sophisticated form of rote learning.

Generally students are not encouraged to carry out research during the summer break,

because there is simply not the money available—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Chairman, is this in order? This has been a 30-minute speech.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Why is it not in order? What is out of order about it?

Mr. White: It is a Budget speech.

Mr. Bryden: Nonsense.

Mr. White: There is no estimate in there.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, we seem to be faced occasionally with this kind of interjection. I am trying to interest the Attorney General in the state of legal research in the province of Ontario. He is in the House. These are his estimates. It is a matter which I think is very important.

Mr. White: Mr. Chairman, if I may speak on the point of order, I very well remember some years ago attempting to get to my feet for about 60 seconds, to make a general comment during the estimates and I was ruled out of order by the Chairman of the day. My understanding, as explained to me by the Chairman at that time, was that the estimates were to permit an opportunity for all members to ask questions of the Minister.

My understanding further is that each party has an opportunity to make an extended opening statement or speech.

Mr. Bryden: This is it.

Mr. White: Are we still working on an opening speech? How many hours has this been going on?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. White: Well, speed it up.

Mr. Chairman: In answer to the member for London South I would just remind him that this is the introductory speech from the third party.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, general students are not encouraged to carry out research during the summer break because there is simply not the money available to assist this sort of activity.

Finally, the libraries of Ontario law schools are uniformly unable to support serious research. It can only be concluded that research is not being given a significant place

in the bachelor of law courses in the Ontario law schools.

Professors at law schools should be leaders in the field of research, both in carrying it out themselves and in encouraging their students to do so. But as the Ontario law schools continue to expand, the professors are finding that teaching and administrative duties are putting too great demands on their time. This situation is bound to get worse.

Dean Wright at the University of Toronto faculty of law estimates that 172 teachers will be required for Ontario law schools in the next ten years. As this teacher shortage grows it will become increasingly difficult for law professors even to consider research work. This greater pressure of teaching duties, plus the shortage of funds available will make it almost impossible for law professors to take their leaves of absence which are essential to research.

It can only be concluded that immediate steps must be taken to attract more qualified persons into the teaching of law in the province of Ontario.

I submit to the Attorney General, Mr. Chairman, the following recommendations:

1. That he institute discussions with the law society of Upper Canada and with the appropriate law schools throughout the province on the question of raising articling fees, on the question of allowing students with master of laws degrees to forego either the articling year or the bar admission course and for the purpose of the relinquishment by the law society of all control over university legal instruction in the province of Ontario.

2. For the purpose of making all law students who hold a bachelor's degree and who can demonstrate academic ability and financial need, eligible for Robarts fellowships; for encouraging Ontario universities to treat law students as having the status of graduate students, particularly in respect of financial assistance; for the purpose of setting up a programme of scholarships and fellowships for the graduate study of law; for the purpose of encouraging Ontario universities to put more emphasis on their graduate law programmes; for the purpose of making substantial library grants to Ontario law schools; for subsidizing bachelor of law students who will undertake to teach law in Ontario law schools; for making grants to law professors who wish to take leave of absence for research purposes.

My final recommendation is that the Attorney General in that particular field, should hire a substantial number of LL.B. students

from the law schools of the universities on his staff during the long summer vacation, to do work on specific legal problems.

Now Mr. Chairman, in that particular field, those recommendations are matters which I submit for the urgent attention of the Attorney General.

With those remarks, I think that we can proceed now to the specific estimates of The Department of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I opened the study of these estimates with a fairly lengthy series of remarks, and I think that now that I have heard from the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer), and the hon. member for Riverdale, I would like to deal with their comments in the particular vote as we proceed. I undertake that that is the way I shall deal with the comments which have been made by these hon. members.

On vote 201.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Attorney General a question about Royal commissions.

We are spending now—at least you are estimating you are going to spend about \$300,000 on Royal commissions, and we spent about the same amount last year. Is there any intention in the Attorney General's office of setting up a permanent office to provide for Royal commissions? I know that you often do not know from one year to the other, when there is going to be a Royal commission set up, but it is obvious with the number that have taken place in the last few years that a Royal commission is something that is going to be with us, either for one investigation or another.

Would it not be far cheaper to set up permanent machinery, so that it would not be necessary to order all the necessary equipment each time a Royal commission is appointed?

Have you any plans in that regard?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I would say I have no plans in this regard. I think that the hon. member was fair to state one cannot estimate in advance what you may be faced with in the way of Royal commissions.

Some years a very small budget will cover it. We may not have a Royal commission at all. We are I think, at the moment, in a great spate of Royal commissions.

We have the Royal commission on Atlantic carrying on its work. The hon. member for

Downsview asked a question as to what it had cost the other day, and I submitted the reply and I hoped it might have been tabled. But I think perhaps I should take the opportunity to give it this evening in the course of the estimates.

In any event, we have that commission and the Royal commission on The Workmen's Compensation Act presently carrying on its work, and the Royal commission on labour relations, with the hon. Mr. Justice Rand. And then in part of this fiscal year, you will recall there was the Royal commission on Farmers' Allied Meat Enterprises, which concluded some few months ago. There was the Windfall Oils and Mines commission.

Mr. Bryden: What about Sir Lancelot?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, we had these and there is still continuing of course what is perhaps a commission which is perhaps nearing the conclusion of its work, the Royal commission on civil rights.

The Atlantic commission particularly, is a rather extraordinary thing, which we are not likely to face again.

How any Attorney General would plan to set up an office to deal with these, I do not know. The commissions select special counsel, depending on the field in which their inquiries go and some are larger than others. The Royal commission on civil rights is a one-man commission, confined to that particular field, but it is a broad study.

The Atlantic Royal commission is studying the particular area of law and the effect on our economy that the debacle of Atlantic had on our society.

How one would set up an office to deal with Royal commissions, I do not know. Sometimes, as I say, we have very few, and I would hope and I think this is a growing attitude, that Royal commissions are perhaps not always the answer to some of the situations which we have in the past asked them to deal with. I notice this attitude has been expressed at the federal level and you will recall some of the Royal commissions there which did not accomplish all that was hoped of them.

I appreciate the suggestion, but I just do not know how I would approach it.

Mr. Trotter: As of March 31, 1966, the Atlantic Acceptance Royal commission has cost over \$250,000. I suppose nearly a year has gone by since then. It is a fantastic sum.

I realize that, as each new commission is appointed, there is maybe a different judge, or a different individual sitting. He may hire his own counsel. But as I understand the set-up, every time a commission is appointed, they go out and buy their typewriters, their furniture, and there is a certain basic staff needed.

I think it is a reasonable thing to assume that you are going to average at least a Royal commission a year. Nobody really knows, but at the same time, you would be making a very conservative estimate, if a Liberal can use that word, if you said there was going to be at least one Royal commission each year. It seems silly that they go out and buy electric typewriters, set up a staff and keep repeating themselves year in and year out. Are there any ways you could save any money? Surely there must be. Have you any estimates of how the expenses are broken down, so you would not have a duplication each time you have a Royal commission?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think, perhaps, I said I would deal with Atlantic.

Mr. Trotter: Can you deal with it now, is it under this vote?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will deal with it now.

I am not happy to have to tell the hon. member that his estimate of the cost of the commission to date is very conservative, if I may use that word.

Mr. Bryden: You may. You are the epitome of it.

Mr. Trotter: You are the man who has it—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The cost of the enquiry into the affairs of Atlantic Corporation Limited to January 31, 1967, was \$667,643.06. I have the details.

Mr. Trotter: How could that be?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: All the detail of the question asked by the hon. member for Downsview has been prepared and has been submitted, and I would say to hon. members, it should be filed on the table, I would think, in a few days. But that is the total cost to January 31 this year.

But it is all very well for hon. members to say, how could that be? There was a great demand, and I do not say it was not perhaps a proper demand, that when Atlantic failed, and failed in the very extravagant way that it did, there was a great demand that

there be a Royal commission to go into this matter to the *n*th degree. This was the request that was made and I have heard it recently again with Prudential. It was repeated and repeated, but then, if you want it do not complain at the cost of it.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, if they had proper security laws in the first place it would not have happened.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There are other types of investigation which I hinted at in my earlier remarks a moment ago that in my opinion are quite effective and bring out the facts which are necessary, and are much less expensive. They are done with our own resources instead of setting up another body to sit waiting for Royal commissions to come along. For instance, we have a securities commission which is presently conducting the enquiry into the Prudential matter—doing, I think, as hon. members will learn even if they are not prepared to admit it now, a very thorough job. It will bring out all the facts which the Royal commission would produce.

In fact, I am prepared to make this statement that the facts which are being produced for the Atlantic commission are in very large part produced by our people in government employ, by investigators of the police, the securities commission, and by some of our own legal staff. I think perhaps we should confine ourselves a little bit and not be quite so anxious to toss a Royal commission into the field on every occasion.

Mr. Sopha: I am glad to hear you say that.

Mr. Chairman, one observes that in the fiscal year ending March 1966, the estimate for Royal commissions was a very modest figure of \$5,000. The year ending March 31, 1967, it had risen to \$255,000, and this year of course there was a further increase to \$300,000, which would indicate that Royal commissions have become big business. Indeed, I am prepared to say that they have become virtually our national sport and I as one citizen am becoming very tired, almost to the point of distraction, of hearing people demanding Royal commissions on every phase of our national life.

I am also prepared to say, and I say it on my own responsibility, that out of the scores of Royal commissions that we have had during the 100 years of Confederation—and you would not be able to find a cemetery big enough to bury all the Royal commissioners that we had investigating facets of our national rights, if you tried to plant them all in one plot and pay them proper tribute—

but there have probably only been five worth their salt and I want to list the ones I think were worth it:

There was the Rowell-Sirois commission in 1938-1940; there was the Massey commission on the arts and sciences in the early '50s; there was the Hall commission on health—

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): The Rand commission.

Mr. Sopha: No, just a moment; the Carter commission on taxation. That is four; I did note another one which escapes me for the moment.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): The Roach commission.

An hon. member: The Glassco commission.

Mr. Sopha: The Glassco commission, thank you. The Glassco commission on the organization of the government of Canada was the fifth one.

There is one aspect of that statement I want to deal with and I want to suggest to the Attorney General by way of expressing the wonderment of one citizen—one citizen who is a member of this assembly—whether the time has not come that we put some guidelines on Royal commissions; the guidelines directed to preserving the reputations of individuals who come before them. It has become perfectly apparent to me—and I am going to buttress this with very solemn and incontrovertible evidence that will commend itself to my friends over there in a moment—that it is not only unjust flagrant denial of justice, but morally wrong for the state, the government, the Legislature to imply in its demands to expose the reputation of an individual to the personal prejudices in point of view of one person.

Having said that, we also see the converse operation. I am prepared to say in my place here tonight that I think Mr. Justice Kelly was awfully charitable to the establishment, he was awfully charitable in his report in the Windfall matter, and his mighty strictures on the evidence as I apprehended it from reading his report, might have gone to the extent that perhaps the senior law officers of the Crown and The Attorney General's Department might have been going with the Queen's Whip to a few doors and rapping on them and saying, "Come with us" and they would have found themselves under indictment before the courts. In other words, without stretching credulity very far, I am

prepared to say that as a result of his own report there might have been other people who were answering at the bar of justice. I just leave it at this, that any person who wants to examine his report *in extenso* will be able to infer from that who they might have been.

But as I apprehend it, as a result of that report three people were charged, only three, of whom I know. Three that are well known—Campbell, who has gone for a new trial, and MacMillan, man and wife—have been charged. There might have been others. But I am not going to dwell upon that charity of Mr. Justice Kelly, I am going to refer to the principle involved on the other side, and that is the tremendous damage that may be done to a person's reputation and his character by the unguarded comments of the Royal commission. I think as a matter of principle it is wrong to ask for the judgment of one man about the character of another.

I seem to remember some quotation by some learned author, and I do not know the source of it, to the effect that no person in this life is entitled to finally judge another, he is not entitled to impose final judgment upon a fellow human being. That is left to "the Man upstairs" to do, that final judgment. I need only refer—as I have done in this House before with the greatest respect to a man whose contribution has been very great in the judicial history and indeed the economic side of our economy—to the very vicious, brutal and violent language used by Ivan Rand about Leo Landreville. Almost everybody I speak to—that is, reasonable people with common sense and understanding, human charity and all the rest of the virtues that are related to human intercourse—seems to agree with that proposition, that Mr. Justice Rand might have stopped short at the point where he said—and everyone would have agreed with him, "Mr. Landreville is no longer fit to sit on the bench as a judge," period, underlined.

Mr. Chairman: I do not want to interrupt the member except to remind him that at this particular point we are dealing with the estimates.

Mr. Sopha: I am talking about suggested guidelines on Royal commissions in Ontario and I use this as an example.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, for which we are paying.

Mr. Sopha: For which we are paying, and I use this as an example—

Mr. Chairman: And this is a federal commission, as the member knows.

Mr. Sopha: I know. But it is helpful to us, I suggest, to point to these examples and for us to resolve them so that the same set of circumstances will not arise in Ontario.

Mr. White: Speak to your friends in Ottawa about that.

Mr. Sopha: I am not responsible for my friends in Ottawa; they will have to answer for themselves. I am responsible to this Legislature and to my leader here for what I say.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: May I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, by all means, if the Minister is serious.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: What does the hon. member think of irresponsible charges that of necessity lead to that type of Royal commission?

Mr. Sopha: Would the Minister be more specific? What has he in mind?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Charges that Royal commissions have disproved.

Mr. Sopha: I do not know of any. If my mind is quick enough to keep up with the Minister—and that is difficult—if the Minister is referring to a statement I made—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I agree with the hon. member on that point.

Mr. Sopha: Just keep quiet for a moment. I made a statement one time to the press that a Cabinet Minister was involved with people in organized crime, and I was proved to be right.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: The hon. member was proved to be wrong.

Mr. Sopha: *Requiescat in pace*, I was proved to be right. The record speaks for itself, just leave it there. Let us not talk about a dead man. Just let him rest.

The other great illustration, of course, and I am going to refer to the argument of a very eminent person, is the Spence commission. I ask the Attorney General that we must be on guard never to allow it to happen in Ontario that any commission is ever appointed here to review any administrative or executive act of any member of the government, and not only the Prime Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That was the sense of my remarks a few moments ago.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Not only the Prime Minister, but also the acts of any member of the executive council, in the performance of their public duties. The principle in a democracy is plain; they must answer, I say to my friend the Provincial Treasurer, at the ballot box, where he will have to answer down in Huron-Bruce within a few months time.

But it might be very useful in this connection to put the words of a great Canadian on the record. The editorial note under the signature of this letter, published in the *Toronto Telegram* on October 4, 1966, informs us that Mr. Frost is the former Prime Minister of Ontario. Very kind of them to say that. We knew him personally when he sat in the seat over there. I am just going to read the last paragraph so it will make the record complete, and it speaks in such a way that I could not possibly collate the thoughts and express them with the articulateness that he expresses.

I might say that I inferred, knowing Mr. Frost as slightly as I do, that Mr. Frost was a very angry man when he wrote this letter. He was angry, and we knew that Mr. Frost was capable of anger, sometimes very easily. Here is what he said:

Today Pierre Sevigny carries his honourable scars. He walks with a cane. It was with the assistance of that cane that he was able to walk into the inquiry carrying the marks of his 72 wounds—proof beyond doubt that this was not the kind of man who was the material from which perjurers and traitors come. Yet this is the man, although years have passed and time has found him guiltless, that is now found guilty not of something he did do but rather what someone else says he might have done.

What kind of justice is this? Surely it is not Canadian. Surely it is not the kind of justice for which Pierre Sevigny fought and suffered. The upshot of all this affair is that this brave soldier is now branded as a potential traitor and perjurer. His reputation is ruined and his wife and children are held up to suffering and contempt. This is a travesty which should be protested with all the strength and vehemence we possess.

We Canadians pride ourselves that we are fair and decent people and I think we are. If our public men want to carry on as political cavemen in an atmosphere where there are no amenities, where no holds are

too low to use and where nothing is barred then I suppose we have to put up with hoping they will injure no one but themselves. When, however, the reputations of individuals and families are treated by these political gladiators as mere dirt on the floor upon which they fight it is time that someone stepped in. It is then not only they who are affected. It places a dark, dirty cloud over us all.

For myself, in this kind of a fight I have no hesitation in going into the corner of a gallant French-Canadian soldier who served in the front lines, who was wounded and left his leg overseas. I hope that people of all political parties dedicated to fair play and decency will do the same thing.

Leslie M. Frost

To which I say, amen. Well spoken. I am glad that someone of his stature in the political life of this nation came forward and said it. And there is this about it: I say to the Attorney General—he will understand, although he probably will not agree with what I mean—that there is in itself, in my view, some danger in always selecting a judge to be the Royal commissioner because there is something very queer and very odd sometimes about the judicial temperament. It is quite remarkable, and I hope no one reports this to them, because I have to earn my living—the press gallery is fairly vacant—sometimes, because of the mere act of climbing those three steps halfway up the wall, as they do, after a few years they start to look down upon the rest of the herd as being somewhat different.

And I did hear a judge—I must report it, I could hardly believe my ears. One time one of Her Majesty's judges—I was at a bar association meeting and they had a panel with a couple of judges on it and one of the judges in response to some sally that was made, said this. He said, "We must remember that we are not ordinary men. We are judges. We are not ordinary men." And Somerset Maugham, I remember, in his reminiscences that he wrote a long time before he did die, in anticipation that he might die, said that his contact with the judicial process led him to wish fervently that judges, to remember their human qualities, instead of that bowl of flowers that they customarily put on the desk in England—there is a bowl of flowers which used to drive away the noxious vapours—that they put a roll of toilet tissue there instead.

Mr. Trotter: His brother was a Lord Justice.

Mr. Sopha: He was, was he?

Mr. Trotter: Yes, his brother.

Mr. Sopha: Well, there is the danger, and I was one Canadian who was very resentful of both these commissions. I was very resentful of them and the views they expressed. I had no sympathy for the proposition that Landreville's fidelity to act as a judge was not impaired. I fervently believe that it was impaired and it was very significant in my community that when this man Cairn started his committee of fair play for Landreville, he could not really get anybody of any stature in the community to join it. There were not very many who joined it, because of the conception that he ought to go; and I firmly believe he ought to go. But Landreville really did not deserve the brutality of Ivan Rand in chastising him for having a villa in Mexico, speaking three languages—

Mr. Bryden: You are doing a cover job on Landreville yourself.

Mr. Sopha: No I am not. I am referring to what Rand said.

Mr. Bryden: You said he is not fit to be a judge.

Mr. Sopha: I am referring to what he said about his personal character. Now is it difficult for you to understand that proposition, that it was needless for him to destroy the man's character the way he did. He ought to have stopped short—and I will repeat this for your benefit—and said, "In my view he is not fit to be a judge," and left the rest of it alone.

Mr. Bryden: That is a pretty good job.

Mr. White: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Sopha: I have reached the end of my remarks. That is all I wanted to say. I wanted to express my view, and I am glad that I have done so, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. White: Even if it was not in order.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I would agree with a great deal of what the hon. member has said, but not all of what he has said. I certainly can subscribe to the letter which he read written by the former Prime Minister.

Perhaps it is not necessary for me to say that I certainly agree that Royal commissions, as I indicated before, are not the answer in every situation and may do more damage to the judges who sit on them and perhaps

damage to the reputation of a person who appears before them beyond what would happen in a judicial inquiry, or some other type of investigation.

I would just like to point out to the hon. member though—and I cannot refrain from saying this—that he makes a case to say that the judge is an ordinary man and I fully understand him. I think most judges accept that and know that, but in their judicial function they are something more. The hon. member out of his own mouth proved this, because, in dealing with the case of Mr. Justice Landreville, he said "I accept that he should not sit on the bench."

Now, Mr. Justice Landreville—it became my very difficult duty to commence and direct a prosecution against him—was acquitted in the sense that he went before a preliminary inquiry and no evidence was found to require him to go further by way of a trial. An ordinary man at that point would have been fully entitled to carry on his calling, his occupation, his profession, whatever it might be. The hon. member himself says that he agrees that Mr. Justice Landreville was to be denied the right to sit again on the bench so he was therefore not in the opinion of the hon. member, an ordinary man.

I do not know that I want to express a view any further than that, except to say that there is a difference. When one sits in a judicial capacity, he must be like Caesar's wife, above even suspicion. Mr. Justice Landreville, I think, appreciated that when he said that it is said there is one law for the rich and another law for the poor, and there seems to be a third law for a judge. He did not agree with that, but that was his remark. He says a judge must not only be appointed but he is almost anointed and he took issue with that.

I think we do expect of our judges an independence which we give them, the salaries that are paid, and an integrity of character which places them above people when they come before them in their judicial capacity.

Mr. Chairman: I know the member for Sudbury was trying to prove his point in connection with Royal commissions by using demonstrations of federal commissions, but I would ask the members, if they will please, to stay with the vote that is before us.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I am perfectly happy to take it as established, in fact it was a long time ago, that the hon. member

for Sudbury does not approve of the Spence commission or the Rand commission regarding Mr. Landreville. I wish to deal with the vote in view of this, Mr. Chairman, and I want first of all to make a comment on the comments the Attorney General made a few minutes ago, when he was suggesting that there may be an excessive use of Royal commissions. This, of course, is always a matter of judgment as to when a Royal commission is appropriate and when it is not. We should bear in mind, of course, there are two quite different types of inquiry which Royal commissions in the past have been asked to undertake.

One is really an inquiry with regard to policy, to make recommendations on difficult matters of policy. I feel that is sometimes abused when governments do not know what policy to adopt and they get rid of the problem for a few years by giving it to a Royal commission. But there is also the other kind, and the one that this government has been most concerned with in recent years, and that is a Royal commission that is set up to investigate facts and try to determine precisely what happened in a certain episode. This is the kind of which we have had a great number in the province.

The Attorney General has said with respect to that type of commission that frequently their work could be better done within the government. I would like to lodge a protest against that proposition, Mr. Chairman. I am not one for having Royal commissions just for the sake of having Royal commissions, but in these fact-finding areas I submit that there are times when it is vital that we have an independent inquiry. I do not think it is good enough for the government to have its own internal inquiry of its own shortcomings. I certainly am not prepared to have any confidence at all in a report that the government makes of an inquiry that it has conducted of itself behind closed doors. And there have been and there will continue to be some important matters that I think should be inquired into.

I do not care how much some of these commissions have cost. They are not terribly expensive actually, as the cost of government goes nowadays, but I think they are quite legitimate. I think there should have been an independent inquiry into the Prudential affair. I think it is quite wrong to say that can be adequately dealt with by a secret inquiry by a body whose performance is itself under inquiry. I do not see how that can be regarded as a satisfactory solution.

However, Mr. Chairman, I will not go any further than that. There is just one other observation I would like to make with regard to this item which is for \$300,000. I am suggesting to the Attorney General that he is really playing with the House when he comes and tells us that he wants \$300,000 for Royal commissions. He knows perfectly well that he wants a great deal more money than that for Royal commissions in the coming fiscal year. As I recall his listing of a few minutes ago, there are half a dozen of them already on the way, some of them just getting nicely started, so they will certainly go for the whole of the year and beyond. And then the way this government fumbles the ball, you can assume that there probably will be another half dozen set up to recover its fumbles for it, even assuming that it is going to be in office only for a few more months.

But I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, leaving aside my second comment and just relying on the facts as we now know them, that the commissions that we now know are in existence and are operating, are going to cost a lot more money in the coming fiscal year than \$300,000. I believe that the Attorney General should come here with a realistic estimate. He should come and ask us to vote what he knows he is going to have to spend. We do not expect him to come in here for a figure for some Royal commission that may be set up four or five months hence—which none of us anticipates at the moment—but at least he could give us a reasonable estimate of the costs that are going to be involved in the commissions that are now in operation.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I think I would have to say this to the hon. member, as I can recall and as I have before me, there are just three Royal commissions actively working at the present time. There is the Royal commission on Atlantic Acceptance Corporation, which I think the hon. member perhaps noted in the newspapers, has completed its public hearings and I would think is now drawing its work to a close. It might take some time yet but the bulk of the hearings in the drawing-out of evidence, the examination of witnesses and that part of the investigation has been completed. There is the commission on The Workmen's Compensation Act, which should not be a very expensive long-drawn-out study, I should not think. And there is the Rand inquiry—

Mr. Bryden: Well, they are off to Australia.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, no, they are back. I met the hon. Mr. Rand in this building the day before yesterday. I understood when that study of labour relations matters was commenced, it would not be a protracted study and should not take long. So, therefore we have three.

We do not pay for what I call a continuing research facility, the law reform commission; that is not in the Attorney General's office, I believe. No, it is the commission on civil rights which is not ours. I think to suggest to you that you vote \$300,000—I think I would probably be going a bit far afield if I came and asked for more—that we might very well come within that. I think it is reasonable.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I will not pursue that matter any further.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: May I be permitted to say just one word? I intended to say it when the hon. member for Sudbury was here. He mentioned there were just three persons charged as a result of the Windfall inquiry and I intended to say to the House, and particularly for his information, there were five and the names are Breckenridge, charged with wash trading and now committed for trial—the MacMillan trial has been concluded—

Mr. Bryden: It is out of order to refer to any of them.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Is it not in order in this House?

Mr. Bryden: It is out of order to make any reference to a case where it has actually been set down for trial.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The trial has been heard. I am just saying in this House that there were five persons. The names are known, I see nothing out of order in that.

Mr. Bryden: It is against the rules—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I agree it would be out of order if I were to comment on the trial.

Mr. Bryden: No, even to mention it exists.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest that at this time we should deal with any estimates in connection with the commissions but to avoid the details.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, just before this particular item is left, I take it that the Smith committee does not have the exalted name of a Royal commission, even though its inquiry is on all-fours with the inquiries of

many bodies that have been called Royal commissions. For that reason I take it it would not be under the estimates of the Attorney General. Am I correct in that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is the tax report? That I think is not in my department.

Mr. Bryden: It is not in the Attorney General's estimates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 201 carry? The member for Bracondale.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Before I commence speaking I want to inform the Chairman that I am going to be speaking on omissions in these estimates. I am going to be speaking on crime and the effect that the police have on the enforcement of crime, and the lack of any estimates here to cover those particular points. Mr. Chairman, I point this out to you because, with all due respect, sometimes you are prone to interject that the item is out of order before the speaker has a chance to develop his theme. I have always abided by your rulings in the past and I like to think that I have been in order, so I thought that I would make that preamble that I am speaking on crime and police and I can find no place in these estimates where this matter would come.

Mr. Chairman: It is very difficult for me to anticipate your remarks but I should judge that there is no reason to deal with crime or police methods under this vote. This would likely come under the Ontario police commission, vote 202.

Mr. Ben: Unfortunately, it does not. It is a lack of provision by The Department of the Attorney General to cover the matters that I am going to discuss now, which would be under the main office expenditures and I would ask that you bear with me, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: I will be guided by the Minister as to whether he has any funds in his estimates—

Mr. Ben: He has, as I will develop.

Mr. Chairman, in July of—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, may I say that the Ontario police commission comes under vote 202. The police commission governs and controls, reporting through the Attorney General, all the police forces in the province of Ontario. The enforcement of our

laws, therefore, insofar as the police forces are concerned, sir, would come under the criminal branch and I think that is what the hon. member is referring to. So the remarks should come, I would suggest, under vote 202.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I am content to abide by the hon. Minister's suggestion. I know that he will permit, after the statement, a discussion of this matter under vote 202 and I trust that I will be permitted to make my remarks under that item.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Attorney General what disposition he made of the communication he received from the Windsor chamber of commerce requesting that some type of legislation be enacted concerning individuals engaged in the home repair field.

Last September they sent to the Minister a copy of the licensing and regulations controlling residential builders and residential maintenance and alteration contractors in the state of Michigan. They sent this to the Minister in the hope that some type of legislation would be forthcoming from his department. Has the department reviewed the communication received by the Minister from the chamber of commerce and does he contemplate any legislation in that field?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I must confess, Mr. Chairman, I seem to recall that I received such a communication and I think that there was an acknowledgment and perhaps an opinion was expressed in the reply. I am not certain, but I could check this for the hon. member. But I would say now that if what he represents were proposed, if fraudulent actions were being carried on they would be investigated by our police, probably by the local police, but particularly by the anti-racket squad of the Ontario Provincial Police. If it is a matter of contract, of course, such as misrepresentation or fraud in the civil sense, there are laws to deal with this. I would not think that any new legislation is necessary to deal with the situation which is represented by the hon. member.

Mr. Newman: Does the Minister contemplate licensing individuals engaged in the home repair field?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Not as far as I am aware, Mr. Chairman, not in anything that is not presently covered by licensing. I have no

thought at the moment of going beyond that. There are many areas of industry and endeavour that are licensed, but I do not think that we licence builders—construction people and people who build houses and put roofs and chimneys on them, plasterers and masons—I do not think that we should get into a licensing of this type of construction and, as I say, if people who are enterprising become fraudulent in the zeal of their enterprise, we have laws to catch them.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I then simply refer the Minister to the communication of September 8, 1966? He or his department can review it and then possibly before the estimates are finished, he can give me a definitive answer.

Mr. L. A. Braithwaite (Etobicoke): Mr. Chairman, with reference to the comments made by the Attorney General with reference to fraudulent builders, I do not think at this moment that there is any way of controlling them when you have a new area such as my riding and many of the ridings where new building is going on. Many times homeowners buy a house with all the money they have, used for a down payment. Afterwards they find that many things are wrong, which go beyond the limit of proper and good workmanship and which they can never get the builders to repair. I think the member for Windsor-Walkerville had a point when he asked about the licensing of repair people. I think that it should include builders as well.

I must disagree with the hon. Attorney General because I think that there is no way in which these builders are covered now. I think there is no way you can get them unless you take them to a civil court and I would like to hear the Attorney General's comments on how these people might be controlled. I am talking about the few unscrupulous builders, the small percentage who are fleecing property owners right and left. People have to buy a house and sometimes when they do, it is awful. You will find holes in the foundation and roofs that leak; you find all sorts of difficulties and there is no way that you can get them—

Mr. Chairman: I have hesitated to interfere with the member, but I thought he was going to finish his statement at any time. I scarcely think that this matter is before us under the head office vote.

Mr. Braithwaite: I beg to disagree, Mr. Chairman, because—

Mr. Chairman: Will you show me where there is some money in either vote 202 or in vote 201 in connection with this matter?

Mr. Braithwaite: The Attorney General just made reference to it and I do not think we should go past the question of fraudulent builders without the Attorney General saying something about it.

Mr. Chairman: The purpose at the present time is to deal with the estimates of his department and to do this in an orderly way, vote by vote.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I accept your ruling but I could answer the hon. member briefly if you care to permit me.

Mr. Chairman: Well, as long as we do not get into a discussion that is not properly before us because then I would have to open it up to all members of the House.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would simply say that I certainly would not for a moment presume to advise the hon. member for Etobicoke; he is a lawyer. But if it were a building contract under which the fraud were committed, then, as I said before, and I will repeat it, there are means to proceed by means of civil or possibly criminal prosecution, depending on the nature of the fraud or the act of the builder or criminal.

If it concerns the purchase of a house that has been finished and defects are found in it, it is simply a matter of the buyer making his inspection, being advised by counsel and having somebody look at that property. If there are hidden defects that have been misrepresented, there is action to recover. I am bearing in mind the Chairman's ruling that this is perhaps not in order, but I did not want to pass it without giving at least a brief answer.

Mr. Braithwaite: I want to ask another question, Mr. Chairman; I cannot let that go past—

Mr. Chairman: Is it on the same question?

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Then I am ruling it out of order.

Mr. Braithwaite: I just want to make one comment, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: I am ruling it out of order. I am sorry.

Mr. Braithwaite: I have another question, Mr. Chairman; this is a different question.

With reference to The Department of Highways, we talked with the Minister of Highways (Mr. Comme) during his estimates about the question of expropriation. At that time several members of this party brought out certain methods of operations by members of his department which we felt should be looked into.

At that time, the Minister of Highways said that he was going to ask the Attorney General if he would look into the methods of operations by some of these assessors and other people who work for The Department of Highways. I want to ask the Attorney General now if he has any concrete plan for such an investigation, and just what has transpired between him and The Department of Highways.

Mr. Chairman: I do not know that this is before us under vote 201.

I am going to have to ask the members, if they will, please, to stay with the vote. This is what you have asked me to do and the only way that you can follow through in sequence and get through the estimates is, under the circumstances, to adhere to the vote itself.

Mr. Braithwaite: With respect, Mr. Chairman, I cannot see where else this might come up. It is a general thing and I thought this was under main office, it might be the best place to ask it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Under 210, I would suggest, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, before we leave this vote, I would like to know, if we continue the discussion on licensing, would it be under the administration of justice, vote 207?

Mr. Chairman: I should judge that what you are talking about would come under Financial and Commercial Affairs.

Mr. Trotter: This would also have to do with laying charges because the OPP comes under this too. Is it different? It does affect the administration of justice, I think.

Mr. Chairman: If it deals with police matters, it would be under vote 202.

Mr. Trotter: Vote 202?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Vote 211, I think.

Mr. Chairman: The Attorney General suggests 211.

Vote 201 agreed to.

On vote 202:

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I started to say that in July of 1965 the President of the United States, recognizing that nation's crime problem, established what was called his "commission on law enforcement and administration of justice."

This commission consisted of 19 commissioners, 63 staff members, 175 consultants and hundreds of advisors. In carrying out their task the commissioners even paid a visit to Canada and they spent two days speaking with people connected with the administration of the metropolitan police force here in Toronto. In the process of developing their findings and the recommendations contained in their report, the commission called three national conferences, conducted five national surveys, held hundreds of meetings and interviewed tens of thousands of persons, including, as I have already stated, citizens of this province. Their report, titled "The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society", was handed down last month and I must say it makes most interesting reading.

Mr. Chairman, since the conditions in this country parallel those within the United States, we invariably follow the trend that they establish. I think that it behooves us all, especially this government, to give serious consideration to the contents of this particular report. The report makes some 200 specific recommendations, concrete steps the commission believes can lead to a safer and more just society. They call for a greatly increased effort on the part of the federal government, the states, the counties, the cities, civic organizations, religious groups, business groups and individual citizens.

These are some of the shocking statistics that this report reveals, and all the checked statistics—as published in the year book and as revealed in the latest report that is going to be coming out from the Metropolitan Toronto police departments—I said before, are paralleled here in this country. The report points out, Mr. Chairman, that in the United States one boy in six is referred to the juvenile courts. In 1965 more than two million Americans, about one out of every 100, were received in prisons or juvenile training schools, or placed on probation.

Another commission study suggests that about 40 per cent of all male children now living in the United States will be arrested for non-traffic offences during their lives. An independent survey of 1,700 persons found that 91 per cent of the sample admitted they

had committed acts for which they might have received jail or prison sentences. An important finding of another survey involving 10,000 representative American households indicated that there is far more crime than is ever reported, that burglaries occur about three times more often than are reported to the police; aggravated assaults and larcenies, which we call theft over \$50, occur twice as often as they are reported and that there are 50 per cent more robberies than are reported. In some areas only one tenth of the total number of certain crimes is reported.

A commission study conducted in high crime areas of two large cities found that 43 per cent of the respondents said they stayed off the streets at night because of their fear of crime; 35 per cent said they did not speak to strangers any more because of their fear of crime; 21 per cent said they use cars and cabs at night because of their fear of crime, and 20 per cent said they would like to move to another neighbourhood because of their fear of crime.

Mr. Chairman, being a resident of this city, you have been reading in the paper the fear that is prevailing in the city of Toronto because of a person running at large who has been accused of rapes and molesting children. I heard recently over the radio, a commentator advising people how to conduct themselves at night, not to get into the grasp of this individual.

The commission's report also showed that young people commit a disproportionate share of crime and the number of young people in their society, as in ours, is growing at a much faster rate than the total population. Although the 15- to 17-year-old age group represents only 5.4 per cent of the population, it accounts for 12.8 per cent of all arrests; 15- and 16-year-olds have the highest arrest rate in the United States.

Mr. Chairman, I regret that for a number of reasons I cannot correlate the American figures to Ontario's population. For one, I have had the report of the commission for too short a time to obtain the necessary statistics. Secondly, the report of the Metropolitan Toronto police commission for the year 1966 has not as yet been published. Thirdly, the police youth bureau is not issuing the usual comprehensive annual report this year.

But I would draw your attention, Mr. Chairman, to the *Canada Year Book* for the year 1966 on the section dealing with young adult offenders. It had this to say:

Attention has been focussed in recent years on the needs of the young adult

offenders of from 16 to 24 years of age, who constitute a promising field for modern reception and diagnostic facilities equipped with education, trade training and other formative disciplines.

And this is the sentence I want to bring to your attention:

While young men and women in this age group account for under 18.7 per cent of the total population 16 years of age or over, they form over half the criminal population committing indictable offences. The group includes some of the most daring offenders—who are learning to be experienced criminals—as well as first offenders likely to be turned from crime by further education and training.

There were 22,753 young adult offenders in 1963, an increase of 2,940 over the previous year. Although each of the two age groups and others in both sexes contributed to the increase, almost half of it was in the male group of 16 to 17 years of age.

The *Canada Year Book* for 1966 only gives the 1963 figures as the latest figures. However I pointed out last year that the increase in the offences committed by juveniles has been increasing at the rate of 14 per cent per annum, and this increase took place in 1966, the increase being over the figures for 1965.

Insofar as adults are concerned, I regret to inform this House that our figures are worse than those in the United States. In the United States, it has been pointed out, more than two million Americans were received in prisons, training schools or placed on probation. In 1965, the corresponding year, in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto alone, 62,545 persons were arrested, another 186,212 summonsed, and 33,450 warrants of committal were executed. These figures, as you might have guessed, Mr. Chairman, do not include juveniles.

Frightening as these figures may appear, I must add that during 1966 the incidence of known crime increased by 12.47 per cent over 1965. And do not let the members from the rural areas feel virtuous and think that this is not representative of the whole province but pertains to Toronto only. Percentage-wise we can apply these figures to any community in Ontario. It is very clear from these statistics that far too many people in this country are occupied or preoccupied with crime. None of us is in a position to cast the first stone.

In his report to the board of police commissioners of the municipality of Metropoli-

tan Toronto, Magistrate C. O. Bick, its chairman, made this statement and this report was just issued last month:

The upsurge in criminality in this community generally follows the pattern showing in other countries. It presents a challenge which cannot be met simply by more police, better training or more and better equipment. Indeed, one might wonder about the law of diminishing returns in law enforcement if it were not for the fact that some part of the increase in reported crime is due to more and better enforcement, and a large part is due to changes in society's attitude toward the rule of law. As former Vice-President of the United States Richard Nixon recently said:

"A major national problem is the deterioration of respect for the rule of law all across America. That deterioration can be traced directly to the spread of the corrosive doctrine that every citizen possesses an inherent right to decide for himself which laws to disobey and when to disobey them. The doctrine has become a contagious national disease. In the grey areas of social and economic legislation, there are hundreds of laws. Honest men can and do disagree on the wisdom and justice of these laws, but if every man is to decide for himself which to obey and which to ignore, the end result is anarchy."

As a matter of fact, I do believe that the hon. Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman), made a statement recently almost in the same vein. I continue:

There is undoubtedly a greater tolerance on the part of many members of society toward breaking the law. This moral blurring of what is right and what is wrong is an attitude which inevitably results in more offences being committed against the criminal law, with its resultant burden upon the rest of the community to provide more and more police, more courts, and more jails. It is unrealistic to hope that this trend can be affected to any appreciable degree by the police. Some suggestions will be made later in an attempt to find some means of improvement.

The chairman then went on to discuss electronic data processing and made mention of the fact that at that time a committee working under the supervision of the Ontario police commission and representing the Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Metropolitan Toronto Police, was investigating ways in

which some of those techniques could be used without costly duplication of effort. He ended the paragraph with this statement:

To a very large extent I believe it is necessary for the senior levels of government to provide much of the basic equipment and services so essential to carry out any modern data processing. Just as in the United States, where the President has announced adding to the funds of his law enforcement assistance programme to help states and municipalities, there is in this country a parallel need for providing provincewide and countrywide assistance in the battle against criminal activities. This might be accomplished in the province in a similar fashion to which Telex has been provided.

I understand, Mr. Chairman, that this committee has now reported and has made certain recommendations to the Attorney General, although at the present time I do not know exactly what these recommendations were. I compliment the Attorney General on taking these steps.

These statements made by the commissioner point out the truth of the statements I made earlier; namely that there is a parallel in Canada to what is happening in the United States and that senior levels of government here in Canada must step in with countrywide assistance in the battle against criminal activities.

What are some of the ways in which senior levels of government, and this government in particular, can help?

Police agencies cannot preserve the public peace unless the public participates more fully than it now does in law enforcement. As the report of the President's commission points out, bad community feeling does more than create tensions and engender actions against the police that in turn may embitter policemen and trigger irrational responses from them.

The first step in the implementation of a community relations programme would be to return control of the police to the civilians, if I may be permitted to use that term. At the present time the boards of commissioners of police are composed of members of the judiciary with the highest locally elected officials sitting as members *ex officio*.

One can understand why this system was introduced in the first instance. The magistrate and the county court judge were two of the most respected individuals in the community and held in high esteem by all citizens. It was felt that by placing control

of the police in their hands the police would be kept out of the back pockets of the local politicians.

To date the reverse is true. Too many people resent the judiciary being involved in the administration of the police force on the ground that it is for that reason the word of a policeman is accepted against the word of a citizen. This may or may not be true, but nevertheless it is the complaint that I receive most frequently.

I say that this may or may not be true advisedly, for I accept that the word of a policeman in court is more readily acceptable than the word of an ordinary citizen, although I do not accept that this is so for the reason that the judiciary in essence now controls the police.

At any rate, as has been said many times before, not only is it important that justice be done but it is equally important that justice appear to be done.

Our party has continually pleaded for the appointment of an ombudsman without, I regret to say, much success. The chairman may wonder how a discussion of the appointment of an ombudsman can come under these estimates. Well frankly perhaps it does not, and for that reason I will not dwell on the subject. I raise it only because the report points out that formal machinery for the investigation of complaints against police activities or employees is an absolute necessity within every police department. It is also important that the complainant be personally informed of the results of the investigation and the disposition of the complaint.

But the report also pointed out that the police are only one of a number of official agencies with whom the public has contact. Incompetence and mistreatment by housing, sanitation, health, building, zoning, welfare and other officials, can be as injurious to citizens as mistreatment by police and should be equally subject to public scrutiny. These officials, like policemen are public servants.

The commission recommended that:

Every jurisdiction should provide adequate procedures for full and fair processing of all citizen grievances and complaints about the conduct of any public officer or employee.

In essence Mr. Chairman, what the commission is recommending is what this party, through its spokesman the hon. member for Downsview, has been recommending for as long as I can remember, the appointment of an ombudsman.

A community relations programme would not be a public relations programme to "sell the police image" to the people; nor would it be the exclusive business of specialized units carrying out special programmes. Such a programme would play a part in the selection, training, deployment and promotion of personnel; the execution of field procedures in the enforcement, as I have mentioned; of departmental discipline and in the handling of citizens' complaints.

The Metropolitan Toronto police have taken a long step toward achieving such a programme with their implementation of the practice of recognizing private citizens who have assisted the police in maintaining law and order. In many cases the assistance given has simply been exercising alertness in recognition of potential trouble. But many have risked, and indeed received, bodily injury. One, Jack Blanc, lost his life.

In the case of Mr. Blanc, the metropolitan council on the recommendation of the board of commissioners, obtained special legislation to permit the making of a grant to Mr. Blanc's widow.

On the subject of compensation to those who are killed while assisting the police or who die from injuries received during such assistance, Magistrate Bick had this to say:

Although much has been said about compensation to victims of crime, it would be a simple matter to more quickly enable a council to act in such cases if section 25 of The Police Act was amended. Under that section a council may grant pecuniary aid or other assistance to the widows and children of members of police forces who are killed or die from injuries received or from illness contracted in the discharge of duties. This could be broadened to say that a council, on the recommendation of a board of commissioners of police, could also grant assistance in the case of civilians who suffer while assisting the police voluntarily.

In view of the discussions that have taken place in this Legislature earlier this session and the remarks of Magistrate Bick, which I have just quoted, perhaps the government will support such an amendment.

One of the most important recommendations, insofar as I am concerned, sir, is the one that the police departments should develop and enunciate policies that give personnel specific guidance for the common situations requiring exercise of police discretion.

Policies, the recommendation stated, should cover such matters among others as the issuance of orders to citizens regarding their movements or activities, the handling of minor disputes, the safeguarding of the right of free speech and free assembly—a right that is quickly disappearing in the city of Toronto—the selection of and use of investigation methods and the decision whether or not to use arrest in specific situations involving specific crimes.

In Toronto, the police will arrest you if you make or try to make a speech which will or may arouse the people. Now why anyone would go to the trouble to make a speech which would not arouse the populace is beyond my comprehension, but in Toronto a rousing speech will land you in the jug.

Mr. Sopha: You have not heard some of these Cabinet Ministers.

Mr. Ben: The hundreds of thousands who spoke on the soap boxes of Hyde Park must be spinning in their graves at the thought that in good old British and Tory Toronto free speech is banned, and it is the speaker and not those who would prevent him from speaking who are arrested.

Now picketing is another example of a situation where the police are sorely tried to make the proper decision. The hon. Attorney General made a statement which pointed out the lawlessness and violence attendant upon the truckers' strike. We have had long discussions in this House regarding the Tilco strike and the newspaper strike in Oshawa. We see on the television violence actually take place. Yet the handling of these situations has not been uniform.

In some instances arrests have been made and charges laid, in others they have not. In most instances, however, the police have been accused of brutality, dereliction of duty, siding with one party or the other, or of all these charges simultaneously.

It is time that clear guide lines were laid down to govern the conduct of the police in these situations.

At the present time the policeman is protected against lawsuits brought by citizens if he had reasonable and probable cause for acting as he did, even though hindsight indicates that he acted improperly. The policeman is protected, but not the rights of the citizen.

What of his rights? Surely he should have some protection, some recourse to the law.

I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that in this regard a citizen should have a recourse against the board of commissioners of police, not against the policeman if he acted in good conscience. But if, even though he acted in good conscience, the citizen suffered as a result of that policeman's conduct, he ought to have a compensable right, he ought to have recourse and receive damages for what he suffered. Now, the solution in my mind, Mr. Chairman, would be to permit a citizen to bring an action against the police department.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is in the Act now.

Mr. Ben: If the policeman could establish that he had reasonable and probable cause, then there is no cause of action because, as I stated, the policeman acted with reasonable and probable cause. Hindsight may prove him wrong, but he so acted.

I feel, Mr. Chairman, that the citizen, without condemning the policeman, ought to have a right against the board of police commissioners, who would not punish the policeman but would compensate the victim, in this instance the citizen.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps when the member is looking for some information, it might be a time for me to interject, and remind him that he has suggested that I have ruled him out of order on a number of instances. The reason is that there has been an understanding among the members of this assembly that we have a lead-off speaker from each of the three parties and then a response, of course, from the Minister in charge. I thought that the member's remarks tonight have been over many of the votes, dealing with several things and really should be contained in a lead-off speech, or included in the Budget or Throne debate. What is before us now is the actual estimates.

Mr. Ben: I will not quibble with you, Mr. Chairman, but I would point out that I have been dealing with one aspect, and that is the police and the crime rate. I agree with you, Mr. Chairman, in that perhaps the lead-off speaker could have covered this, but then on the other hand he could have also, if he took the time, covered every single item in these estimates.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He did pretty well, I think.

Mr. Ben: I am sure the hon. member for Downsview took that as a compliment and, coming from the Attorney General, all the higher.

Mr. Chairman, in their recommendations the commission stated that there ought to be three types of law enforcement officers. There was the community service officer, a police officer and a police agent.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Is this the American President's commission?

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Is this the committee?

Mr. Ben: Yes, this is in the committee and, Mr. Chairman, it makes a lot of sense.

The community service officer would be a young man, between the ages of 17 and 21 with the aptitude, integrity and stability necessary to perform police work. He would work on the street under close supervision and in close cooperation with the police officer and police agent. He would not have full law enforcement powers or carry arms, nor would he perform only clerical duties as many police cadets now do.

The community service officer might be accepted as such, despite a minor offence record. A commission recommends this in the United States, Mr. Chairman, because they have difficulty in the United States recruiting officers from minority groups to carry out their function in areas where they have minority groups, because too many of these minority groups have criminal records involving minor offences.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not like to interfere with the hon. member's remarks. They are very interesting, but I want to tell him that I have read some parts of the report, some comments on it, particularly newspaper comments. But if he is taking the time of this House during my estimates, Mr. Chairman, to acquaint me, which he is doing in a very erudite way, with the content of the President's commission on crime in the United States—and I disagree with him that conditions are parallel here—then I do not think he is in order.

If it will make him feel better, I will be glad to tell him that I shall read that report, as I am intending to do anyway, but I do not believe it is too helpful—many of the recommendations in that report, if the hon. member looks at our situation, he will find we adopted them long before they were thought of by the President's commission. We have them in effect. And the situations are not parallel. And to talk about the community service officer—well, we have the cadets, which almost parallel that recommendation. But I do not feel, Mr. Chairman, that in my estimates a

recounting of the findings of a commission in another country, where conditions, I submit, are not parallel, is really part of this vote.

Mr. Chairman: I have reminded the member that I thought it properly would come under the Throne debate or the Budget debate and I would ask him at this time to keep his remarks relative to this vote, if he would, please.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): With all due deference, Mr. Chairman, to your ruling and to the suggestion of the Attorney General, this is the vote of the Ontario police commission. Now, it is assumed that under this commission we attempt to control crime and police in the province of Ontario. My hon. friend is suggesting that in his view there are some things in a similar pattern in the United States; that in his view—I repeat—might be incorporated into our conditions here in Ontario that would allow for better enforcement and better control of criminals, and so on. How my hon. friend can say that this does not come under the vote for the police commission in the broad sense of that term, I do not know. It seems to me it is completely under it. If my hon. friend feels that sufficient vigilance is not being exercised under the police commission in Ontario and that methods employed in other jurisdictions might fit into the condition in Ontario to better conditions, then I think that he is certainly in order.

I was going to say while I was on my feet, Mr. Chairman, you suggested, sir, as you have every right to suggest, but no right to impose, I would remind you, that the member should not speak so long. There is no limitation, none whatever, on how long a member can speak irrespective—

Mr. Chairman: I did not suggest there was.

Mr. Oliver: Well, I almost gathered the implication but if you did not suggest it then I will not say that you even implied it. But the lead-off speeches are things by themselves and any member on any particular vote can talk as long as he likes so long as his remarks are relevant to the vote. So far as my friend is concerned in the matter that he is discussing, to my way of thinking it is completely within the ambit of this vote, because it is quite a broad vote. The Ontario police commission covers the prevention of crime and police services throughout the province.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest to the member for Grey South that we are dealing

with this particular vote and already I have jotted down “country-wide jurisdiction”, “public participation”, “ombudsman”, and a number of other things that certainly are not relevant to this vote.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, through you to the hon. Attorney General, I would point out to him that I have not been critical of him, although it is usual during the estimates to criticize the Minister. I have not made one criticism of him or the administration of his department because, Mr. Chairman, in reading this report I acknowledge the statement he has made, that in many respects we are ahead of the United States of America in our enforcement of laws, and I am willing to give the Minister the benefit of that doubt. However, the hon. member for Grey South has pointed out that there are places where improvements can be made and we can learn from our neighbours to the south. I have not been offering these remarks as criticisms of the hon. Attorney General, but as suggestions—and I trust that he will be open-minded enough to accept them in that vein.

Mr. Chairman, I was discussing the three types of police officers; this we do not have in this jurisdiction and I think we can well apply these recommendations to this jurisdiction for the reasons that I am going to state. I finished before the point of order was raised, describing what a community service officer would be—a young man who would carry out certain functions but not necessarily the enforcement of laws; he would not be armed but would be more in the form of a police officer working with the youngsters.

I pointed out also, Mr. Chairman, that a young man could be accepted as a community service officer even though he had a minor offence record. He would maintain close contact with and work among the juveniles and perform many of the service functions now taking up so much of a policeman's time—settling domestic and neighbourhood disputes, tagging parked cars, serving summonses, acting as liaison between the community and the department. He could even qualify himself and be promoted, as soon as an opening occurred, to a police officer.

The police officer would perform the police duties of enforcing laws and investigating those crimes that could be solved by immediate follow-up, performing routine patrol duties, rendering emergency service, enforcing traffic regulations and generally performing those functions which are now performed by the uniformed branch of a metropolitan police department.

To enter the police department as a police agent would require at least a BA degree, or its equivalent—this is a police agent, not a police officer. The job could also be opened to police officers who could not meet the educational requirements but who had qualified themselves sufficiently through advancement and proficiency in the ranks for this position. In every department there are detectives and patrolmen who could qualify immediately for this position.

The police agent would do whatever basic police jobs are the most complicated, sensitive and demanding. He might be a juvenile officer or a community relations officer, or he might be in uniform patrolling a high-crime, restless district. He might be a career specialist in narcotics or robbery or homicide. He would be the most knowledgeable and responsible member of the police team.

Mr. Chairman, to bring such a system about would require not only directives from on high from the provincial government, but also financial assistance. I believe, and I put this forth for the guidance of the Attorney General, that the police department, like the board of education would have to be divorced for fund raising purposes from the general budget of the city and a special levy made for law enforcement and the administration of justice.

The provincial government could then make grants to the municipalities in the same way that it does for education, but a little more liberally. This would enable police salaries to be raised in order to attract more college graduates to police service and make the salaries competitive with other occupations and professions that seek the same graduates.

The government could bring mobility of labour into police service by making pensions transferrable. This would enable highly experienced officers in communities where there are sufficient numbers with such experience, to move to other communities where their services are much needed.

The Attorney General's Department could even establish a pool of experienced men for use wherever their services were required. Funds and financial and technical assistance could be provided to local departments to carry out surveys and make recommendations for improvements. Training could, and should, be standardized throughout the whole province and I am happy to learn that this is a step that the Attorney General is taking and that they are assuming the responsibilities for the Metropolitan Toronto police college.

I also believe, Mr. Chairman, that full- or part-time lawyers should be on the staffs of all departments to give them expert legal advice when and as needed.

All this can only be done if this government wills that it be done and insists that it be done. It can only will that it be done and insist that it be done if it assists it to be done. Furthermore, it should be apparent that it must be done, and the time to start having it done is now.

As I stated before, Mr. Chairman, I have not been critical of the Attorney General. I made one critical statement. These are recommendations which I think are worthy of the consideration of the Attorney General and I trust that he will give them serious study and try to implement the recommendations that I have made.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Attorney General whether any progress was made in the preceding year toward the reduction of the number of forces in Ontario? Do we have fewer police forces this year than we had at this time last year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Chairman. During the year the number of municipal police forces in the province were reduced. There were seven forces abolished by the local police governing authority with the permission of the Ontario police commission, and in those cases the area policing was provided by the Ontario Provincial Police.

One township force was merged with a larger force in an adjoining township; two municipalities with village status each engaged one constable on a full-time basis to serve them both. I have a note here somewhere with reference to the actual figures on reductions, if I can locate it. Seven were abolished with the Ontario Provincial Police moving in, and I have further material, if the hon. member is interested, on the possibilities of amalgamations which have been studied by the—

Mr. Sopha: Could you tell us briefly about that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The possible areas of amalgamation as a result of studies made by the police commission, as we see them at the moment are 10 in number: (1) the cities of Port Arthur and Fort William where I think The Department of Municipal Affairs is also engaged in a study; (2) the city of North Bay with the townships of West Ferris and

Widdifield—quite a study has been done there; (3) the cities of Ottawa and Eastview, including the village of Rockcliffe Park and the townships of Gloucester and Nepean; (4) the city of Oshawa and the town of Whitby; (5) the town of Ajax and the township of Pickering; (6) exclusive of Metropolitan Toronto, the police forces in the county of York, it is considered, could be merged; (7) the city of Barrie with the townships of Innisfil and Essa; (8) the towns of Midland and Penetanguishene and the designated portion of the township of Tiny, it is designated as a police area; (9) the towns of Brampton, Port Credit and Streetsville, with the townships of Chinguacousy and Toronto and the village of Bolton, as one area; (10) the cities of Kitchener and Waterloo and the township of Waterloo. Quite a study has been done on this and I think considerable progress made toward achieving some unification in several of the areas.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister if there have been any studies concerning the consolidation of the county police forces in Essex county?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I must say, I did not turn the page. There were four more areas. The other four areas were (11) the city of Galt and the towns of Preston and Hespeler; (12) the town of Stoney Creek and the township of Saltfleet; (13) the city of Sarnia and the township of Sarnia; (14) the town of Grimsby and township of Grimsby North. I must say to the hon. member, looking at this material which I had omitted to notice, I did not quite get his question.

Mr. Newman: I understood that the town of Amherstburg was quite interested in having a consolidated police force for the whole county.

I do not know, sir, whether they had approached the Minister and asked for studies on that, but the Minister has answered the problem, I think because he did not mention the consolidation of police forces in the county of Essex.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I have to inform the hon. member the report on that study has not come to me as yet. I understand the study is going on.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister if the police commission has undertaken any studies concerning a standard wage for police forces throughout the province? In my own community, Judge Bruce Macdonald, who had been chairman of the police commission, recommended that and concurred

with the recommendation of the police association in the city.

I would like to ask the Minister if the police commission has undertaken any studies concerning a standard police wage for the whole province?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I am sure I have the knowledge to answer that without asking a member of the police commission, and the answer is no.

Municipalities have, as the hon. member knows—it is implied in his question—very different bases of remuneration and pay for their police forces and that area of local government, I think, must be left to them. There are provisions in the Act that they must provide adequate equipment and adequate forces and adequate means of policing, and I think the hon. member is perhaps aware that in more than one municipality the police commission has been concerned—there have been some difficulties through the year—with forces complaining about their pay and difficulties with local police commissions and local municipal councils.

We have been able, I think, to resolve those satisfactorily, but conditions and rates of pay vary considerably throughout the province. They vary with the size of the force. They vary with the population in the municipality to be policed. They vary with the industrial position, the type of policing that has to be done. They vary with the nature of the population and the areas of the city and so on.

I think it would be perhaps impracticable—I was almost going to say impossible—to bring about one standard wage across the board, perhaps even in our Minimum Wage Act. It is my understanding that we have areas where even the minimum wage is varied.

Now perhaps a study might be made to see how close these could approach, but the efforts of the commission are directed to seeing that sufficient wage is offered by the police commissions, or police boards and committees of council, that they obtain good men, that they are properly equipped to do their work as policemen. I think beyond that to establish one rate across the board would be a rather impracticable thing to attempt.

Mr. Newman: Well, Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the Minister to take under consideration studies that would look into the possibility of maybe two different wage scales, one for the big Metro area and one for the smaller community.

The fact that there is such a differential leads to a considerable amount of raiding, if I may use that term, where the law enforcing officers from a smaller community are enticed into a larger community and as a result the smaller community has difficulty getting the type of officer they would like.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to focus attention with the Attorney General on the question of procedural safeguards to people taken into custody. I refer specifically to what I think could be categorized as the absurd result which has come out in the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of O'Connor versus the Queen, and I would like to have an exchange of view with the Attorney General about this.

The case is a relatively simple one, but the conclusion which the court came to seems to me to require some intervention by the Attorney General, in whatever discussions he is having in Ottawa, to ensure that individual citizens are protected in some way when taken into custody, either by arrest or by being deprived in some way of their freedom of movement.

The O'Connor case is reported in the latter part of last year, in 1966, Supreme Court of Canada reports at page 619.

This was a case where the accused man was represented by counsel at trial and was convicted of impaired driving. The evidence included evidence of breathalyzer tests. The accused was not told that he was under arrest until after the test had been taken. When he was so informed he was allowed to place a telephone call to his solicitor. When this call proved abortive, he was refused permission to make his second call to obtain legal assistance.

His appeal by way of a stated case was allowed on the ground that the breathalyzer evidence should not have been admitted. On appeal by the Crown to the court of appeal the conviction was restored. The accused was granted leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada and that appeal was dismissed. So the conviction ultimately was upheld.

The narrow focus of the question, I think, directed attention to this whole question of procedural safeguards in Canada, because the specific question that the magistrate placed to the Supreme Court, was: Was I right in holding that the refusal by the police to allow the accused while under arrest to contact a lawyer did not amount to a denial of natural justice? And a correlative question: Was I right in convicting the accused under the circumstances when I found as a fact that he,

while under arrest, had been denied the right to contact a lawyer?

Now I would first of all like to make the point that the fact that the charge was an impaired driving charge makes this not a distinguishable factor with regard to the seriousness of the offence with which he might have been charged. It could apply equally to any other crime for which a person is charged.

Four of the five judges, including the chief justice, gave a single opinion in the matter. It was delivered by Mr. Justice Ritchie in which he said:

In my opinion the questions submitted by the learned magistrate are to be answered in accordance with the interpretation to be placed in the relevant provisions of the Canadian bill of rights which read as follows—

I will not quote them all. I quote the one which I believe happens to be pertinent to the particular point I am concerned about:

Every law of Canada shall be so construed and applied as not to abrogate, abridge or infringe or to authorize the abrogation, abridgement or infringement of any of the rights or freedoms herein recognized and declared, and in particular no law of Canada shall be construed or applied so as to deprive a person who has been arrested or detained of the right to be informed promptly of the reason for his arrest or detention and of the right to retain and instruct counsel without delay.

The case went on. Mr. Justice Ritchie then simply held that he would adopt the views previously expressed in a prior case in which he states:

Nor in my opinion is there any general rule that if a person who has been arrested has been deprived by the police of the right to instruct counsel without delay, the charge against that person must be dismissed if he is brought to trial and the accused go forever free. Reflection on the consequence of such a rule if it were to exist in, for example, the case of capital murder will indicate, I think, the relevant provision of the Canadian bill of rights cannot mean that.

Well it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that this focuses the question immediately. If the provision of the Canadian bill of rights means anything it means exactly that if a person has been deprived by the police of the right to instruct counsel without delay, that the charge against that person must be dismissed or held

to be a contradiction of the bill of rights provision.

With such a recent affirmation by the Supreme Court of Canada of that question, I would like to have an exchange of views with the Attorney General as to what he considers are the sort of minimal procedural decencies that a person is entitled to if he is deprived of his freedom of movement, either by way of arrest or custodial interrogation of one kind or another.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I always enjoy an exchange of views with the hon. member for Riverdale.

He has, however, tonight quite an advantage on me in that he has the law report of the case in his hands and he has read it and studied it with careful attention to the language and the detail. I am aware of the case, I certainly appreciate the validity of his question and the importance of it.

It seems to me that last year, either in my estimates or some time in the debates in the House we dealt with this question to a large degree, and considering the decisions which were made in two very important cases in the United States—the names escape me at the moment, although they have been as familiar to me as my own name up to this moment; I am sure the hon. member could perhaps tell me—but we talked about them last year.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I think the Gideon case was one, and the next one was the Escobedo case and of course there has been the subsequent case of Miranda. It is in that framework that I would like to have an exchange of views. If it is not appropriate or convenient to the Attorney General at this point to have it, perhaps this vote could be held until such time that we could have an exchange, because I think it is a matter of the most fundamental importance which cannot be dealt with just in a general Budget speech. I think we need to have an exchange about this important topic.

Mr. Chairman: If I might say, it would seem to me that this might come under the broader framework of vote 207, the administration of justice. Perhaps at that time the Attorney General might be better prepared to give the hon. member for Riverdale the advantage of hearing his views. It struck me that this went beyond, if you will permit me to say so, strictly matters of police involvement in the arrest of individuals.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, in the remarks which I was making, I was about to suggest that if the hon. member would permit and if the chair would permit, I will deal with it under vote 206 or, as you suggest 207. I think the hon. member is quite right, though, that it properly belongs here, because we are dealing with police procedures and in this case that he refers to, the arrest is the first step in apprehending and bringing to justice someone or attempting to bring them to justice. But perhaps we could have some latitude and go to another vote. I would undertake to answer then and have an exchange of views.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Chairman, I have a matter I would like to raise with the Attorney General. It involves the Kitchener municipal police and the Ontario Provincial Police. Is this the proper vote to raise it under?

Mr. Chairman: Well, I suppose if it involves the jurisdiction of the Ontario police commission, yes. Proceed.

Mr. Gisborn: Mr. Chairman, I would like to place on the record for the perusal of the Attorney General, a situation which I feel should be looked into very thoroughly, and I would like him to give me a report on it at his most convenient time. It is only a brief letter but I think it will be better understood if I place it on the record for the Attorney General. The letter was written to me. It is from Mr. Gordon Hume, who is the proprietor of Gord's BA service station, Peter's Corners, R.R. 1, Troy, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to you as a matter of public interest. I operate the above-mentioned station at Highways 5 and 8, Peter's Corners, R.R. 1, Troy. On arriving at work on Saturday, December 17, 1966, I noticed that a 1961 General Motors Company half-ton pickup truck owned by me, was missing. This was reported to Waterdown provincial police at approximately 8:30 a.m. They subsequently issued a teletype all over Ontario regarding a 1961 green half-ton pickup with BA decals on the door, reported stolen from Gord's BA service station, Peter's Corners, erroneously reported as licensed as B98954 instead of B89959.

On February 1, 1967, I received in the mail a ticket from Kitchener police for \$5 for being illegally parked over three consecutive hours at Gildner Street, Kitchener,

The ticket read: "Truck checked 9:30 a.m. December 19 and towed away 12:30 a.m."

I telephoned Kitchener police and informed them the truck had been stolen and asked them where it was. They said they didn't know, that they would call me back. They did so and said the truck was in their pound and I could have it upon paying towing charges and \$1 per day storage. I called Waterdown OPP and related the above and they said they would let me know when to pick up the truck as they wanted to fingerprint it. I was informed to pick it up the following day in Kitchener and they insisted I pay the ticket for illegal parking, which I refused to do. I signed the release note and received the stub of same and then proceeded to the towing yard. I paid the enclosed bill for towing charges and storage and they refused to let me have the release stub which I had to show them. They insisted they keep it, why I do not know.

What this letter is all about is why I should be deprived of the use of my truck for six weeks, why it took the Kitchener police six weeks to find the owner of this truck when there was a letter in the glove compartment addressed to the operator of Gord's BA service station, Peter's Corners, R.R. 1, Troy, also there were large BA decals on the door, also they had a teletype on a 1961 pickup right on their desk. I saw it. Granted the last digit was wrong and this was my error, but surely they could have seen this was a commercial vehicle and check the ownership which they did six weeks later.

My point is, why did it take them six weeks, also regarding the three-hour parking? On Curly's bill it says the truck was out at 11:15. If this letter helps the same thing from happening to someone else, it will have accomplished something.

It is signed by Gordon Hume.

I ask the Attorney General to check this out, or he may answer me at the present time, whether he thinks it is necessary or not, whether this kind of thing is in keeping with the communications that I think should prevail in a much more effective and efficient manner across the province in regard to stolen property. The man tells me the use of the truck was worth \$100 a day to him and that he did not pay the parking ticket because they had gone by the 21 days of legal time.

So I would ask the Attorney General if he wishes to comment on this kind of situation at the present time, or if he wishes to check

it out further and let me know personally. I would be much obliged.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to say I think Mr. Hume is a most reasonable man. I could not have written such a mild letter if I had suffered as he did. I think he did suffer some unreasonable things there. I think what the hon. member for Wentworth East should have advised him to do on getting the letter, was to refer primarily at once to the Kitchener police commission. However, I am not going to take that attitude now. If he would let me have that letter, I will certainly see that it is referred to the proper place and investigated to whatever extent is necessary—it really should be gone into in the first instance, in any event, with the local police commission. It is their job to see what their force was up to, if they were arrogant, or whatever the situation was. But I will follow it up if the hon. member will let me have it.

Mr. Gisborn: Yes, thanks very much. I will send it across to the Minister and he can return it when he is finished.

I would say that the charges were a total of \$56—\$10 for towing and \$46 for storage. I asked him what he wanted me to do with it, and he said, "I would like you to raise it in the House because I think it is an imposition" and he would like to make sure that no one else suffered the same kind of situation.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, on this vote I would like to ask the Attorney General a question about the police commission, which arose out of the provincial auditor's recent report. On page 21 of that report, he says this of the Ontario police commission:

Since February 1, 1964 the chairman of the Ontario police commission has been reimbursed for living expenses while in Toronto and for travel to and from his home on weekends. An examination of his accounts indicates that full-time attendance is required in Toronto. It is recommended that consideration be given to establishing Toronto as this person's headquarters.

I notice, Mr. Chairman, in the public accounts, the travelling expenses of the chairman are over \$5,000. Is there any intention of the Attorney General to follow the recommendation of the provincial auditor?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I am aware of the report of the auditor which has just been read. It came to my attention

promptly. I have had discussions with the chairman of the Ontario police commission, going into the background of the arrangements under which he was engaged, which are in line with a policy that has been followed up to this time.

I would have to say this, that while I have great respect for the opinion of the provincial auditor in the duties which he carries out, I think he is perhaps not qualified to say that the chairman of the commission in his opinion would have to live in Toronto to effectively do his work, which in effect is what he says. That is a matter of policy which the government would decide.

However, I can only say to the hon. member at this time that discussions have taken place with respect to this recommendation and I am not, at the present moment, in a position to say what the results of those discussions will be.

Mr. Trotter: One moment on that. After all, the chairman receives a salary of nearly \$22,000 a year and I know in many of these appointments to the bench the judges have to change their locale, be it the Supreme Court of Canada or the Supreme Court of Ontario. I do not see why these extra expenses should be paid by the government under these facts as we have them, and certainly the provincial auditor does not think so. I think you should take much stronger action than you seem to indicate. My guess is that you do not intend to do anything about it and I think something should be done about it.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the Attorney General, what recourse does a citizen have if he does not think that he has been treated justly by the police commission in a town? He may have registered a complaint and in his estimation he is not satisfied that the police commission has given him the protection to which he is entitled under the law. He complains to The Attorney General's Department and still has difficulty in convincing the authorities that he has not been protected by the law enforcing body in the community.

The gentleman that I refer to happened to have had plate glass windows in his store broken 11 times within a short period of time. Surely after a frequency of breaking of windows like that, there must have been some veracity in the man's statements. What recourse does the man have?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member is speaking of the failure of police, in his opinion, to take action?

Mr. Newman: In that man's opinion, the failure of the police to give him the protection.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This was the case that the hon. member drew to my attention some time ago?

Mr. Newman: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Which was eventually followed up and the culprit was convicted and sentenced?

Mr. Newman: But on a completely different charge, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think I cannot give an answer which perhaps will satisfy the hon. member. Although the undercover disturbances went on and on, the police did attempt to protect to some point which they thought was satisfactory. I mean it is a matter of judgment as to whether their efforts were all they should have been. The person who created the disturbance was apparently working at night and avoiding any police detection. Eventually he was caught. I do not know that one can give a firm answer to say that the police were derelict in their duty. I am only happy to say, and I am sure the hon. member is happy to agree with me, that the culprit was caught and put away so he will not be troubling anyone for some considerable time.

Mr. Newman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, but it does seem strange to the individual who is complaining that you have the windows in your establishment broken, not once, not twice, not a third time, but 11 times, and still you do not seem to get the protection from the law that you should have received. I know that the case eventually resolved itself, but it did not resolve itself as a result of these misdemeanors.

Mr. Trotter: Under this vote, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Attorney General, is it under the police commission, or under what part of your estimates that we discuss the administration of justice in a particular area? Suppose you had complaints about the administration of justice in a town or a city. Under what estimate would we refer to that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Vote 207 is headed, "Administration of Justice." I would think that it would ordinarily come there.

Mr. Trotter: This has to do with police. The matter I have in mind is the complaint from the mayor of Kingston as to the police administration particularly in that area. Would it not come under this vote?

Mr. Chairman: I should judge that if it was a police matter it would properly come under this vote.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am quite prepared to deal with it now.

Mr. Trotter: I was wondering, Mr. Chairman, if the Attorney General could not give us some idea of the state of law administration of justice in that city. Mayor Fray is not at all satisfied with the reply that you sent to him. I am using strictly reports that were in the *Kingston Whig-Standard* as Mayor Fray was quoted. You are no doubt aware there have been complaints particularly about the police administration in Kingston. There have been complaints about the treatment of prisoners by the police in Kingston and Mayor Fray wrote to the Minister. It took some considerable time for the reply, according to newspaper reports, and when the Minister replied to the mayor he really did not answer his questions or his requests. In fact, it says, and I am quoting from the *Kingston Whig-Standard* of January 18, 1967: "In his reply Mr. Wishart referred only obliquely to the mayors requests".

Mayor Fray of Kingston had requested of the Minister a one-man commission—not a Royal commission—but a one-man commission to look into the problems of Kingston. Would the Minister tell this House what he intends to do about the situation in Kingston, and would he give us the information he has, I understand, in an earlier report which has not been released?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the complaint as to the administration of justice in the city of Kingston first came to the attention of the department and me some time in 1965. I have not got my file in front of me; you will understand I am answering from what I think is a fairly good memory. I cannot recall at all that there was anything about the treatment of prisoners. The complaint related to the conduct of court officials, generally—

Mr. Chairman: If such was the case, would the Attorney General prefer to discuss it under a later vote?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I will discuss it now, Mr. Chairman, if you will allow me.

An investigation was carried out at the direction of the Attorney General by the Ontario Provincial Police inspector and the attention of the chief magistrate was brought to the situation. A very thorough investigation was carried on, particularly by the inspector of the Ontario Provincial Police, who questioned many people as to the court and as to the treatment of persons coming before the court, and that report was made to me. That is a report made to the Minister for the purpose of administering his department and in this case the administration of justice, and the report was acted upon.

One of the officials named in the report whose conduct was noted, was released from his duties. There were other matters done. The mayor, apparently, although he did not ask me nor my department for the reason for the report, indicated last year—1966—he was not going to stand for mayor again because he was not satisfied with the administration of justice and could not get any action. When that was learned, there was some newspaper comment and he came to see me. There had been nothing in the nature of any complaint from him from the time of July of last year when he asked for some action to assist, not the magistrate's court and not the police court, but the juvenile and family court to collect maintenance accounts. That was investigated and steps were taken to assist, but the survey in that matter indicated that the city of Kingston was doing better and was well up on the list of cities and towns in its percentage of collections.

However, the mayor came to see me by appointment and I saw him—I cannot at this moment give you the date—and we discussed it. He did not ask for the report to which the hon. member refers. We discussed the matters of the juvenile and family court and we attempted to assure him on that.

I noticed certain comments in the newspapers and the mayor then changed his mind and decided to run. Whether he was satisfied with the administration of justice or not, I do not know, but he decided to run and comments went on in the newspapers. I do not always pay much attention to those, but seeing some statements which were not correct, I took occasion to write to Mayor Fray during the latter part of last year, I believe it was, or the early part of this year, and sent a copy of my letter to the newspaper which is published in Kingston, and I think that some use was made of that letter.

A recent development in which the hon. member may be interested is that the magistrate who has been a member of the police commission there has, within the last week, asked to be relieved of that duty so that there will be a change in the composition of the police commission of the town of Kingston.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, on this point I know that in Kingston during the last civic election, the situation of police administration in Kingston was rather a hot topic. There were all kinds of rumour and talk around Kingston which was not a good thing for the policemen on the force, nor for the administration of the city as a whole.

I think it is unfortunate that more definite action is not taken. Surely if a mayor is the chief magistrate of a city he is entitled at least to see the 1964 report. Now, it may be wise if it was given to the public, unless there is something highly secretive about it. I do not see why it should not be released to the public so that the taxpayers could know what is going on—whether this was all rumour or that this was what the situation was, whether they were just trying to quietly clean up without saying anything.

But in any event, the chief magistrate of a city should certainly know what is in that report. How can any man properly conduct his duties unless he knows what is going on?

It is true that you mentioned that there were complaints about collections at the juvenile courts. That is bad any place and it is very difficult to correct, but then as late as January 20, 1967—again, I will just use the *Whig-Standard*, and show what has been printed in it and what people have been talking about in Kingston and what they are reading.

One of their aldermen, Kenneth Matthews, even went so far as to accuse the police force of brutality, and even named the shift on which the policemen worked, so that it insinuates that any particular policeman on a particular shift was mistreating the public. Again, this is not fair to the policemen, if they are innocent, and it certainly makes one wonder about police administration in the city of Kingston.

I think there is a heavy responsibility on the Attorney General to clean this up. It is not good for that community as a whole to have these reports. I have only a few of them here, but there have been all kinds of them. If I read all the reports here, I would be taking up the time of the House for a good many hours. I am trying to put this in capsule form, and I am asking you to go down

there and assist the chief magistrate to clean up the administration of the police force and in the administration of justice in general. Probably the only way it can be done is to fulfill his request with a one-man commission. Do not make an expensive deal out of it, but at least send someone down there in authority in The Department of the Attorney General to make a proper investigation and most certainly to release the report to the mayor of the city. In these cases, I think, for the most part it is best to release it to the general public, because the general public are the ones who pay the bills. Half the time they do not know what is going on because they are not informed. Right now the place is just one vast rumour factory and this is certainly not good.

I know that Mr. Fray, by earlier report, was not going to run and then he said that he was going to run and make police administration the issue. He ran and got elected and there are reports that he was going to appeal to the hon. Prime Minister to do something and I do not think that is necessary. I think if you are doing your job, you will go down there and do it. If there is any indication that you will send a commission of one or two men down into the Kingston area and give the public in that area a report so that they will know just how bad things are, or how good they are.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I can set one point that the hon. member has raised, at rest immediately. The complaint about brutality is being investigated by the Ontario police commission at the request of the Kingston police. That matter is under way. Again I say that Mayor Fray has never requested that I make public the report. If he did, I would not give it to him, because it is not proper that I should. The report was by investigating officers of the Ontario Provincial Police and in the doing of it they questioned many persons on a confidential basis, which is the way they would have to operate. And they gave statements which they would not have given if they knew that their statements were going to made public. That is the way investigations of this nature are carried out.

To then break the confidence of those persons, first of all of the investigating officer of the police, and the persons who were investigated, to make that type of information public would vitiate our whole means of investigation, would destroy the usefulness of our investigating officers and would mean that we would never get that type of report again. That type of report is made to the

Minister so that he may correct the situation, that he may assess the report, he may take action—which was done—and I have no intention of releasing the report. And then, to do mayor Fray credit, whatever he may have said in Kingston—and as far as I am aware he did not say anything other than he said to me—he would not ask for the report, he came into my office and he did not request it, he has never written for it and he does not expect me to deliver it to him. If he said anything else to anyone else it is very different from what he said to me.

Mr. Trotter: I think there is a misunderstanding there.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Let me just continue. As I say, as a result of receiving the report, changes in certain officials in the administration of justice were made, or one was made, and recently there has been a change in that the magistrate has retired from the police commission. The new appointment has not immediately been made but will be very shortly. And I think these changes will be very salutary in the situation. If the hon. member meant I personally should go to Kingston to investigate the matter, I have no intention of accepting such a suggestion.

Mr. Trotter: Why not appoint somebody?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, we have the Ontario police commission investigating now for this question raised here, the complaint made about brutality. The other things related to court matters and to the police commission, so those changes are being effected. Nobody has asked me, nobody has written me that I know of, to have the report made public and I would not do it if they did.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): Mr. Chairman, I might point out that the mayor himself has indicated that he does not think the report should be made public. I rather take exception to the member for Parkdale saying that the administration of justice in Kingston is in poor shape, because it is not, we have an exceptionally fine police force down there. We have exceptionally fine men in every position in the city of Kingston. And I really do take exception when he says that it needs a thorough investigation because it does not. I feel that our police force is second to none. As far as this report is concerned, I mention again that the mayor has indicated that he does not think it would be right or proper for this report to be released.

Mr. Trotter: Well, Mr. Chairman, you know when you pick up a newspaper—and

these are all recent reports, this goes back almost a number of years, press clippings on the Kingston police force. I am just talking about 1967 and I would not call things all that royally satisfactory down there. As I said, I took the top few of them and brought them into the House. This has been going on now for months. But you want to hear the alderman. I do not know if the alderman is right, I do not know if he is wrong, but when he is quoted with two and a half columns in the *Whig-Standard* of January 20, 1967 about police brutality, there must be something to it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is under investigation.

Mr. Trotter: All right, but the hon. member should not tell us he has the finest police force in the province and that everything is hunky dory down there because there has been nothing but trouble for the last number of years.

Mr. Apps: Mr. Chairman, I do not think—

Mr. Trotter: Would the member like to read this?

Mr. Apps: I have read all those articles and I still maintain we have a fine police force down there. There were charges made of brutality against two police officers, sir, and there have been counter-charges that this is not so, to the extent that I think the Attorney General has arranged for it to be thoroughly investigated, so there will be nothing under cover at all. If the charges are proved, fine, all right; if they are not, then the police force will be exonerated to that extent. But an alderman has made those two charges, they are investigated, and we will see what will happen. I am sure that we will find that our police force is doing a pretty good job down in Kingston.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to add a thing in this reflective way, that I never cease to be amazed at the contrast between the Ontario Provincial Police force and the municipal forces. I spoke on this last year, and in the year that has gone past I have never heard of a complaint by anyone about brutality on the part of the provincial police. Why is it, I ask out loud, why is it all these complaints are about municipal forces? I doubt whether any other member of the House has heard of any involvement of the provincial police in this. They are simply never accused of it in my experience of them, the fine, young disciplined, efficient and alert young men on

our provincial police force. They just do not believe in this.

Is it in their training, is it in the method of recruitment, or is it, I suspect, does it have something to do, perhaps, with their supervision? I am in the police stations very frequently, let me tell you, in my professional capacity, and I observe this about them, that you go to the provincial police headquarters and you have at least one, sometimes two, non-commissioned officers in charge of the watch, the shift there, to keep an eye on things. But you go to a city police station, or municipal police station, as frequently as not you see no non-commissioned officer, you will see a constable in charge, so that could be somewhat the lack of supervision and perhaps the eventuality of excesses on the part of over-enthusiastic policemen. I am simply unable to determine why that is so, and this has perplexed me for a long time.

Then let me refer to another area of enlightenment on the part of the provincial police in my community, and I hope this will not lead to the stopping of the practice. One of the magistrates recently went out of his way to commend the provincial police for the practice they have adopted *proprio motu*—without any basis in law—of releasing offenders on their own reconnaissance. None of this business of getting the JP out of bed to give them bail, just send the fellow home, and issue him a summons. And charges under the criminal code indeed are involved. The magistrate went out of his way to commend this and I thought that was a very good practice especially when they have an offender who is married, has a home and a steady job and they know where to find him; they know he will be there the day after tomorrow when they come with his summons and he will answer the call, he will be in court.

Then along came one night, it was a Saturday night and I laid my head down to sleep and about two o'clock in the morning the telephone rang, as it too often does, and here is a citizen down in the hands of the city police and he is charged with impaired driving. I talked to him and he sounded fairly articulate and he said he wanted me to come down to get him out on bail. Well, I was not very enthusiastic about that at that time of the morning so I said, "Let me speak to the officer in charge." He came on and I said to him, "I know this fellow. He works at Inco and owns a home and he is married. Why don't you let him go and serve him with a summons on Monday?" And he said, "Oh, no, I will have to call the inspector

about that." I said, "Well, call him, call the inspector."

I had been disturbed, perhaps the inspector would not mind being disturbed. So he called me back—I got up and made myself a cup of hot chocolate to waken me. He called me back and he said, "No, it is against the department's policy. Only a JP can let him out."

I saw there was no possibility of enlightenment so I got into my clothes and I went down and got a magistrate out of bed. He did not mind, and he came down and we got the fellow out. Well, why the difference in attitude? Why is it? Cannot the Ontario police commission do something to bring the process of enlightenment to some of these municipal police forces and show them that we are living in 1967? Perhaps the police commission involved is derelict that it has not gone into these municipalities in the way my hon. friend suggests that with the mere hint of police brutality, they should go in in force and conduct an investigation.

I must assume that they have jurisdiction to do so under the statute. I would be very surprised to learn they do not have jurisdiction and perhaps that would have a very salutary and inhibitory effect upon this, if the police commission showed some muscle and indicated to municipal police forces, "We mean business, we are here in this town to eradicate any suggestion of this type of thing, and we are going to do it, and we will use the full powers given to us by law to eradicate that." There would be great commendation from the masses of the people about that. They would be gratified to see such action as that, and the mayor of Kingston would not be worrying the thing. He would not be bothering about it and running back and forth to see the Attorney General and making his complaints. And perhaps in voting this money we are merely asking after all that the police commission carry out the jurisdiction that is imposed upon them, get about their business and do whatever they can within the bounds of human possibility to correct these unsalutary situations.

But once again I end where I began, to express my most profuse commendation of our Ontario provincial police in the way that they enforce the law, the way they comport themselves, and the courtesy which they bestow on citizens. I can only hope that that attitude will envelop all of our police forces, and indeed would lead to a different conception for the people of the role of the policemen and a greater effort on the part of people to cooperate with them.

I say in the same thought, that when one is talking about police brutality, one must remember that the police themselves are the objects of considerable brutality from the criminal element and I have no sympathy for that type. If my leader ever suggests that I go to the bench, like the hon. member for Prescott went, the person who inflicted any harm on a policeman would do very badly before me, because I would not be against separating him from his freedom for a rather protracted period of years.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Chairman, I was going to ask the Attorney General, does the policy of providing bail come under the Ontario police commission? Could you set a policy for bail right across Ontario through the chairman of the police commission?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This really comes under the administration of justice.

Mr. Trotter: That is fine. I was expecting the question of bail would come under the administration of justice, but if you want to set a policy for bail, could it be done under this vote and through this particular commission?

Mr. Chairman: I think the Attorney General was suggesting that perhaps it should come under vote 207.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I could answer that, Mr. Chairman, if you would like.

The hon. member I am sure knows that the law relating to bail itself is under the criminal code. The procedure is a matter of judicial discretion and the Attorney General can go so far in directing, advising, counselling and encouraging magistrates and justices of the peace to grant bail under certain circumstances. This we are doing with seminars of discussions with our Crown attorneys, with the justices of the peace, and with the magistrates, particularly. We are having a bail project, as it were, in Metro and I think the word has gone forth very definitely that bail on recognizance is to be encouraged in those cases and they are many—much more so than has been the case in the past.

But you cannot lay down a straight or definite line, because every case is different. It is a matter of judicial discretion. All that one can really urge the judicial bench, magistrates and justices of the peace to do is to try to weigh with reason and common sense the situation in which it seems most evident that the person, a citizen of some character or of some means, is not likely to run from the

charge under which he might have to face the court. We are doing as much of that as we can and I think making considerable progress.

The hon. member for Sudbury was good enough to pay some compliments to the Ontario Provincial Police, and particularly he cited the one case where an officer took somebody in and was going to lock him up and then said, "Oh well, go on home. I know you will be there tomorrow, I will serve you the summons." I am not really sure, but I commend him in a way too. But I have to be careful; I am not sure the law permits them to do that sort of thing.

Mr. Bryden: Maybe we should change the law.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, no.

Mr. Trotter: Why not?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You cannot give—

Mr. Sopha: You mean once he has been arrested—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes. You cannot give police officers a right to arrest a man and then say "Go." You can get into a lot of situations here. It is just not to be answered that quickly.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, in the absence of a—

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Chairman, I do not want to interrupt, but if the debate is to go on, I would—

Mr. Renwick: I had just a brief comment.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the Attorney General, in the absence of a report from the Ontario police commission, does he intend in the course of these estimates at some point to make a statement about the extent of either organized or syndicated crime in the province of Ontario? Last year, the Ontario police report contained what could be interpreted as a direct allusion to syndicated crime in the province and I think it would be a matter of public interest if the Attorney General did make such a statement.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I expect to file a report shortly, but I do not think before the report is filed I will make a statement. I have very considerable material on the activities of the Ontario police commission, all of which will be in the report and it is coming up shortly. I do not expect to make a statement before then.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. Prime Minister wishes to adjourn—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Does the hon. member want to continue the debate for some time?

Mr. Ben: I will not be long, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. member want to carry it over?

Mr. Ben: I want to carry it over, yes.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the committee of supply rise and report it has come to a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to a certain resolution and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I would like to go to the supplementary estimates and then return to the estimates of this department.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.05 o'clock, p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, March 10, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967

The House met at 10.30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have in the Legislature today as guests, students from Glenview senior public school, Toronto, which is, I understand, in the riding of the member for Dovercourt (Mr. Thompson).

Mr. L. M. Reilly (Eglinton): Mr. Speaker, I think you would like to know that they are from the riding of Eglinton, not Dovercourt.

Mr. Speaker: I have had the wrong information supplied to me.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present the annual report of The Department of Tourism and Information and the department of public records and archives for the year 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Orders of the day.

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to announce through you to the House, that our department is initiating an immunization programme against measles. It will be introduced shortly through local health departments and health units throughout Ontario.

The programme will have two phases, namely, the protection of infants through the use of a killed vaccine and the protection of those susceptible children starting school in September, 1967, with a live vaccine.

The killed vaccine will be combined with the four agents now given to infants so that the new vaccine will be quintuple. This "quint" vaccine, prepared by Connaught Laboratories here in Toronto, will be released April 15 for administration to infants commencing at three months of age. Complete

immunization involves three doses of killed vaccine.

A live attenuated vaccine will be available to be given as a booster dose to infants who have completed this three-dose series of killed vaccine.

Commencing in September 1967, a live, further attenuated measles vaccine will be made available for administration to children entering school—at kindergarten and grade 1 level—who are susceptible to measles. In this phase of the programme, adequate surveillance by competent persons will be maintained and a month's interval or longer will be observed between the administration of any two live vaccines. This surveillance will be the duty of the local health agencies.

This schedule of immunization would result in protection in 1967 of those children in the first year of life when the most serious complications occur, and of those children attending school for the first time who are exposed to the main reservoir of wild measles virus. Each successive year would add two one-year age groups to the protected population and all children up to the age of ten would be protected within five years. The benefits would be evidenced much earlier, however, as the reservoir of wild measles virus in the school population is decreased.

As the Department of National Health and Welfare has not yet licensed quintuple vaccine for the use of medical practitioners in their own practice, this new product will be available only through official local health agency clinics. Live vaccine has been available for some little time to medical practitioners through commercial channels.

With this new development, Mr. Speaker, a child can now be protected against five of the very serious illnesses which are common to children, namely, diphtheria, lockjaw, whooping cough, polio and now, measles.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that I would be announcing from time to time, implementation of legislation that forms part of the programme of the government of Ontario which relates to persons who can benefit from our services.

I would say today that The Homes for Retarded Persons Act has been proclaimed.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, in consultation with the association for retarded children, it was decided it would be in the interest of persons coming within their charge, to remove the age limit of children so that persons resident in homes for the retarded, could continue to obtain the services and care on a continuing basis. In other words, as children advance in age they would still be in a position to obtain the excellent care and service of the organizations which operate homes for retarded persons.

I should add that another feature of the Act is that any approved charitable organization is eligible to participate in provincial funds, both capital and maintenance, in providing services to retarded children and would further remark that there has been a decided increase in applications on the part of parents' groups in particular, to establish homes for retarded persons.

Some 21 organizations throughout Ontario are proceeding to construct homes for retarded persons. They are taking advantage of our legislation to provide some 400 beds in new facilities to which the province is pleased to make available some \$1,600,000. The other notable feature is that of increasing the share of costs and commencing April 1, the percentage in providing maintenance operating costs to such homes has been reduced from a 75 - 25 per cent ratio, to an 80 - 20 per cent ratio. The 20 per cent figure is the amount which is provided by the organizations operating the homes for retarded persons.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to bring to the attention of hon. members the fact that Mr. Nelson Parliament, a former Speaker of this Legislature and member for Prince Edward county, is tomorrow celebrating his 90th birthday.

Mr. Parliament is a native of my own township, living about three miles from where I reside. He was first elected in 1914; he served in this Legislature until 1923. In 1920 when the hon. Mr. Drury formed the UFO government, Mr. Parliament, although a Liberal, was selected to be the Speaker of that Legislature.

However, like another Speaker we had, he was defeated in the next election following his service in that great honour. In the following years he served as an organizer for the Liberal Party for some 15 years, living in Ottawa. Some 20 years ago or more, he moved to Greencastle, Indiana, where he is

presently a patient in the local hospital. However, his relatives in Prince Edward county, of whom he has many, reported in the local paper that after suffering a recent operation, he is well on his way to recovery and I am sure that we all join in wishing him well, having given such a great service to this Legislature.

I do believe that the hon. member for Grey South (Mr. Oliver) would be the only hon. member in this Legislature who would know him personally.

Mr. G. Bukator (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister. Would he advise how many members of the Niagara parks commission have submitted their resignation? What are their names? What reasons were given for these submitted mass resignations?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, since this question was raised yesterday, there have been certain comments made by these men and I feel free to answer this question perhaps a little more fully than I did yesterday.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Gracious. Very gracious.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I would like to make it very clear that it is not my position. I have no objection to releasing these names—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: In any event, sir, this is the approach that I choose to take because they have now had certain conversations with the press, I am quite happy to tell the House that I have received communications from Mr. Daley, Mr. Tyrill, Mr. Fox, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Miller and Mr. Morningstar, in which they have submitted their resignations from the Niagara parks commission.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): They have represented a family compact within the commission for years.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, as is so often said, the hon. member has his chat, so he may comment as he pleases when his chance comes.

I would like to simply say this. In addition, these letters arrived when I was away. They have been acknowledged to the men who sent them. The events of this week have given me little time to deal with this particular problem. None of these resignations

has been accepted and I do not propose to say anything further about it. I do propose to deal with the matter of course, and when there are changes to be made either in the personnel of the commission or in its policy, I will announce it to this House.

Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a statement to make concerning the Niagara parks and Niagara escarpment. I have got Niagara on my mind this morning.

Mr. Singer: Or persons.

Hon. Mr. Roberts: I am sorry, I do not get the import. I try to catch the import of the interjections, but I missed that one, Mr. Speaker.

I am happy to announce today a wide-ranging study of the Niagara escarpment with a view to preserving its entire length from Queenston to Tobermory and Manitoulin Island as a recreation area for the people of Ontario.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there has been, in recent months, a rising tide of concern over the future of the escarpment which extends from Queenston to Tobermory and Manitoulin Island, so aptly described by one writer, who has of course been prominent with me, as "southern Ontario's last frontier". This concern arises for many reasons, among them the need for more public recreational area, the increased utilization of escarpment sites for residential housing developments, the long-term effect of quarrying operations, the varying views held by municipal authorities who control parts of the escarpment, and the published opinions of private organizations such as the federation of Ontario naturalists, the Bruce trail association, and the nature conservancy of Canada.

It should be emphasized that several departments of the government of Ontario, a number of municipalities and various private organizations do have excellent programmes, including long-range planning studies, either under way or in full operation. However, a clear need for intensive coordination of agencies and programmes has now emerged and must be accommodated.

To accomplish this I have referred the escarpment problem, in its broadest sense, to the Cabinet committee on regional development. This is precisely the kind of undertaking that was envisaged for this committee when Ontario's "design for development" was presented to the Legislature about one year ago. I have indicated to the committee, of which I happen to be the chairman, that this is an urgent matter meriting immediate attention.

The future of the escarpment is a complex subject—with a few apologies to my friend from Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) who says nothing is complex in the affairs of men—and one on which many varying, perhaps divergent opinions are held. I am, however, fully confident that the Cabinet committee on regional development, with the advice and support of interested citizens or groups of citizens, and the full resources of the government of this province, will, after careful study, be entirely capable of providing firm guidance in establishing sound and comprehensive policies, plans and programmes, for the wise development and use of this magnificent natural resource to the enduring benefit of every citizen, both now and in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, that is a rather formal statement. I would like to make a few further comments on this proposition, because I think it is one of great interest, certainly for those who are interested in the outdoors of this province, and I think we all are. There is something very exciting about the idea that we might be able to do something about the very wonderful natural resource that we have.

You will be interested to know that the complete length of the escarpment, from Queenston to Tobermory is 450 miles. There is presently developed, of the 450 miles, some 350 miles as far as the Bruce trail itself is concerned. I have a map here. Unfortunately, I have not copies that I can distribute to all the members but the Bruce trail winds its way from Tobermory, keeping rather to the east side of the escarpment right down to Niagara Falls. As I say, of the total length of 450 miles, some 350 miles has been developed. The 100 miles that is not developed is not, hon. members can understand, in one continuous stretch. It is made up of odd pieces along the way. Four hundred and fifty miles is a long distance, and if one draws a line across any 450 miles of this province, except in the very far north, one is going to find that he is running into a complete variety of conditions. He is running into many municipalities and many different situations. So I would not want to minimize in any way the problems that this thing poses and the high degree of cooperation that is going to be required if we are to achieve our purpose.

To give some idea of the participation of people in this matter, the Bruce trail association consists of nine individual clubs which have been established along the whole length of the Bruce trail and members might be interested in the names of these. There is

the Niagara escarpment trail council, the Iroquois Bruce trail club, Toronto Bruce trail club, the Caledon hills Bruce trail club, Blue Mountain Bruce trail club, Beaver valley trail club, Sydenham Bruce trail club, the lower Bruce trail club, and the peninsula Bruce trail club.

One can see from those names that these clubs have been formed to provide citizen participation in the various areas up the whole 450 miles of the trail itself. I would mention the name of Dr. Houck of Owen Sound, who has been in to see me about this matter on several occasions. He is well known to conservationists and naturalists throughout the province. On a completely voluntary basis he has done a great deal of work in this regard and I think the people in this province owe him, as well as the other members of these clubs, a real debt. What has been done to date, has been done completely by voluntary labour from these clubs. Men and women who are interested in the establishment of the trail and in the walking and the scenery and so on that it produces, have done the work themselves. Dr. Houck is current chairman of the Niagara escarpment trail, or whatever the formal title may be of the association of clubs which covers the individual clubs themselves.

I would like to comment for just a moment, too, on the tri-county scenic drive. This is a drive being investigated and planned by the three counties of Lincoln, Welland and Wentworth. I should say these three counties once again demand and deserve our commendation because there is a high degree of cooperation between the three counties. In regard to this particular item, I might say there is a very high degree of cooperation between them in the overall picture of regional government. I draw attention to this, because if we are to establish what we are seeking in the area of regional development and regional government, a high degree of cooperation will of course be necessary, and these three counties have combined to initiate the whole concept of a scenic drive which will extend for 41 miles along the edge of the escarpment from Queenston to Hamilton.

They are receiving cooperation from The Department of Lands and Forests and from The Department of Highways. There is a sum of \$50,000 of which The Department of Highways is paying half to provide an engineering and consultant study of this 41-mile tri-county scenic drive, as it is referred to. To give some idea of the extent of the development of conservation in the province, I think

very often these things go on over a period of years and we take them for granted and we do not realize just to what extent they have developed and are functioning.

I would just like to refer for a moment to the various conservation authorities that are involved in this proposition as well: the Niagara region conservation authority; the Hamilton region conservation authority; Halton region conservation authority; the Credit valley conservation authority; Nottawasaga valley conservation authority; Sauble River conservation authority; and the North Grey region conservation authority.

Each of these authorities within its own area has interested and concerned itself with the future of the escarpment; each of them has its individual plan as to what it is going to do and the areas that it is going to develop. So here we have another area of citizen and municipal organizations. Once again, if members note the names of these various authorities, they will see that they extend along the whole 450 miles of the Bruce Trail. Two provincial parks involved in this proposition are under consideration and development by The Department of Lands and Forests, at Devil's Glen in the Collingwood area, and Cyprus Lake in the Tobermory area.

An hon. member: It is long overdue.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, perhaps. As we introduce one after another of these programmes for the benefit of the people of Ontario, the Opposition is left with the only criticism it can raise, which is "long overdue." Cyprus Lake Park, if the hon. member—

An hon. member: Sharing the wealth.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: As a matter of fact, it has a little twist to it—it will provide the ferry service between Tobermory and Manitoulin. As in any ferry system there are periods of waiting, this park will provide an area of recreation because sometimes in the summer there are periods of delay there. This Cyprus Lake park will provide an area of recreation for those people who perforce must wait for the ferry in order to get across to Manitoulin Island.

There is another area under consideration in the Stoney Creek area, and it is called Effingham—that is the name by which it is known. It involves some 4,000 acres. I would just like to point out to the hon. members who are familiar with this area that to gather together an area of 4,000 acres in the Niagara peninsula poses certain difficulties. This is a highly developed area and that is a large area

to pull together and it is not easy—it is not simple by any means. On the other hand, that does not mean that we are not going to try to do it.

There is another area at Fifty Mile Point being considered too by The Department of Lands and Forests. There are other areas that the department is looking at but it has not progressed to the point where I would feel that it would be wise to make public reference to them this morning.

Mr. Speaker, just to round out this whole story, I would like to point out that the Cabinet committee on regional development is served by an advisory committee composed mainly of Deputy Ministers. That Cabinet committee has on it members of practically every department which would be involved in this particular project. My own department, of course, is involved, as well as The Department of Economics and Development, The Department of Municipal Affairs, The Department of Agriculture and Food, The Department of Lands and Forests, The Department of Tourism and Information, and The Department of Energy and Resources Management. I feel that this committee is really quite competent to deal with this problem.

As I said earlier, it is precisely the type of problem for which the committee was set up—what I referred to in my contribution to the Throne Debate, what I termed in those remarks, a horizontal organization in order to cut across all the various areas of administration of the government. There will be very close cooperation, of course, with the citizens' bodies in the municipalities and the public bodies that I have outlined as being involved in this, because as I say, 450 miles is a long distance even in the province of Ontario and it does involve a great variety of municipal organizations.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, we listened with much interest to the rather informal statement that the Prime Minister has made on this important matter. I know he is aware that the select committee on conservation has looked into this very matter rather carefully and no doubt when its report is available it will be examined by the committee of which he is chairman.

But I wonder, in the lengthy period of time that might elapse before a commission takes over the responsibility of this park or it is put in the hands of one of the present parks commissions, if the Prime Minister as chairman of this committee, might consider some sort of regulation on the quarrying as-

pects that have been eating into the escarpment for the past few years. I know that he has taken it upon himself to examine personally and rather carefully some of these aspects associated with the development of parks—for example the recreation at the ferry end at Tobermory and so on—but there is one real danger in the development of this park concept, that if the quarrying activities on the escarpment are not soon regulated they will destroy a lot of the beauty and development of the park that we hope will come into being.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I agree heartily with the hon. leader of the Opposition. I was very interested in the remarks of the hon. member for Halton (Mr. Kerr) during the Throne Debate when he dealt quite extensively with this problem. We propose to bring into our organization, The Department of Mines, and the purpose of getting at this problem immediately is to prevent further erosion, as it has been. If we are to preserve this, we are going to have to have various courses of action open which have not yet been decided. I mean, whether we will end up with a separate form of commission to operate this whole thing; this is one possibility, but it has not yet been decided. It might be given to one of the present organizations. There may be the necessity to do some freezing, to ask the municipalities involved to do some freezing of the areas which come under their control.

But I agree with the leader of the Opposition that the real immediate plan is that if we are to proceed with this, the decision having been made to do so, we must first prevent further events happening that will work against our ultimate plan, and certainly this is one of the first things we will look at. I think it will have to be worked out in conjunction with the municipalities. But the quarrying matter is one of great concern.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might make a comment because a great deal of this trail is in my own riding and I too listened with a great deal of interest to what the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Speaker: I might say that the statement really is not debatable.

Mr. Whicher: Nothing I am going to say will be debatable.

Mr. Speaker: I wondered if it was going to be brief, that is all.

Mr. Whicher: Yes, it is going to be very brief. I would like to ask a question. As the Prime Minister knows, the Bruce trail is on private grounds. I am wondering just how the government is going to help them in the form of grants. As he stated, many of these organizations have worked very hard and I know they have had a lot of technical advice and so forth, close cooperation with The Department of Lands and Forests and many government bodies, to put this great trail through. But it seems to me that most of the spadework has been done by these organizations. I would just ask the Prime Minister, how does he propose the government is going to be able to help; is it through the form of grants or advice or how is it?

Hon. Mr. Roberts: Yes, I understand, but really I rather doubt that what has been done could have been done by anyone other than those who did it. I mean, the mere fact that they were private citizens and were not being subsidized to help by government made it possible for them to deal with neighbours and so on to establish this. We are aware of this. Of course these various Bruce trail associations have been very jealous of their position, in fact they have not wanted anything other than technical help.

What we are looking at is something perhaps a little larger than the trail itself, and that is the preservation of the escarpment. The Bruce trail itself is nothing but a walking trail along the top of the escarpment. What we are looking at is something beyond this. For instance, I doubt this problem of quarrying is of much interest or concern to the actual trail itself, just as the tri-county scenic drive really has nothing to do with the trail itself, but it has a good deal to do with the escarpment.

As I say, what I am putting before the House this morning is simply the concept we have and the broad way in which we propose to commence dealing with it. What our exact relationships will be with the various associations will remain to be worked out, but I would say this, that the last thing in my mind or in the mind of the government, would be to supplant in any way these associations, because I firmly believe myself that they are the only people who could have accomplished whatever has been accomplished. I very much doubt that if the government had taken it on as a project, we would have been able to do what these people have been able to do, working directly with the owners concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The thirteenth order; House in committee of supply.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Chairman, before proceeding with discussion on each of the votes comprising the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1967, a general comment might be in order.

In its 1966 report, the standing committee on public accounts recommended that those special grants which had been appearing regularly in supplementary estimates should be presented in the regular estimates. Recently I appeared before the standing committee on public accounts to review with that committee the recommendations contained in its last report. With respect to the particular recommendation to which I have just referred, I advised that committee that the recommendations had been noted and that after the fiscal year 1967-68, these items will be incorporated in the regular estimates.

Since this is a matter that is usually referred to at some point during the discussion of the supplementary estimates, I thought it would be useful to the members to have our views placed before them prior to examining each vote of the supplementary estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the votes themselves will be dealt with as usual by the Ministers of the departments involved.

On vote 612:

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I may ask the hon. Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett), a question?

This amount of money has had to be put in by supplementary estimate and henceforth will be put in by regular estimates because of the normal difficulties of railways to survive economically today in face of competition from other forms of transportation.

There were rumours a year or two ago that the government was contemplating seeking federal incorporation and one aspect of the rumour was that if this took place then the ONR would become eligible for certain federal subsidies that might assist in maintaining a balanced budget, and therefore, per-

haps, obviate the requirement of this kind of grant going in, or perhaps make more moneys available for the extension of the railway as a development railway in accordance with its original concept.

My question, therefore, is: What is the government's present thinking on this rumour of incorporation federally? And, secondly, is it accurate that incorporation federally would automatically make the railway eligible for certain subsidies that might assist in its budgetary problems?

Mr. A. Johnston (Parry Sound): Mr. Chairman, in reply to the hon. member for York South, there are probably quite a few disadvantages in incorporating the Ontario Northland Railway. In that respect, a portion of our line now does come under federal railways and we do get subsidy on the branch between Noranda and Swastika.

However, as you know there is a new Act coming in under federal legislation and we are watching that very closely to see if there will be any benefits in it.

Mr. MacDonald: What are the disadvantages? If you have a portion of your railway now under federal incorporation and receiving subsidies, what are the disadvantages in the complete incorporation of it so that you can get further subsidies?

Mr. A. Johnston: This was investigated by The Department of the Attorney General and they decided that it was not feasible to do it at this time. This was about a year ago. There are certain aspects though, such as that we would be required to contribute to the grade crossing fund in one particular instance, and we could not make changes in our operations without going through the board of transport commissioners.

I do not want the hon. member to presume that we are going to abandon any lines, but we could not abandon any lines or make any alterations unless we went through the federal board. These are some of the factors that are involved in it.

Does that answer the hon. member's question?

Mr. MacDonald: It does. I am wondering, can the hon. member tell me whether the ONR is likely to come before the standing committee this year?

Mr. A. Johnston: Mr. Chairman, I would be very pleased to come before them.

Mr. MacDonald: It occurred to me, Mr. Chairman, that maybe the more appropriate

place to really explore all of the pros and cons there might be at that standing committee. I would give them fair warning at this stage that I would raise the question at that time, because I think the whole problem of financing railways and the whole role of the ONR in the development of northeastern Ontario, is one that everybody is interested in, particularly the people in that part of the province. If more moneys can be made available for restoring its development aspect, then I think we should look to every source, including the federal treasury, since you are having difficulty getting money from the federal treasury in other circumstances.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Chairman, I take this occasion to say a few words in connection with some of the activities of the Ontario Northland Railway, because it serves the northeastern part of the province and particularly serves the area which I have the honour to represent in this House.

The concept of the ONR as a development railway has not been lost nor forgotten and it is still functioning in exactly that manner.

Mr. MacDonald: Somewhat less.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: The development is slightly different today from what it was in 1902 when they turned the first sod for the ONR construction at North Bay; there is the difference.

The economy has certainly changed. There is no element of activity in the field of economics in the north country that is not served adequately by the Ontario Northland Railway through its railway operation, its truck transport company and its bus lines and the telecommunications which serve the telephone, the Telex service, television, radio and so on.

So I think we must not forget that this is still a development really. I am sorry that it requires \$1 million each year, or more, out of the pockets of the taxpayers of Ontario to maintain the railway as a development railway. It could very well increase its rates, because there is no other competitor, other than a truck transport but there are certain goods that cannot be transported by truck; they must be transported by rail.

Now, to give you two examples of how the railway has cooperated with industry to assist in developing the north country, I can only quote the cooperation that has been extended to the iron mines at Timagami and at Kirkland Lake in Boston township—the Adams mine. I would also tell you of the great

assistance that the railway has been in the development of the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company mine north of Timmins. They entered into an agreement with the mining company to construct a very lengthy spur line to the mine, to serve the development, to serve the mining operation and to haul ore to the concentrator.

A special agreement was drawn up between the Ontario Northland Railway and the mining company. I am aware—not of the details—but of the general content of the agreement and I think it is a good business proposition for the railway.

The pulp and paper industry is still being very well served by the railway, and the gold mining industry, that we have depended on in the north for many years — the gold mining industry has been served for all these years, and if it had not been for the Ontario Northland Railway in the first place, I dare say that much of the north country that has been developed would not have been developed to this point that it has reached today.

Mr. MacDonald: The role of public enterprise.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: That is fine and it does so happen that this is the role of public enterprise that is suitable for the purposes for which it was intended.

Mr. MacDonald: They do the job when private enterprise will not.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: We have greatly improved the passenger services in the last year or two and I have occasion sometimes to use the facilities of the bus line operated by the ONR, and I must say that they have good equipment, they have good operators and they are operating a high class bus transportation system.

Once in a while I hear complaints that someone in Timmins says, "Well the bus should leave at"—as a matter of fact I think it leaves about eight or nine o'clock in the morning to go to Toronto—"It should leave at eleven because I get up late." But when you examine the service, Mr. Chairman, it is of a high, high order.

Consider also the services that are provided by the telecommunication system, I do not think there is any better in the whole province of Ontario. There was a suggestion some years ago that Bell Telephone would take over that portion of the operation of the ONR. I would tell you I would object to that most strenuously.

Mr. MacDonald: Is there any possibility of it happening?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: No, there is no possibility of that happening. It is not under consideration. It was not considered as being even necessary to consider it. I want to assure you of that.

Now I use these few minutes, Mr. Chairman, to impress upon the House that the ONR is still a development railway. It is serving northeastern Ontario well and is well equipped to meet every request that it receives for services that are required by the people of northeastern Ontario. I commend the chairman and the Minister and the members of the commission for the good work which they have done.

The commission today is composed of men who are representative of the whole of the area served by the railway. They represent the various facets of the economy of northeastern Ontario and I am quite pleased that recently there were two new appointments made. The present mayor of Cochrane, Mr. Michael Palanzio, who is an old resident of the northeastern part of the province, and also Mr. Charles T. Goodwood who is general manager of the Dome mines, who would be, you could say, representative of the mining industry in the north.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, I am delighted that we are going to have the assurance of the Minister of Municipal Affairs that the ONR is not going to turn over the telecommunication system to the Bell Telephone.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: You can take that for granted.

Mr. Renwick: That is fine. I would have thought that the Minister responsible for the estimates would have taken part in this debate, but apparently it is not his prerogative to do so.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Talk about things that are not going to happen?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, we all know very well that the Bell Telephone Company took over the Northern Telephone Company by an acquisition of shares, and refused to appear before the telephone commission of the province of Ontario, on the grounds that the commission had no jurisdiction.

Mr. Chairman: That is not properly before us now.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, it certainly is. The Minister of Municipal Affairs raised the question.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Ontario Northland Railway was not going to take over the telephones in that area.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, if you will just permit me to complete my remarks, the fact of the matter is that the total revenue of the Ontario northland transportation commission from the telecommunication system is dependent now on agreements made between the Ontario northland transportation commission and indirectly with the Bell Telephone Company through its ownership of Northern Telephone Company.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Quite the reverse.

Mr. Renwick: The fact of the matter is—

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Northland transportation commission, the telephone operation, is the basic operation. Nobody else can serve long distance telephone service in north-eastern Ontario other than the ONTC.

Mr. MacDonald: You are missing the point.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: I am not missing the point. He is missing the point. He has got it all balled up. He is even mixed up in his companies.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, just before we miss the point completely in the obfuscation of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the fact of the matter is that the collecting company is the Northern Telephone Company. It collects the money. The distribution of the money depends entirely on agreement with the Ontario northland transportation commission. The Minister of Municipal Affairs, if he does not know it, knows very well that for many years the Bell Telephone Company has been trying to outskirt the Ontario northland transportation commission telecommunication system. It is all very well for the Minister to stand up and say that that is not possible. The fact of the matter is that with modern telecommunication systems, there is a very real danger that the Northern Telephone Company long distance business could be routed out over the Bell system. This is a matter which the government has got to pay close attention to, and to do more than simply give us this sort of brash assurance. We want some guarantee, some assurance, that in fact the long distance telephone

network of the Ontario northland transportation commission will not become obsolete simply by a redirection of the toll system. That was not the point of my particular intervention, but I could not let the matter go by.

I would like the Minister or the chairman of the commission to give us the component parts of the estimate which is before this assembly. My understanding is that it is as the Minister of Municipal Affairs has said—more or less a composite figure which indicates a balancing figure between the profitable operations of the commission and the loss on the rail operations. A very real consideration is whether or not, for example, the benefit of the profit or the surplus of that telecommunications business should be used continuously to defray the rail operations, and whether in fact this is a true figure.

It may very well be that a proper basis to improve the telecommunication system of the north country would be to use the surpluses of that business for the purpose either of reducing the charges to the residents of the area for their toll calls, or for the purpose of extending that branch of the system, rather than to use it to offset a loss of the Ontario northland rail operation.

Mr. A. Johnston: In reply to the hon. member, the rates charged by our communication system are exactly the same toll charge rates as Bell Telephone, and it would not appear reasonable that we charge a different toll in Ontario than the Bell Telephone Company.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 612 agreed to?

Mr. A. Johnston: Mr. Chairman, before you close this item, I think that I should advise the House—because there seems to be an area of thinking that this debt will continue—that in 1966 our position has been improved about \$900,000. The mines that were mentioned by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Texas Gulf Mines, came into production in December, 1966, and they will be in full production very shortly. It is anticipated that in 1967, for the first time for a number of years, the Ontario northland transportation commission will have an operating profit of around \$1 million.

I believe the question was asked last year, did we have a projection for the next 10 years? We do have a projection for 10 years. It had to be revised somewhat because of wage increases in the railway, which have been announced by the major railways, but generally speaking our projection for three

years from now is in the area of \$2 million profit.

But as I said to the hon. member, I do not think that we should reduce our telephone rates lower than rates charged by other telephone companies in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Mr. Chairman, before this vote is carried—I was not going to take over, or say anything, because as you know, the hon. member for Parry Sound is the chairman of this commission, but it seems that the hon. member for Riverdale thinks that the Minister should get in and perhaps explain some part of the Ontario northland transportation system. I might say that the chairman and the commission are responsible for operating the railroad and all its other facets on the day-to-day basis and they do work very closely with me as far as government policy is concerned.

I would like at this time to congratulate the chairman, members of the commission, management, and everyone working in this communication and railway transportation system. I have the opportunity of going up there a couple of times a year with the commission to discuss policy with municipalities, those interested in that system, and I find that everyone up there is working in harmony for the benefit of the north.

I might say that during the past three years, as well as building some new spur lines, we are updating all the lines, putting in heavier rails, putting in new ties and new grade. We are updating all the equipment, and as the chairman has said, we hope to show a profit this year. I think as time goes on that the Ontario northland transportation commission will pay back well all the money that we had to vote to it in the last 15 years.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on this vote, the questions which I would like to have answers to are: What was the loss on the rail operation for the period covered by this particular supplementary estimate, what was the profit on the telecommunications business of the ONTC, and what was the profit on the relatively minor operations, the bus operation and the other transport companies?

Mr. A. Johnston: Does the hon. member for Riverdale mean 1965 or 1966?

Mr. Renwick: For the period which is covered by this estimate.

Mr. A. Johnston: The loss on the rail operations for 1965 was \$1,468,000. The profit on the communications was \$1,762,000. The profit on the bus line was \$54,000. The deficit

on our boat line was some \$40,000. The profit on the tourist operation was \$29,000. Leaving a net profit on the operations before charges of \$338,000 net profit.

I might just as well complete this. Our deficit comprised \$777,000 to the pension fund of our employees, and this was a new item, this was to keep the pension fund in an actuarially sound position. This has been charged again incidentally in 1966.

Our funded debt in 1965 was \$868,000. This was paying off, I believe, \$500,000 principal on our debentures which was involved years ago in purchasing diesel locomotives and the balance interest. Those basically are the major items.

Vote 612 agreed to.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

On vote 717:

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, could the Minister give us a breakdown on the special grants?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Chairman, there are two grants involved in this amount, \$4,275,000, \$75 per bed, annual advance to retire interest-bearing debts or meet other capital expenditures not covered in grants; \$1 million is provided again to meet the unmanageable debts of four hospitals, as was decided in 1959. The hospitals are the Ottawa General hospital, St. Louis de Montfort in Ottawa, St. Vincent in Ottawa and Hotel Dieu in Cornwall—\$1 million is set aside for that. That is item one.

Mr. S. Lewis: Can the Minister remind me briefly the present condition of financing in the various levels of government per hospital bed? Does he have the figures—

Hon. Mr. Dymond: No, I have not, but I could tell the member from memory pretty well. The division simply is that the local board finds the land, and one-third of the approved capital cost of construction, including basic equipment and furnishings. The province of Ontario finds the other two-thirds. That two-thirds is made up of the statutory grants from the province which is essentially \$5,500 a bed plus the \$2,700 the federal government grants. And the province makes up the rest. It is nominally a loan but it is handled in a way which we will describe at the time of our regular estimates.

The rest of this vote, sir, the second item, is the special grant to the sick children's hospital, part of our health resources undertaking. The special grant will total \$10,500,000 and is to be divided into three annual payments, the first appearing this year, of \$3,500,000. The other item, \$936,000, is moneys necessary to give to the board under the aegis of the University of Toronto in the take-over of Sunnybrook hospital; \$332,000 to pay for hospital supplies on hand, that is a take-over; \$500,000 to provide for working capital and \$104,000 to pay salaries to university employees working at the hospital at the time of take-over. This money is quite essential to the operation of this hospital so that the university can fulfil its functions.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, this special grant to the hospital for sick children spread over the three-year period, is that to make up the shortfall on their public subscription drive?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: It actually does this but it is being given from the standpoint of the government's undertaking to finance the cost of facilities for teaching and research function in such a hospital.

Mr. S. Lewis: And how would that be distinguished from the similar shortfall for the Scarborough General and Scarborough Centenary? Why would they not be included in a supplementary estimate of this kind?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Because it is not a teaching hospital. If it is a teaching hospital it comes within the ambit of the health resources funds.

Mr. S. Lewis: So that, in effect if you are not a teaching hospital, and you go to public subscription, you take your chances but if you are a teaching hospital when you go to public subscription and you fail, there is an alternative?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Not at all, Mr. Chairman, this is a completely erroneous interpretation to put on this. It did happen that the sick children's hospital would have appreciated being able to raise the additional \$10 million by public subscription. There is no doubt about that because there are always ongoing extras in a hospital of that nature. But the interpretation put upon this by the analogy drawn between the two by the hon. member is quite out of order, sir.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister refer to the special grant to Sunny-

brook hospital? I am sorry, I did not catch the explanation. Would the Minister mind repeating it?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: This money was necessary to finance the operation by the new board—\$332,000 to pay for supplies which were on hand and were purchased by the new board from the DVA, \$500,000 to provide for working capital. Of course, the new board had no working capital whatsoever: \$104,000 to pay the salaries of university staff who had been working in Sunnybrook hospital prior to the take-over, and at the time of take-over a total of \$936,000. Now, I should make it perfectly clear, sir, that this is just a special grant for this particular purpose. There will be much more money needed for Sunnybrook hospital, some of which will appear in the estimates.

Mr. S. Lewis: In the first item of this vote, Mr. Chairman, can the Minister designate any of the hospitals to which the money will actually be going in item 1 of vote 717? Not the \$1,000,000—the Minister divided the \$4,275,000 into two parts. The second part was the \$1,000,000 to defray the debt charges of the four hospitals he mentioned. Are there any specific hospitals included in the first part?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Every general convalescent and chronic care hospital established under The Public Hospitals Act is eligible for \$75 per bed capital grant, the number of beds that were in operation during the year.

Mr. S. Lewis: Well, Mr. Chairman, in terms of these supplementary estimates, is the Minister at all concerned about this apparent continuing shortfall on public subscriptions? Is there any intention of revising the various levels of contribution?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: There is no intention of revising the contribution at the present time, sir. We did this at the last session of the Legislature and we did it in keeping with intensive studies that were not only carried out by ourselves but by the Ontario hospital association.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, has the Minister endeavoured to get any more money from the federal government for hospital financing in the recent past or has he had any sort of specific discussions about it other than the agitated phone calls I am sure he has on occasion?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: We have had specific discussions, not during the time elapsed between the time this House rose at the last

session and now, because a final statement was given us by the Minister of Health and I believe it was concurred in by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister of Canada, that no further grants for hospital construction be given. The only concession we got last year was that the federal government would continue its existing agreement for two further years. That is, our agreement should end in 1968. The federal government undertook to continue the present agreement until March 31, 1970.

We have been told very definitely that the amount of the grant will not be increased.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, just one final observation. I think that this matter of hospital financing continues to be critical and insupportable in terms of what is happening. There is just no question that we are perpetuating the nature of the crisis, particularly in Metropolitan Toronto, by never having the money available from the public treasury, and always falling short on the basis of the subscription drives.

Obviously the health estimates is the place to go into it fully, but I say to the Minister that he has to reassess the concept of a third of the money being assumed by the local level. If the experience of Scarborough has demonstrated anything, it has dramatically demonstrated that that simply cannot be borne. I would say to him, and I know he will appreciate this, that as insupportable as the provincial position is, it seems to me that the federal position is absolutely indefensible. I cannot imagine a federal government more delinquent in its responsibilities than this government, in terms of hospital financing and would thoroughly agree with him in whatever pressures were put on that government to wrest more money for this purpose.

Vote 717 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: This concludes the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1967.

Clerk of the House: Estimates of The Department of the Attorney General.

ESTIMATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Continued)

On vote 202:

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Attorney General how many municipalities have accepted the offer

of the OPP to police their municipalities in the last year? Is he aware of that figure?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, we sent out a proposal to the one-man forces—I will deal with those first. I think there were 44 letters sent out, offering the Ontario Provincial Police to take over their policing. I believe that all but three have accepted. The others have not for the present accepted and I think their arrangements with their present forces would perhaps constrain them not to accept immediately.

Then I mentioned in the estimates last night that I think there were seven others. Seven other municipal police forces were abolished by the Ontario Provincial Police taking over complete policing in those municipalities. The only area in which the provincial police do not work, and which we expect the local municipalities to carry on the policing, is that area of policing which relates to their own municipal bylaws. We feel they should carry that out under their own arrangements.

Mr. Oliver: Are the municipalities that have signed agreements required to provide accommodation of any kind for the provincial?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Oliver: None? I am aware of certain municipalities in my own riding that have accepted this agreement and it would seem to me that there is a weakness in the plan to some extent and it arises in dissent, I think.

I am thinking of three small towns 15 miles apart, and the provincial police detachment is stationed at the end of the 15 miles. You appreciate what I mean. Is it the considered opinion of your department and the provincial police that the town at the other end will get adequate policing from the OPP?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, this is a shifting situation, and every situation is a little different. Generally we find that when we are in an area where a detachment is already located, consideration is often given to the changing of the detachment. But in the provincial police force, the officers and the men are generally on patrol and are moving throughout the detachment area. The mere fact that the detachment is situated farther from one town than another, does not mean that the one farthest away is going to be neglected in comparison to the other.

It is true that the headquarters is in the detachment and calls generally would go there, but the cars are equipped with radio and the communication is very fast. It may

be that the patrolling car might be closer to the town that is 15 miles away than to the one that is five miles from the detachment. So it is what the commissioner is prone to refer briefly as a deployed force; it is a moving force and continuously on patrol. I do not think that is a serious consideration.

I should have pointed out in answering the previous question that there is a difference in the contract operation with the OPP and the forces I mentioned—the one-man forces which are altogether without cost to the municipalities. There is simply a taking over and relieving of the municipalities of that operation, where they have one-man forces. I should like to mention that it is in our thinking that we would move, as I think we have perhaps previously indicated, to the two-, three-, four- and five-man forces, in the assumption of police duties without cost in those municipalities as we can, and this is being seriously studied and planned now. Quite a number of the other municipalities beyond that now are under contracts where the provincial police provide the service.

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Mr. Chairman, if I just might ask a question of the Minister through you, is it considered that you would move into the two- and three-man force? I know one area in my riding that has apparently contacted The Attorney General's Department about this. Is this a matter where we are first going to have to complete the one-man programme, or can consideration be given now to the two-man force, or possibly a three-man force? Will consideration be given at the present time, or does this other programme of the one-man force elimination have to be completed?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have completed the one-man force in the sense that we made the offer last year, in the latter part of the year. The reason we were able to do that is that there was sufficient personnel in the OPP force to do that. We could have moved in, sir, the day we made the offer. Our proposal to the municipality was, if you submit this to your council and you are agreeable, we will take over, and there was no delay necessary. We have been studying and planning and moving to the two-, three-, four- and five-man forces.

The answer to your question would simply be that we would need to increase the personnel and possibly in some small way the equipment, but mainly the recruitment of the Ontario Provincial Police force. So how soon we may move to that, will depend on how you treat the estimates of the Ontario Provin-

cial Police, and if I may be permitted, how soon we can recruit and train additional personnel.

Mr. Oliver: This question having to do with the displaced personnel, the one-man forces, I have a man in mind, and his name need not be mentioned. He has attended, I presume, the police college at Aylmer—is that where some of the municipal police went?—he got good marks there and went along fine. He has been 15 years, I think, the police force in this particular village, or small town.

Now, all of a sudden, he is told, "You are out," as of a certain date. Is there any consideration being given to what happens to this man? Would he be employable by the provincial police? Is there any way, having been upgraded by the courses in the police college, in which this would help him at all in getting into the provincial police?

I suppose you take no responsibility for his employment from now on. The further fact is, of course, that ordinarily a man of this type could secure employment in another small town, but that other small town also has gone out of the police business as far as local autonomy is concerned and so the field in which he can secure employment is limited indeed. It seems to me that we are apt to lose the services of some talented men who could be well employed in some capacity in police work.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the remarks of the hon. member for Grey North. It is true that this change creates some displacement as any change from one type of situation to another will. I do not have before me the letter which went out to the municipalities when we offered to take over the policing where there were one-man forces. I know that in my original draft, I had gone so far as to suggest that the local police officer might seek to be recruited by the Ontario Provincial Police force. We have indicated—although this was not in the letter which went out—in our discussions with the heads of the municipalities that there is a possibility of that policeman being employed by the Ontario Provincial Police.

His training, if he had been at the college, would be helpful. Age and physical qualifications, of course, come into the recruitment requirements of the Ontario Provincial Police force. We have suggested definitely in that letter, that the municipality would be responsible for the enforcement of its local by-laws. I think in some situations the police constable has been able to do that work on a part-time

basis and find other employment where he could go along with that.

These men, I think, would certainly be useful in other police forces, but as the hon. member pointed out, it would not be the one-man force unless he moved to one that is larger as eventually he would find himself in the same situation again. I can only say that we try to give every consideration to them, and I think that this is the reason that some of the municipalities have hesitated until they can work out arrangements with their own police constables. But displacement, to some extent, is inevitable.

Mr. Oliver: Would the fact that a man had 12 years of good police work in a municipality, plus the fact that he had taken courses at the Aylmer police college, make any difference in regard to the age limit required by the OPP? I mean, would he be taken on at a more advanced age because of the service involved?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have discussed this whole matter with the commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police and I pointed out to him the concern we had—and he has concern—for these displaced police constables. I cannot answer the hon. member directly with respect to his question, that the commissioner would set aside his recruitment standards in the situation that the hon. member suggests, but they are set forth in The Police Act and I can only say that the utmost consideration is given to these men, if they make application.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman it seems a pretty inhuman thing if arrangements are not made for these people—and I wish the Minister would not look quite so shocked, because I think it is inhuman.

Mr. Oliver: It was actually suggested that they were inhuman.

Mr. Singer: The policeman that the hon. member for Grey South talks about is a man who has given 12 or 15 years of good service in his community; he is qualified and he has taken the courses and passed with excellent marks, apparently, and then suddenly he finds himself without a job.

It is all very well for somebody to look at The Police Act, or a commissioner of the OPP being hidebound by rules and regulations, and to say that those are the rules and they apply to everybody. But where you are in this stage of changing over, surely it would make sense that if you displace the gentleman from Grey that the hon. member

talks about, that you should take him in as a clerk in an OPP office or something else, if he is too old. You have taken away his means of livelihood; you have taken away the thing that he has done for 12 or 15 of his best years and you just say that you will try to help him if you can, and if you cannot, that is too bad. Well, I do not think that that is good enough.

With great respect to my friend, the Attorney General, this is one of the types of unsophisticated people that he has to look after when he makes this kind of a move and he is just not doing it. Government is getting far too callous in these things and I think there has to be some arrangement to look after people who are displaced by government action, as important as that government action is. In this case I think it is very important that we have a consolidation of police forces and better policing.

I did not understand, Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General when he said that they were working on the one-man forces. Of course, as I pointed out, we in the Opposition are working under a very serious handicap. We have not had made available to us the statutorily required report of the Ontario police commission. Now, I was not here last night—it may have been that the Attorney General explained why that report is not before us at this time. If I have missed that I am sorry, but I would like to hear why we do not have that report here for this vote.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: First of all I do frown when I am charged with being inhuman because I do not feel that way about this and anyway, we make a proposal to the municipality on behalf of the government to do the policing in these one-man forces. The decision, first of all, rests with the municipality. It is a voluntary one, if they wish to accept it. We do suggest that they will need a by-law enforcement officer. As I have said, we try to give every consideration to the policeman. If they accept the proposal, I would think that they are taking some time to do it in order to get employment for this man or to give him an opportunity to get other employment.

I have not heard of a single case—not a single specific case—where the police constable in these areas has been out of a job.

Mr. Singer: The hon. member for Grey South has just told you about one.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If this is a fact, and anyone has a case of this kind, I would be glad if it were brought to my attention, then

we would see what we could do to assist. We certainly are not inconsiderate or inhuman about it. We are trying to make an improvement in the policing of certain areas of this province and it comes hard to be told that one is doing it in a very inhuman way. The hon. member for Downsview almost said that I should not be bound by the Act. Well, I somehow have a feeling that law means that you have to pay attention to law and a section of The Police Act lays down appointments to the Ontario Provincial Police force and section 29 says:

No person shall be appointed to the force unless he is a British subject, is between 21 and 35 years of age and produces a birth certificate, is at least 5 feet, 8 inches in height, weighs not less than 160 pounds and not more than 200, and is certified by a legally qualified medical practitioner in the public service of Ontario to be in good health, produces satisfactory proof of at least two years of high school education, passes the educational test required by the commission—

and, of course, is of "good character" and so on.

Am I to say to the commissioner, "Disregard those requirements. Go outside them"? I think all I can say and I think hon. members will be reasonable enough to admit with me, that all I can say is, "go as far as you can to give these men who come from these local situations the fullest consideration; if you can find some place for them, do so." But I am not in a position to say when this Legislature has seen fit to lay down certain requirements for our force—and I think those requirements have had the effect of making this a very capable highly regarded force—to say "Dilute it now by ignoring the Act." I just cannot go that far.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, the second question has not been answered yet but I will come back to that in a minute.

My friend makes the legal argument—and I am sorry he and I have never met in a courtroom, I would rather enjoy sparring with him—but he makes the legal argument here this afternoon: Surely 12 years of effective police work must get some consideration. Now this man, he is not a young man, he is 39 years old, and he started in his police career when he was 27, so he came within those qualifications. And I would say it lies within the power of the Attorney General to put an addendum, if you want, into that section of The Police Act that he just read. And it

could say very simply "Provided that where someone has given satisfactory police work over a period of years, the age qualification shall not apply to him". I think that would be a simple and obvious thing.

But to say, "Well, it is too bad, we have a section there that is rigid and if somebody is over 35, even though he has been doing police work for 15 or 20 years, we are going to stick strictly to that section of the Act." It just does not make sense. And it is inhuman. I repeat that and it gainsays nothing for my friend to say he has never heard of one case. The fact that my colleague from Grey brings one case before this Legislature today indicates there is at least one case. And if there is one, it is inhuman.

I do not know if there are any more or not and I am not suggesting there are any more. But I think the Attorney General should be able to tell us what he is doing about this kind of an injustice—and it is an injustice.

Now, the second question that I asked the Attorney General was: Can he tell us why he has not made available to the House the annual report of the Ontario police commission as is required in another statute? My friend would not suggest to me that I breach certain statutes and I certainly would not suggest to the Attorney General, of all people in the province of Ontario, that he should not obey statutory provisions. Where is the annual report of the Ontario police commission and why do we not have it here so we can use it in these debates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, while the statute requires the report, I think the hon. member will find there is no date stated for its requirement of presentation to this House. My information is that it will be available very quickly. I hope—I know it would probably be more helpful if it were here today during discussion of this particular estimate, I would hope by the first of the week I would be able to place it before the House. I would have liked to have had it earlier.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, I cannot condemn in too strong words the Attorney General for not having made it available before this vote came up for debate. It ties our hands behind our backs, and, again, it is another example of the government refusing to let the Opposition and the people of Ontario know what is going on: You say, "All right, we are asking for"—how many dollars are you asking for the Ontario police commission; \$1,010,000, and you are saying, "We are asking for all that but we are not going

to tell you anything. If you want to find anything out, you have to ask the right series of questions." But the report, which would be the basis for our examination, our critical examination and our constructive examination, of this important commission, is missing. I cannot condemn too strongly the government for not bringing that report before us and making it available to us at the present time.

Mr. Oliver: Before the Attorney General answers, on that same point. It is inconceivable to me, Mr. Chairman, that the Attorney General says that he expects this report in a day or so or perhaps before these estimates are through.

We had a committee of this House one time, which studied these matters under the chairmanship of Mr. Roberts, who left us the other day. And we had all the departments before that committee. And each one of the departments made it clear, I think, to the committee that these reports had been prepared and could be ready when the estimates were down in the House. Now, if my hon. friend is expecting this report in a day or so, do not tell this House, surely, that he could not have had it three or four days ago.

Mr. Singer: Right.

Mr. Oliver: I mean, the thing is inconceivable. The Attorney General has been badgered by this suggestion for a number of years and I think the orderly conduct of The Department of the Attorney General and other departments of government should certainly be such that they require the annual report to be present in the Minister's hands so that he can present it to the House before his estimates are heard. There is no physical reason why it cannot be done at all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I rose hoping to answer the member for Downsview before the hon. member for Grey spoke. It occurred to me that I had my mind so directed to the Ontario Provincial Police in our discussion about their recruitment and so on, that in my remark with reference to the tabling of a report, I was thinking of the Ontario Provincial Police report. And I was not intending to give the impression, although I perhaps did, that it was the Ontario police commission report that I would have in the next day or so.

Mr. Singer: The argument is still the same.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, the argument is still the same but I do not want to be on

the record as having indicated something that is not so. I do not expect that I will have the Ontario police commission report in the next day or so, I shall have the Ontario Provincial Police report.

The statute says "The report shall be obtained and tabled in the Legislature when it is in session." That is what I am required to do. I should like to have it sooner but it does take time to collate, collect the information, the statistics, relate the activities of the commission and make a satisfactory and complete report. We are now in the beginning of the third month of the year. I know a good deal of work has been done on the police commission report. It is not in my hands yet but it will be tabled in this House just as soon as it is received. I am not sure that I could have it so very much sooner because a year's activities of the Ontario police commission take some time to get together and place in the form of a satisfactory and complete report.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Is this a calendar year report?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, it is a calendar year.

Mr. Bryden: Is the one they are working on for 1966?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: The only comment I would make, Mr. Chairman, is this: I do not suggest that it is possible to prepare a report on a year's activities within ten weeks of the completion of those activities. It may be in some cases, but I am not suggesting it always is. I would say, however, that the government should take factors of this kind into account when arranging the business of the House. Why does it call the estimates of a department when it knows there are reports that are highly relevant to those estimates that are not yet available for tabling?

We have had a few battles about this in the past and I will say that the situation has improved greatly in the last few years. There is an obvious effort on the part of the government and the individual Ministers to have reports before the members prior to the calling of the estimates. But a great many annual reports apply to the fiscal year so that many reports clearly ought to be available by now. It seems to me that those departments should be brought forward first, and those where the reports are still not available could be left till later.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I think I would just like to enlarge on this very

briefly. In the case of the Ontario police commission, I think members should understand, sir, that much of the work of the commission is related to municipalities. The great bulk of this work is with the police forces of the municipalities. Much of the material which is required to go into the report has to be got from the municipalities.

Mr. Bryden: I am not criticizing the commission.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I understand the hon. member is not, and I appreciate his remarks, but I thought by way of explanation, we have to get in a great deal of information from municipalities after the end of the year. There is always a bit of delay in the early part of January and new councils do not always act; even old ones are sometimes slow in getting that material together and submitting it to us and the report has to wait until all that material is in. Then it has to be collated and collected and set forth in the proper form. So it is not just a case of the police commission being negligent in getting this report together. The work is going on. On the suggestion that we should not start discussing the estimates of a department until we have the reports, I appreciate the sense of that, but not knowing how long it will take to prepare a report, I think it might very well upset the procedures of the House.

It is conceivable that the estimates of the Attorney General might have been put off, say for another month, and even then the report might not be available.

Mr. Bryden: Well at least you would have created a greater chance of having the report.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am willing to stand here in my place and answer all questions that are raised. I appreciate that you could ask perhaps more pointed questions with the report in your hands, but to delay the estimates of the department in the expectation that the report might be here next week, or two weeks from now or three weeks from now, I think would so disturb the orderly procedures of the House that it is perhaps something that cannot very well be done.

All I can offer is to be as complete and full and detailed in my replies to your questions as is possible.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, the facts speak for themselves. The statute says that this report shall be tabled at the ensuing session of the Legislature following it. It would seem obvious to me the purpose of that statutory provision is to enable the members

to examine intelligently and criticize constructively the operations of that particular branch of the government. I cannot help but tie in the fact that we have not got the other statutory required reports—the police commission—and then add to that the denial of reports from the chief magistrate, of the chief county court judge, of all of these branches that the Attorney General deals with, and an overall report of the Attorney General himself.

It is all very well for him to say, "I will answer all the questions that you can give, and I will answer them to the best of my ability." But you remember, Mr. Chairman, some two years ago when I submitted in excess of 200-odd questions, it took pretty well the whole session to get those answers. I was met with complaints from my friend the Attorney General and from the Prime Minister that I had put the civil service of the province of Ontario to inordinate work and they had to spend hours and hours finding out the facts.

These are facts that we are entitled to know. These are facts that we must have before us and we do not get them. There is no point in asking that kind of question today, because the Attorney General is not going to have that specific kind of information. He knows it and I know it, so the fact is, we are forced to debate his estimates without the proper information being made available to us and it is part of a pattern of this government, a denying of information to the Opposition and denying of information to the public. It is just the same as the Prime Minister saying yesterday that it is a private and confidential matter whether or not a member of a government commission has submitted a resignation. It is bunch of nonsense. And it is a part of the attitude of this government and you are going to answer for it in due course, and you should answer for it.

Mr. Chairman, on this same vote, I was not able quite to follow the Attorney General when he said: "We are taking over one-man forces." Did I understand him correctly in saying, "In some cases we are going to ask those municipalities to pay and in other cases we are going to do it for nothing?"

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, no. We offer to take over the policing duties of all the municipalities where there are one-man forces, at no cost to the municipality. In other municipalities they may have five- or six- or eight-man forces. If they wish, they approach us and if we are able to find the personnel to do it, the Ontario Provincial

Police will enter into a contract to do the policing for them, by placing so many of the detachment personnel at their disposal, or putting two or three or four officers and men in the municipality. That is a paid proposition, based on a reasonable charge to cover the salaries and services of the personnel employed to do that work.

But in the case of one-man forces, it is a complete offer to take over without cost. In that situation, the only thing we suggest is that the municipality should remain responsible for, the enforcement of its own local bylaws.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Chairman, I would like to inform you that seated in the east gallery are 70 top grade students from the Ridgetown district high school, accompanied by their vice-principal, Mr. MacGugan, and other members of the teaching staff, Mrs. Neilson, Mrs. Holman and Miss Dickie. They are here to view the proceedings of this assembly this morning, Mr. Chairman, and I know you would like me to inform you so you could extend to them a very hearty welcome.

Mr. Chairman: I know the member will be glad to have me say a word of welcome to the pupils and teachers from Ridgetown school.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, when the Attorney General takes over the one-man forces, does he do that completely at no cost to the municipality? This is his plan for two-man, three-man, and four-man forces, and there he draws the line and makes arrangements from then on in. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well for the moment, it is all part of, I think perhaps I might say, the larger thought. I regard it as a substantial part of the administration of justice through the police. At the moment our thinking in this area where we have the police, has gone to assuming the cost.

As I say, we have done the one-man forces and are moving to the two-, three-, four- and five-men now. I will not say we will stop there. By the time we reach there, which I hope will not be too long, perhaps we will be moving—I would hope there would be some other areas. Enlarging, I think.

Mr. Singer: Do I detect from this that it is the plan of this government to take over the cost of the administration of justice of the municipalities?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think you should not be trying to be a detective this morning at all.

Mr. Singer: Well, that is one of the problems that we have, Mr. Chairman. We try to find out what is going on and our friends over there will not tell us what is going on.

I happened to read in the newspaper a very interesting announcement made by the hon. member for Welland (Mr. Morningstar). It rather surprised me that the member for Welland would be making an announcement about policing in a riding that was not even his own. This is a news clipping from the Niagara Falls paper of Tuesday, March 7, and it is headed: Saving is \$45,000. OPP will Police the Beach Without Cost. It is datelined "Crystal Beach".

The village council has had a \$45,000 windfall due to a change in the Ontario Provincial Police regulations. Monday night a letter was read from Ellis Morningstar, Welland MPP, stating that the agreement with the OPP this year for policing the village will be provided free of charge.

Amongst the benefactors on that side of the House, there is the hon. member for Welland. A fine man, and he makes great announcements. Yes.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, should not this item that the hon. member for Downsview is raising properly come under vote 211?

Mr. Singer: If my hon. friend from Riverdale will be patient, he will see why it comes under this vote, and I am just getting around to it.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I was directing my remarks to you, not the hon. member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): The Chairman is going to answer.

Mr. Chairman: I was waiting to hear what the announcement was and whether it deals with this on vote 211 from the standpoint of the Ontario Provincial Police.

Mr. Singer: Just be patient. That is all I can say, Mr. Chairman. My hon. friend from Riverdale is impatient as usual this morning.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: You never are.

Mr. Singer: And if he will just be patient he will see the relevance of this particular vote. The story goes on and says:

Crystal Beach is one of the five summer resort communities named by The Attorney General's Department to be relieved of the cost of policing.

Did the hon. member for Riverdale catch that, because that is the relevant part—the cost of policing, not the method.

It will now be necessary for the village to appoint the municipal enforcement officer before the Ontario Provincial Police take over on the agreed day.

Mr. Chairman, two obvious questions arise:

1. Apparently there has been a decision by The Attorney General's Department that it is going to take over the summer policing of five summer cottage resorts or summer park resorts—vacation areas. This is a good thing. My colleague, the hon. member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Bukator) has talked about this particularly in relation to Crystal Beach for many, many years. In case it escaped anyone's notice, the municipality of Crystal Beach is in the riding represented by the member for Niagara Falls and he has talked about this problem for years. It is within reasonable hailing distance of the hon. member for Welland but it has nothing, really, to do with him at all. Now that is point number 1.

Is there a new policy insofar as summer policing of these resort areas? To what extent does it go? Does it apply only to five municipalities or does it apply to 10 or 15? The hon. member for Bruce was here a moment ago and he will be back, but he wants to know why it would not apply to certain resort areas in the Bruce peninsula, and I think that that is a very valid question.

2. The second point, Mr. Chairman, and I think this is a very important point, is why if the new policy has been embarked upon, does it fall to the hon. member for Welland to announce this kind of a policy? What business is it of his any more than it is the business of all of the people of Ontario? Why does it fall to him to make an announcement about policing in Crystal Beach? Why not the member for Niagara Falls who represents that area and who has talked about this matter now for eight years? Or why not the Attorney General? Why do we not get those announcements?

I want the Attorney General to tell us why they are using this type of administrative decision for political purposes so that announcements can be made obviously to the benefit of government members in ridings which they do not represent.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, first of all, the policy is not new at all. As the hon. member for Downsview said, the hon. member for Niagara Falls has talked about this; other members have talked about the problem of policing the very popular summer beach resorts in this province for some years and we have been dealing with this problem and there are the beaches mentioned in this news item—Crystal Beach, Wasaga Beach, Wasaga—we have been doing it in Grand Bend and in other areas where extra policemen are needed in the summer time to handle the great crowds that turn up—particularly on weekends.

This is nothing new. I do not know and, frankly, I am not going to try to answer for the member for Welland. He is quite an enterprising gentleman—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He represents what—I heard him saying across the House—are apparently some new boundaries to the riding there and he expanded his responsibilities to take in the thought of making it known to the people that there would be a service by the police.

I do not think that I need to treat this too seriously because a member was given this information from some source and released it.

I do not feel that this is too serious a charge; as far as I am concerned, I did not give out the information but I would have done so had the member asked for it, or if anyone had asked for it, and I am not critical of the hon. member at all. I am glad the news got out and that it was raised in the House. It is something we do all the time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Pound away at your desks. This is just another example, Mr. Chairman, of using the administrative machinery of the government of Ontario solely for political purposes. The Attorney General says that he did not give them the information; I accept his word for that, but it is obvious that somebody gave them the information. If it was not the Attorney General, it was someone in his department or someone in the police commission.

It is not right to do this in this way unless the officers of the police commission are being used for political purposes, and that is the last thing in the world that should be done. I do not blame the member for Welland; somebody gave him the information

and he thought it was a good thing and he got his name in the paper making a helpful announcement. There is nothing wrong with that, but I do say that when you have this kind of a change in policy, you have a public duty and responsibility to all the people of Ontario. You have a public duty to all the people of Ontario. You have a public duty and responsibility to the member for Niagara Falls, who raised the question for eight years. He should have been the first to know and if you did not want to do it that way, then make a public announcement in your capacity as Attorney General. But you used it for political purposes and you do this all the time. The government does this all the time.

There was an article about another department where it is done all the time and I think this is a disgusting abuse of government power.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, may I say that in these situations, particularly in the supervision of police matters by the Attorney General, the police—all the forces in this province, municipal and Ontario Provincial Police—are within the control and supervision and direction of the Ontario police commission. I am not saying this to blame them. All forces—and insofar as the Attorney General is concerned, except for matters of policy, he keeps his hand as far away as possible from police matters.

The hon. member for Downsview will understand and appreciate why that is desirable and why that is necessary.

In the direction of the Ontario Provincial Police force itself there is the commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police. The commission and the commissioner work together, but announcements of various kinds may come out from either one of those sources—the Ontario police commission or the commissioner. I do not for a moment think it is necessary when it is decided to police a certain area—a combination of beaches or a single area, and this is a policy which has been settled over the years—that I have to be even consulted or told by the commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police that he has taken on an extra beach. If I had to spend my time checking that sort of detail, I would not get more important things done.

If he decides that by himself or in consultation with the Ontario police commission, that is a matter of administration of his force and unless it is a variation in policy which needs my decision, it does not necessarily come to my attention. I might first of all read it in the newspaper the same as the hon. member did.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General obviously misses the point. Whether he personally made this decision or not is not the issue. He is the Minister responsible to this House for the actions of the Ontario police commission and for the actions of the Ontario Provincial Police. I want to know and I think that I am entitled to find out, how that information came to the hon. member for Welland. From what source did it come? The Attorney General says he did not personally communicate it; how did it come to the hon. member for Welland?

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, to set the record straight, I had a letter from the clerk-treasurer of the village of Crystal Beach, asking for the protection of these beaches, such as Wainfleet township and some of the others. Crystal Beach is now in a new riding—known as the Welland South riding. I thought there was no harm in bringing this to the attention of The Department of the Attorney General. I received a reply a week or two later that the provincial police would be policing the beaches—Crystal Beach, the same as Wainfleet and so on.

I made no announcement. I wrote and told the clerk-treasurer about what had happened and it was given out. If that had not been the new Welland South riding, no doubt I would have referred it to the hon. member for Niagara Falls; being a new riding in that area—the hon. member for Downsview was over the other night speaking for the candidate who is going to be in the new riding and I think he did a pretty good job there. He mentioned about the pollution of the waters and so on, I see.

That is the way it came about; I made no announcement on that; it was the reeve down there. He is on the same side of the fence as you people are. He is a good Liberal.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, there is nothing wrong with that at all, but why after all these years, the eight years that my colleague, the hon. member for Niagara Falls, has brought this issue forward, was there no action taken?

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Because he did not follow the matter through.

Mr. Singer: Well, all right, maybe the member for London South has given me the answer, because the government pays no attention to complaints or criticisms or suggestions made by Opposition members, is that the answer?

One letter from my friend from Welland. Obviously his letters have great importance

and great effect. One letter produces a decision that my colleague, the member for Niagara Falls, has been seeking for eight years. Now why should that be?

Mr. Bryden: This is by a non-political commission.

Mr. Singer: Yes, why should that be?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Singer: Could the Attorney General tell us that one?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I think the member got interested and used his initiative.

Mr. Bryden: The member was interested for eight years.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I cannot answer that.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order! The member for Bruce.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Attorney General: In the newspaper article dealing with Crystal Beach, it says there are five beaches that will be policed without cost. In my own area, Sauble Beach has been policed by the provincial police for the last couple of years, but this phrase "without cost"—does the municipality in which these beaches are situated, pay any of the cost? That is, for example, such things as telephone calls or accommodation? Is there any cost to the municipality whatsoever?

Another thing I wanted to know was this, in some of these beaches there is a certain amount of—it is quite necessary that there be substantial numbers of police there because we get the summer crowds, some of which, on weekends, tend to be more rowdy than they would in what we call established municipalities. What happens to the fines, the money going into the court where the charges are laid on these beaches by provincial police? The reason I ask—

Mr. Chairman: I think this would properly come under the administration of justice under vote 207.

Mr. Whicher: It is dealing with these beaches. I will be very brief if the Attorney General will answer me now. The reason that I ask this, Mr. Chairman, is that I have been informed—I do not know whether the information is correct—that there has been in the past some charge to the municipality

concerned and that the fines that have been collected by the courts in the area have not gone back to the municipality concerned. So that is the reason that I ask this question.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, when we moved into this situation, there were situations wherein some of the municipalities had contracts with the OPP and a charge was made. My understanding is—I think this is correct—that now as we find these summer beach situations, with large crowds and sometimes a bit unruly on weekends, we have put the necessary OPP additional forces in there without charge to the municipality. I think the contract situation in those municipalities has been dispensed with.

As to the fines, this properly comes under another vote; they are treated the same as any other fines in municipalities. I think some of them—they go generally to the municipalities—are on a sharing basis, but they are treated the same as other fines, no difference made.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, just to be specific, is Sauble Beach included in this announcement that policing will be without cost completely to the municipality?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think it is. I know it is being taken care of anyway.

Mr. Whicher: Just one more thing I wanted to say about this, Mr. Chairman: I spoke to the Attorney General about this before and it was taken care of, but I wanted to emphasize it. In some of the beaches the provincial police in the past have not moved in to take over control until perhaps the July 1 weekend. I want to impress on the Attorney General and the officials that on May 24 weekend, thousands of people come to these beaches and to have two police in a situation such as this is, of course, ridiculous. I only point this out to the officials concerned with the hope that this year the police for what we call the May 24 weekend will move in in numbers that are required to deal with the population concerned.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, just before we pass from vote 202, in the discussions yesterday evening, the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. Newman), referred to correspondence from the general manager of the Windsor chamber of commerce. I looked up my file on that and found a letter had been received on September 9 of last year and answered on September 19. It was quite fully replied to with

information and advice. I have taken occasion today to refer the letter with respect to giving further information about the location of a consumer protection bureau, and the licensing provisions of The Consumer Protection Act, all of which was referred to generally in our reply. I just thought I would put that on the record.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, last night just before the House rose, I raised the question with the Attorney General about the absence of a police commission report at that time and his reply was that in due course the report would appear. I emphasized to him then that I felt it was incumbent upon him and very necessary in the public interest that he make some statement about the question of crime in the province of Ontario, and organized and syndicated crime.

There has been a lengthy discussion this morning about the absence of the report and I am not quite prepared to accept the proposition that the report could not have been available. I would grant the Attorney General the problem of collecting the information so far as it relates to the various municipalities, but that is only a small part of the police commission report.

I have this feeling that we went through a period in the early sixties when the whole question of a dispassionate exchange of views about the extent of crime in the province of Ontario was rendered almost impossible because of the distortions which took place at that time in the discussion of the matter. We then had a brief period of almost complete silence on the topic and last year we had the report of the police commission which raised this question. Now, it seems to me that if the Attorney General is not prepared today to do so, at some point during these estimates I am quite certain that we here would agree to him doing so at any point, that he should make a statement about the extent of crime in the province of Ontario, about the extent of the police measures which are being taken to combat crime, so that we can continue to have, or at least resume again, an intelligent discussion about this question in this assembly.

Mr. Chairman: I do not want to interrupt the member, but it is my understanding that he would discuss this perhaps under vote 207. Was this not the understanding?

Mr. Renwick: No, Mr. Chairman, that was an entirely different matter; that was a question of procedural safeguard. I am speaking now about the extent of crime in

the province of Ontario, which is the subject matter usually dealt with in the police commission report. I think the Attorney General would agree that it is an entirely distinct and different matter, Mr. Chairman.

I want very much to have a feeling that each year we can have the kind of exchange in here about the extent of crime which will add something to our understanding of the problem and add something to our understanding of what the police requirements are and what is necessary to safeguard society against the inroads of crime. It does not seem to me that the Attorney General can simply say that we would all understand why he keeps completely remote from police matters. I think the Attorney General has to realize that in a very real sense he is the point at which these problems focus and that he has to deal not only with legal matters in the traditional sense of his department, he has to deal with the police operations.

Where the two come together in the arresting and convicting process, then the Attorney General must be intimately involved in all the problems related to both crime and its detection and on the other side of the coin, the protection of the citizen and the procedural safeguards which are available to the citizen and the many ramifications of that way of placing the problem before the assembly.

Mr. Chairman, referring to the police commission report of last year, for the year 1965, I will quote just briefly from it:

The police commission reports that from the facts ascertained during the year it has been established that there is collusion among major criminals in Ontario, Quebec and bordering centres of the United States. It has been determined that the fields in which this collusion is present are narcotics distribution, bankruptcy, arson and insurance frauds, gambling, counterfeiting, the planning of major robberies, and the large-scale disposition of stolen bonds, jewellery and furs.

There have been several criminal occurrences in Ontario during the year which have clearly indicated the existence of syndicated crime control with tentacles reaching into such U.S. centres as Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Buffalo and Detroit, and in Canadian centres such as Montreal, Calgary, and Vancouver. Additionally, close attention has been paid to the infiltration of legitimate businesses by known criminals, a trend which has lately become more prevalent. As yet we have

not been able to assess all the fields of crime in which this state of organization exists nor the full extent of the control which is exercised by leaders of organized crime, but there are indications of other areas of crime also within the orbit of organized groups.

That in itself, Mr. Chairman, would seem to me to point to the absolute necessity of the Attorney General, in these estimates, taking it upon himself to make some statement as to the extent of crime and as to the result of police work which has been done during the past year. I would be very reluctant to leave these estimates on the basis that at some point the report of the police commission is going to be tabled in the Legislature. Perhaps the Attorney General in tabling the report might make some statement which would not permit an exchange of views, or any endeavour to inform the public of the extent of this problem. I would be very concerned if that were the only way in which the public and this assembly was to be informed of the extent of crime in Ontario.

All these other matters are important, but relatively marginal problems in connection with this vote, but I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that this is the fundamental problem. Until we in this assembly can have, as I said, a dispassionate discussion of police methods—of what the police problem is, then it is very difficult to have an intelligent discussion of the other side of the problem, namely the extent to which, if necessary, matters such as civil liberties must be encroached on, in the interests of police enforcement.

We here hope, of course, there is no necessity for that. But before we can join in any kind of discussion about it, we have got to have the police position put clearly in this assembly. Otherwise we will spend our time talking in an almost theoretical sense about civil liberties in this field, and this to my mind is a correlative part of the other problem which I raised last night and which, with the agreement of the Attorney General, was put over until a further vote.

I do not think we are going to achieve the objectives that we are required to achieve under these estimates if the discussion is a one-sided one. I have, as the Attorney General and perhaps others know, taken part in some panel discussions with concerned citizens about this whole problem, and as yet, I say this with the greatest respect to the police officers that were present on those panels, I have not as yet heard an intelligent explana-

tion of the requirements of the police to control or to deal with individual crime, organized crime, or syndicated crime. We generally end up by the police officers giving the traditional answer, well what would you do if it was your sister that was raped? This is about the level at which we have any communication in Ontario on the question of the requirements in this kind of a society of the police force for the adequate protection of the society against the inroads of crime.

Now we in Ontario cannot afford to have it suddenly blow up in a peak and then drop into another valley where public discussion is practically taboo. The Attorney General will have lots of time; he will have the whole weekend to deal with this matter.

I would ask him if he will undertake during these estimates to make a specific statement on this aspect of the work of the police commission and of the police forces of Ontario during the past year. In the absence of a report, I think it is absolutely essential that he do so. I am quite certain that the police commission can, at this point, tell him the results of last year's work in the fields which were dealt with so eloquently in those particular sentences I quoted from the last year's report. This to my mind is very important.

I would like the Attorney General to comment on that and I have two or three other matters of some marginal importance in the same field.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I was hoping the hon. member would leave me time to comment now without carrying this over the weekend.

I sometimes have difficulty, when listening to the hon. member in this discussion, in trying to determine whether his greatest concern is with the encroachment on civil rights, or liberties, that he spoke of yesterday evening, of the person who is apprehended by the police, who is often, not always dependable, or whether he is concerned with encouraging the police activities for the protection of the law abiding public.

Mr. Bryden: Well they are surely both areas of primary importance.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I was going to say that—or the protection of the citizens.

Mr. Bryden: He is concerned about both.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Both areas are important. From some of the comments I hear, I feel that sometimes we lean perhaps too far in the direction of hampering the police efforts to

protect the good citizen, who is the victim of the criminals.

In the material which was furnished to me by the Ontario police commission, I have some six pages of notes on various activities of the commission and most of this, if not all of it, will appear in the report—perhaps not in the exact form in which it appears here. I think it might be helpful in this discussion to read a small portion of these notes having to do with the question raised by the hon. member for Riverdale.

The commission's report to me as it appears here says:

During the past year your commission has continued the programme to accelerate and coordinate the efforts of the police forces in the field of organized crime. This has been accomplished mainly through the services of the CISO, the criminal intelligence services, Ontario, and by the visits of our intelligence officers to police forces.

Three additional police forces became members of the criminal intelligence services of Ontario providing more complete coverage of the province, and the chief investigator of the Ontario securities commission also became associated with the group as an associate member. Monthly meetings of the criminal intelligence services, Ontario, members were held. This along with regular commissions from the various officers involved have produced a growing awareness of the problem posed by organized criminal groups. The knowledge gained during the year has clearly indicated the value of the police criminal intelligence functions.

The training seminar for intelligence officers was again held at the police college in Aylmer from September 12 to 16. All members of the criminal intelligence services, Ontario, representing 21 police forces, as well as members of the Quebec Provincial Police, the Montreal city police, the Ontario fire marshal's office, the federal bankruptcy officials, the tri-services intelligence section of the Canadian armed forces, the Canadian customs and excise investigation service and the fire underwriters investigation bureau of Canada were in attendance. Our intelligence officers continued their efforts to strengthen the cooperative link with police forces bordering Ontario, by regular visits to such centres as Montreal, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Hartford, New York and Washington. They attended the conventions of the Ontario chiefs of police, the Canadian chiefs of police, the law enforcement intelligence

union, the various zone meetings of chiefs of police in Ontario, monthly meetings of the southern Ontario police conference in Hamilton and the President's commission of law enforcement and administration of justice held in Washington.

Mr. Chairman, without reading further, I would like to answer generally in my own words, that organized crime, syndicated crime—and I know the distinction—crime generally, call it organized, syndicated or whatever you like, will always be seeking to fasten upon and get into our society, particularly as our society is so affluent today that it draws crime and criminals who seek to prey upon the citizens of the affluent area.

We know this, but it is not something that we are going to put a stop to today or tomorrow or next year. All we can do is to take the most complete, thorough means to fight it, to keep it under control and to bring to justice those who transgress our laws, those who are criminals. We direct our efforts to catching them, to frustrating them and preventing their criminal activities and to bringing them to justice.

We do this by providing adequate police forces, well-equipped and well-trained. In my estimates you will see the increases, particularly in this section. You will see that there is a call for an additional intelligence officer to add to the two who are now with the Ontario police commission, and one more advisory officer who will travel and consult and counsel and advise the municipal police forces.

We are extending our training for our policemen and you will come to this in my estimates. You will see that we seek to expand our college facilities. We are planning to take under our wing a great many more police in the training field and seeking to expand our activities there. We have equipped our forces with the latest equipment in telecommunication and that sort of thing. The disciplines and the training of our force with proper intelligence, is the best answer, I think, to the attempted inroads of crime.

I could talk about this in general terms at length, but I do not think that there is a great deal more to be said. When the police commission files its report, I am not certain that it will be able to give statistics on organized crime; it will be able to indicate what efforts it has made to combat it and where it has been found—if it exists—but by the very nature of crime it keeps itself hidden and the best way to find it out is to have a good police force.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I can understand the Attorney General explaining, as he did in his introductory remarks, about the gradual extension of the intelligence network of the province in this whole field. I can also understand him making the self-evident statement that in a society such as ours we are not going to be immune from organized crime or from syndicated crime which are two terms that have specific and definite meanings, in addition to individual crime. But the concern—and again I put it to the Attorney General that any discussion of this area must be based upon some form of factual information. I again refer him to last year's report of the police commission because the quotation which I read—and I am not going to read it all again—simply said that “from the facts ascertained during the year, it has been established that there is collusion among major criminals,” and it goes on to say, “it has been determined,” and “there have been several criminal occurrences,” and similar phrases which indicate a background of factual knowledge available to the police commission, a year ago as to the extent of organized crime in the province.

Then in their remarks last year on the question of statistics, they dealt with this question of criminal statistics and:

It is recognized that much could be desired in content, method, recording and tabulation. With this in mind your commission has established a select committee to undertake a study and prepare a report with recommendations for the improvement of statistical records and research studies of criminal occurrences. This commission would then at any given time on a monthly or quarterly basis be able to inform the Attorney General of the state of crime in the province. Research studies of these statistics would, it is hoped, enable conclusions to be reached as to the causes and control of crime.

Now, the area of discussion that I want to move from is from the general statements which the Attorney General has made, to this kind of information. If I have to put it bluntly, does the Attorney General now receive on a monthly or quarterly basis the information which gives him an intimate knowledge of the state of crime in the province of Ontario? Has this select committee appointed by the commission to make this study, completed its study, if not what is the state of the study?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have meetings with the Ontario police com-

mission from time to time, when information is given to me as to the state of the province with respect to crime and law enforcement generally. The committee that the hon. member referred to has not completed its studies and even if it had completed them I do not know that it would be helpful. It might be helpful for the department to know in its administration of this area, where crime existed. This is certainly so, but mere statistics that there are so many criminal outbreaks of this type here or there, are not, I think, of great interest perhaps to the general public.

They are furnished for the administration of the police forces and for the forces which work to put down and prevent crime and to bring the criminals to justice. While I am sure the police commission in its report will furnish all the information it has which is cogent and relevant to the matter, I cannot see that it is of great interest here to say that there were a certain number of crimes of this nature in a certain location. I think this is for the administration of justice in the department.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I do not know now what to comment in reply to the Attorney General. He does not seem even to understand what the police commission said in its report—that the Attorney General, under the system which the police commission was developing, apparently was going to provide the Attorney General with information as to the state of crime in the province. I do not think—and I do not really think the Attorney General believes—it will be a simple listing of incidents of crime in the province; it is going to be a use of statistical techniques, a use of the criminal intelligence information which is collected under the criminal intelligence set-up which is set forth in this report; it is going to be a study so that a comprehensive, intelligent statement can be made publicly at least once a year for debate in this Legislature about what the facts are.

I am not suggesting, and I am certain no one is suggesting, that the police either disclose to us sources of information or specific information which would impede their investigation. But surely it is incumbent on the Attorney General to make a statement in this Legislature during debate on his estimates about this question of the extent of organized crime or syndicated crime. It is not sufficient to say that we are adding here and we are extending this operation and we are doing this, we understand that, we can

appreciate that that is necessary. From the point of view of the public having an intelligent appreciation of the threat or the extent of the threat to the general security of the society, this is a prime responsibility of the Attorney General.

I am going to ask the Attorney General again if over the weekend he will communicate with the police commission, if he will make a prepared statement on which we can exchange views in these estimates at the beginning of next week about this question. If we had had the police commission report, of course this would not have arisen in this way. The police commission report, unless it were told after these statements last year to eliminate such statements from its report, I assume would have built on the reports of prior years and continued to comment on this field.

I ask the Attorney General again to take the weekend to make this kind of preparation and deliver this kind of statement in the assembly so that we can keep this basic question of this kind of society in proper focus for intelligent discussion and debate. This is essential if we are going in any way to assess the needs of the police forces, rather than to be continually placed in the position that, "well it is not really our business. We just leave it to the police."

I ask the Attorney General to do so, I urge him to do so, I want him to do so.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, may I take a moment? I do not object to making the statement which the hon. member asks, but all it can amount to is this—and I may as well say it now. I know from my discussions with the Ontario police commission, all the state of crime insofar as we have been able to discover it, with our intelligence officers, with our police forces, municipal, provincial and so on. Now, all I could say and all any number of words would amount to would be this, that from time to time there may be evidence of more or less crime, that we from time to time catch up with certain criminal elements and bring them to justice, that we find evidence of crime here and there.

I would say that generally the situation is under control insofar as it ever can be where you have an attacking force of criminals, syndicated, organized, or otherwise. And all one can do in the situation is equip your forces, recruit your forces to the extent necessary to contend with that. And what more a statement would contain than the

essence of these remarks, I do not know, but I have no objection to making it.

As I said, I think statistics are of little value to the public. They are concerned with administration. About the statement I would make; I would make it now. I do not think I could add much to it.

Mr. Chairman: Is vote 202 agreed to?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Chairman, I presume the hon. member for Riverdale has further comments in this area.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the committee of supply rise and report it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps before I put the motion, the members would permit me to remind them that we have two classes from St. Raymond's school in the east gallery, from Bracondale riding. I know you would want me to say a word of welcome to them.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on Monday, we will have certain second readings, resume the Budget Debate and have an hour's debate on private members' business from five to six.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, before the motion is put, I wonder if I may ask the Prime Minister if the line-up of estimates as he announced it some ten days ago, I think, still stands the same? As I recall it, we were to go to Tourism and Information and from there to Energy and Resources Management, after Attorney General?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, that is the order in which they are at the present moment. If there is any change I will inform the House. But as of now that is the order they are in.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.05 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT – DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, March 13, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to welcome as guests to the Legislature today, students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Winston Churchill collegiate institute, Scarborough; and in the west gallery, students from St. John's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day and on behalf of my colleague, the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), I am pleased to announce the approval of a further six Ontario housing projects in Metropolitan Toronto.

These projects are part of an expanded housing programme of the government of Ontario and represent a capital investment in excess of \$19 million. Five of the developments will add 1,152 dwelling units to the present Ontario housing corporation portfolio in Metropolitan Toronto; the sixth is a land development scheme to provide serviced land for over 300 senior citizens' units, to be built by the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited, and over 700 family rental units to be developed by private enterprise, in addition to Ontario housing on a geared-to-income rental basis.

In view of recent comments concerning the housing situation in Metropolitan Toronto, I believe a few facts and figures concerning the Ontario government's housing programme in Metropolitan Toronto will be of interest to hon. members.

The following figures represent the status of the Metropolitan Toronto programme to date, that is approximately two years after Ontario housing corporation was requested by the metropolitan council to undertake this housing programme. The number of units constructed or purchased, 2,901; the number of units under construction, 1,256; contracts

about to be awarded, 1,211; existing units approved for purchase, 285; preliminary planning or design stage, 2,169; for a total of 7,822. In summary, Ontario housing corporation has under administration in Metropolitan Toronto, as of today, 5,211 units, of which number 2,310 were assembled under the previous federal-provincial arrangements.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister without Portfolio who is also chairman of the Niagara parks commission: Would the Minister tell the House why six members of the Niagara parks commission have resigned; and second, what changes, if any, does the Minister intend to recommend concerning the commissioners' privileges and expense accounts?

Hon. J. N. Allan (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, in reply to this question from the hon. leader of the Opposition, may I say that I am not actually sure why six members of the Niagara parks commission submitted their resignations to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Roberts).

In reply to the second part of the question, I may say that the privilege granted to members of the commission and the treatment of expense accounts is a matter of government policy and I have made no recommendation in this area.

Mr. Nixon: I wonder if I might ask, supplementary to that Mr. Speaker, if the Minister has answered the question as chairman, does he expect to be consulted on the changes in personnel of the commission? Will the resignations come before him as chairman?

Hon. Mr. Allan: Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that question might more properly be asked of the Prime Minister, the one on whether he is going to consult me or not.

Mr. Nixon: But it is true that the gentleman who answered the question is chairman of the commission?

Hon. Mr. Allan: Yes.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): My question to the hon. Prime Minister is in three parts:

On what date did the Ontario farmers union first request an opportunity to present their brief to the Cabinet?

Has a date to receive this brief been fixed?

How can the government justify postponing the annual brief of a major farm organization until after the agricultural estimates have been completed?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, in answer—

Mr. Speaker: I believe the member for Huron-Bruce has a similar question.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well he is not here!

Oh yes, I am sorry.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Prime Minister, notice of which has been given. It is similar to the one posed by the member for York South.

Have arrangements been made for the Cabinet to meet the representatives of the Ontario farmers union?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should first apologize to the hon. member for Huron-Bruce, I was looking for him in the seat he occupied last year.

In answer to the two questions, arrangements have been made. I think it was in January that we first heard from the farmers union.

Mr. MacDonald: December 28!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, why did the member ask the question, if he has the answer?

Mr. MacDonald: I wanted to know whether your information squared with the facts.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I was informed that it was sometime early in January. In any event, I do not think that is particularly relevant.

There have been discussions between the secretary of the Cabinet and this organization, along with a great many other organizations that wish to present briefs and see the Cabinet. As a matter of fact, as recently as last Thursday, I am informed, Mr. McIntyre, the secretary of the Cabinet, was in touch with Mr. Dolmer of the farmers union, and this morning a definite date was finalized.

Copies of the brief will come from the farmers union in due course and then they will be considered when the deputation is received here.

I can only say this, that we have a great many requests for various organizations to appear before the Cabinet. It is our effort to have as many members of the Cabinet present as is possible, because these briefs from various organizations generally range right across the whole gamut of government activity. In other words, the farmers and the briefs from farm organizations do not just involve The Department of Agriculture and Food. They involve many other departments as well.

This particular year, I can say, my own absence from the House has complicated matters to a certain extent because I personally like to be present when these briefs are presented. In addition we have another factor involved this year, which is a very early Easter.

Many organizations want to present a brief before the Legislature sits, but it is not always possible to make arrangements to have specific organizations appear at specific times. We do not attempt to relate these briefs to the estimates of any department, as mentioned in the question, for a variety of reasons.

In the first place, the presentation of a brief of this type is a relatively formal matter. I would point out that as a government we are in touch with these organizations continuously throughout the year. We have seen people—I have, and so has the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart)—and other Ministers from these organizations at various times throughout the year and therefore do not necessarily relate the time of the presentation of the brief to the estimates of the particular department. As I say, the brief will go far beyond the estimates of that particular department.

We have some organizations that want to present a brief to the Cabinet at a time that is related, perhaps, to their annual meeting. They may want to present it right after and in some cases right before. The actual time is a matter of convenience for both parties and trying to take into account what both the government and the particular organization may want.

As far as this particular organization is concerned the arrangements are now complete.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Attorney General.

If Viola MacMillan was in the lawful custody of the court on Friday, March 10, when she was convicted of an indictable offence, is there any authority in the criminal code or

elsewhere for the trial judge to release her on bail pending the imposition of sentence?

Second, if there is no such authority, then what steps does the Attorney General propose to take to remedy this error?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, the criminal code provides that a judge may grant a person convicted of an indictable offence freedom upon his own recognizance prior to the imposition of a sentence by the court.

If my learned friend would care to look at section 483 and section 484 of the criminal code, he will I am sure, agree with that interpretation. In addition to the above, section 670 of the criminal code provides that where an accused is bound by recognizance to appear for trial, his arraignment or his conviction does not discharge the recognizance but it continues to bind him and his surety, if any, applies for his appearance until he is discharged or sentenced, as the case may be.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the foregoing comments, the learned trial judge in this instance acted within the authority granted him by the criminal code and there is no error to remedy.

Mr. Sopha: By way of a supplementary question, may I ask the Attorney General if this is the usual practice followed by judges after conviction.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not sure whether one would say it is usual or unusual. I think it has been followed, certainly; and the code makes it very clear that the trial is not ended, is not concluded, until sentence has been pronounced and that the recognizance does follow and hold through to the end of the trial.

Mr. Sopha: Well I am satisfied there is no such authority, that is what I am satisfied of.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Look in the code.

Mr. Sopha: It is not in 483 or 484, there is no such authority.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Look at section 670.

Mr. Sopha: There is a law for the rich and a law for the poor, that is what there is.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Nonsense!

Mr. Speaker: Whenever we have supplementary questions being asked the members should not carry on further remarks on the subject matter, as I do not think they are always in good taste.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Highways, notice of which has been given.

Could the Minister tell the House how much subsidy, if any, the province will have to pay for GO-transit operations in 1967?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the answer is: The excess of operating expenditures over revenue from commuter fares for the period April 1 to December 31, 1967, is estimated at \$1,400,000.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Mr. Speaker, the member for Yorkview (Mr. Young) has a question of the hon. Minister of Mines and he is unavoidably detained at the present time. With your permission, sir, I would put the question for him.

Will the Minister initiate the setting up of a joint management and union safety and health committee in the Inco plant at Sudbury?

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the member for Yorkview for asking this question and also the member for Wentworth East for taking his place when he was unavoidably absent.

The answer to the question is "no".

The following is taken from the report of the special committee on mining practices at Elliot Lake and I quote:

Management and the unions are in opposition on many issues, but in safety work they stand on common ground. This invites cooperation, but the degree to which they should cooperate is usually a matter of opinion. It may also be a subject for negotiation. It is certainly not a matter for legislation or recommendation by this committee.

This has been negotiated and is in effect.

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs, as follows: Could the Minister tell the House if he is doing anything to speed up the process of even minimal payments to creditors of Prudential Finance Corporation?

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the matter is in the hands of the trustee.

Now might I point out that it is not necessarily in the best interests of the creditors to expedite these matters. That might sound a little unusual, but the fact of the matter is that, depending on the nature of the assets

of an estate such as this, it may be desirable to preserve the assets without distribution in order that they may be held until the greatest amount can be realized in the end result.

Of course one of the main functions of the trustee, even though it is of necessity time consuming, is to take whatever steps are necessary to see that in the final result the creditors get every possible benefit.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Sudbury, I believe has another question.

Mr. Sopha: I have another question for the Attorney General. We will not be in any disagreement about this one, I am sure.

Has The Attorney General's Department investigation into the affairs of Oshawa Acceptance disclosed any criminal or other improper activities?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I can best assure the hon. members of the House that the investigation into the affairs of Oshawa Acceptance is proceeding with all possible speed; and there is a great deal of material, I would point out, to be examined.

I cannot at this time, I think, disclose the results of that investigation as it might impede the investigation or prejudice it; and having regard to that and the rights of persons who may be involved, I would prefer not to say what has been done in the way of charges.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, just before the orders of the day, could I bring to the attention of the members that the annual press gallery party is Thursday night and accommodation seems to be at a premium. This comes on a night when ordinarily we would have a night session, so there will be no session on Thursday night of this week.

I tell the members this so they may rush and pick up their tickets for this gala event that will take place on Thursday of this week.

Mr. MacDonald: Is Wednesday night still free?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes. The problem is that we agreed to have no night sessions on Wednesday night, and if the member is in the same position as I, probably he has other engagements, as do most of the members of the House. So it is a little difficult to just put in a night session.

Mr. MacDonald: I appreciate what the Prime Minister has said. He is precisely correct, but I heard there might be a switch

and I was just trying to contemplate how I would cope with it.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We could cope all right, but it might be difficult.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The fourth order; second reading of Bill 38.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves second reading of Bill 38, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE REGIONAL DETENTION CENTRES ACT, 1965

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions) moves second reading of Bill 40, An Act to amend The Regional Detention Centres Act, 1965.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURTS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 41, An Act to amend The Juvenile and Family Courts Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 44, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE JURORS ACT

Hon. Mr. Wishart moves second reading of Bill 45, An Act to amend The Jurors Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS ACT, 1966

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves second read-

ing of Bill 47, An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act, 1966.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, just a brief comment on the principle of this bill, which sets up a committee to advise the Minister on matters pertaining to his department.

It appears from the make-up of the committee that has already been struck that the gentlemen so selected are very well versed in matters pertaining to the financial community, but it does occur to me, sir, that they would be offering advice to the Minister who has some direct regulatory control over their own day to day business. While it is essential that people who have a knowledge of the financial community of Ontario be on this advisory committee, I would strongly urge that there be a range of view and a range of opinion so the Minister can have access to those who might inject more objectivity in the advice that he receives.

We well know that some of the situations that have arisen in the recent past have been perhaps the result of a lack of arms' length dealings, in a sense other than the financial sense, by those who have the responsibility for controlling and administering the Ontario securities commission, and this whole range of very responsible positions. So, I would say, Mr. Speaker, that in commenting on the principle of this bill I would urge the government, in the selection of those who are in a position to advise the Minister and his colleagues, that objectivity be sought out as perhaps the most valuable thing that the advisors can bring to this particular committee.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, that is a very good point. I might say that we must look at the nature of the men who have been chosen to date to act on that committee and I think it must be agreed that they are outstanding men in their field. The committee is not complete as yet because there will be some additional appointments, but the point the leader of the Opposition raises is a valid one. This question of objectivity and the matter of arms' length relationships, particularly where advice is being given, will be kept very much before us.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could explain why it was necessary to bring in a bill such as this one, when some weeks ago he appointed the committee. It seems rather redundant to first do the act and then ask for statutory authority to do it.

He certainly did not seem to think that he needed statutory authority when he first appointed the committee. Somehow he has had some second thoughts in regard to it. It just does not make too much sense to me. One would have thought the government believed they had some general power to appoint committees. This has been done from time to time. Does this make it a little more holy than it was before; or is there some reason the Minister now doubts what he originally did?

By and large, Mr. Speaker, I want to know why the government seems to be running around in circles when they introduce this Bill 47.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, if you would permit me to speak a second time, I would be glad to answer it.

There is no suggestion that this is the holy of holies, as the hon. member suggests and there is no question about us changing our minds. The government has the right to appoint an advisory committee at its own discretion. But there are two matters that may be involved in the work of a committee of this type.

The matters which have been referred to at this stage and which were relevant when the committee was appointed are in the area that the hon. member refers to as being within the government's competence.

When the committee was appointed—and this relates to the point of the leader of the Opposition a moment ago—at the first meeting this whole question was raised. In this field, where the confidential aspect of some of the information may be involved, in other words a reference might be made to have the committee deal with, say a certain company, and in order that they may be protected, it was then determined that in the event that did develop in the future, the committee should have statutory authority for its existence. I give you an example of the Minister of Finance in the federal field, who called an *ad hoc* committee together with respect to certain financial matters which by their very nature, while not being specific about companies, still by the nature of the matters which he confided to that committee both he as the Minister was severely criticized and the members of the committee were embarrassed about it. That was about three years ago. It was with that precedent in mind, frankly, that it was determined that this committee would be given statutory authority.

There was another reason for it, and that was that under the previous recommendation

of one of the committees this advisory committee had been made an advisory committee to the securities commission alone. It seemed to the government that having in mind the nature of the matters which the department was to consider, say in the loan and trust corporation field, that operation of the department should also have the benefit of this kind of assistance.

So it was first to give it statutory authority having to do with the confidential nature of something that might be referred to it; and second, to give it a little greater authority and advice ability towards the loan and trust operations.

Mr. Singer: Surely the Minister is not suggesting that other committees do not respect government confidence? That seems to be what it is.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1966

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves second reading of Bill 48, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, does the Minister plan to make any comments on second reading of this bill?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The amendments contained in this bill rise from the continuing meetings with the other provinces on this subject of consumer protection. It is to achieve absolute uniformity and to give the whole subject, shall we say a nation-wide basis, not only from the public's point of view but from the point of view of the provinces administering the legislation and of the industries which are involved in it as well, that these amendments are to be made.

The reference to the bill itself will indicate that, for instance, you are talking about such things as what insurance means and what official fees are. They are important matters. As you look, say down the page under section 2, the method of expressing in dollars the actual amounts received in cash by the borrower plus any other fees is shown.

It has to do with the method of disclosure. That is the general spirit of the bill. It is submitted on the basis of achieving uniformity with the other provinces; namely Nova Scotia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS ACT

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health) moves second reading of Bill 49, An Act to amend The Public Hospitals Act.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, would it be in order to ask to which hospitals this bill would apply? I hardly know how to discuss the principle of it, sir, without knowing to which hospitals reference is made.

Mr. Speaker: It is not a time for questions, but the chair will allow one.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: The principle is very simple, sir. The various hospitals of the province of Ontario are divided into certain classes, all outlined in the various schedules of the regulations.

The groups H and I hospitals mentioned in the first part of the bill here are limited, they include the Clarke institute, the Donwood foundation and the proposed addiction research foundation hospital. Those are the only ones; but the groups are being established because more hospitals of similar nature will be coming into being.

Mr. S. Lewis: I thought that to be the case, Mr. Speaker, and I raise this one point on the question of principle; and I must admit I am not sure where I myself fall on it, but I raise it. It has probably come to the Minister's attention.

I think it necessary to have some reservation, some skepticism about the advisability of the creation of hospitals specifically for this or that treatment purpose. I think, Mr. Speaker, that one of the ways we have seriously undermined the status of the mental hospitals in Ontario is by confining them to one function and that function only.

I know it is true, sir, that many of the superintendents of the Ontario hospitals throughout the province would wish to have additions by way of general practice and specialized practice in other areas of medicine so that we do not continue the pattern of isolating disease, so-called, or illness so-called.

I would therefore ask the Minister whether thought has been given in this instance and in other instances for recognizing that while there may well be specialties in various hospitals, it is perhaps not entirely desirable to perpetuate the pattern of hospitals given to one kind of illness exclusively.

I appreciate the problems inherent in it, but it is something that worries me and I stress that reservation on principle.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS ACT

Hon. Mr. Dymond moves second reading of Bill 50, An Act to amend The Private Hospitals Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, to resume where I left off on the last day, I had thought, your honour, that I was going to be advantaged by having the presence of the first citizen this afternoon; and as the record will show, he was here earlier and he has now left his place. I am sure though, sir, that his faithful lieutenants in the House have reported to him the useful observations that I made about the reorganization of his Cabinet.

Of course, sir, when one makes so bold as to stand in his place in this august assembly and criticize the public responsibilities of those who advise the Lieutenant-Governor, it gives one a measure of concern, no matter what qualities of courage one can summon to do so. Therefore your honour, you will appreciate that in this very nebulous realm one looks around for fortification for one's views; and when I returned to my constituency over the weekend, sir, I can report to you now that I did there find some fortification which I have brought back with me.

I observed in that connection, and this will be of interest to the governing party I am sure, that on Wednesday, the very day I was speaking in the House, perhaps at the very time, the *Sudbury Star*, which is a very alert newspaper, of course, in the affairs of our community, was in the process of assessing the qualifications of the ten persons who were to seek on Saturday—two days ago—the nomination as the candidate for the Progressive Conservative Party in the new riding of Sudbury East. And of course, sir, there were those

in the community who said that if ten were going to seek it, that was the whole Tory party that was offering itself for the position of candidate. There were others who likened such a large assembly of prospective candidates to the lemmings of Scandinavia. You know every year, sir, it is said that the lemmings go down to the sea and commit suicide.

An hon. member: Political suicide!

Mr. Sopha: Well I want to refer to only one of them, and this man turned out to be the successful candidate. It seems to me, in retrospect, that in reading the news report about the qualifications of ten of them, it is easy to see why this man should be so selected.

His name is Cec Fielding. He is known as Cec Fielding. I suppose his proper full name is Cecil, but he is called by all who know him, a very fine young man he is, as Cec Fielding; and they report of him as follows:

Cec Fielding, 49, a lumberman who has lived in Sudbury all his life and whose grandparents pioneered in this area is making his first bid for political office.

It is not true that he is making his first bid: he tried twice before. The hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Demers) defeated him for the nomination for the riding of Nickel Belt in 1963. Then when the member for Nickel Belt—he was here earlier—when he was the successful candidate over nine others at that time they turned around and made Mr. Fielding, who was the runner-up, a life member of the party. And Mr. Fielding never saw the joke. He had no sense of humour at all. He did not see the joke of that.

Well that was one time. He sought the federal nomination in the riding of Nickel Belt in 1965 and he was defeated by another person, who in turn went down to defeat in those lean Diefenbaker years of 1965.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): The member is getting through to them.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, I am getting through. I can see that I am getting through—when one talks about the lean years, that falls on ears that are comprehending.

Well this was not his first bid. Now the news report goes on to say this:

Asked why he is standing for the candidature, Fielding said he wants the job of Minister of Mines.

Mr. Nixon: That will fall on fertile ground.

An hon. member: That will be an improvement.

Mr. Sopha: To continue:

He said that the current Minister, George Wardrope—

Whom we all know—

—is ready for his pension.

That is what I was saying on Wednesday last, that surely in the reorganization of November last year the present Minister of Mines must have been given at the best a 90-day reprieve, which is all but expired now.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): We are waiting for Fielding.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Fielding goes on to say and I quote from him:

The only way we are going to get the mining revenue payments back into this area where they belong is to have the Minister of Mines elected from this area.

Now that is a very dynamic statement and the people of Sudbury would understand that; and no doubt those 1,500 people—yes, there were 1,500 people attended that convention on Saturday.

Mr. A. W. Downer (Dufferin-Simcoe): Good convention!

Mr. Sopha: And they were such a variety of ages that—it was the youngest crowd they had ever seen—that it turned out to be the first political convention in history where they had to keep a ready supply of bottle warmers.

Those people assembled there would comprehend what Mr. Fielding meant about the necessity of having a home-grown boy in that important portfolio of Mines. I am saddened by the fact that the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) is not in his seat in order to hear words like that from a man of great prestige in the Conservative Party.

This man, at an earlier time, when he announced that he would seek the candidature in Sudbury East, told the members of the local Conservative association that he was the only man entitled to that nomination because he had a Rolls Royce and an aircraft and a million dollars.

Now in the Conservative Party what is the passport but those three things? That almost deserves an acclamation.

There was another thing about it. It was variously reported when the preparations were afoot for this great meeting that the "Duke

of Kent West" was going to be the guest speaker. He heard about some disagreement between the various factions and he passed. He did not bid. He passed. It was reported that his seatmate and his helpmate, the Minister without Portfolio from Scarborough North (Mr. Wells) would be present. Once again, he failed to show.

It seems rather a pity when you have such a large gathering that one of the 22 public servants, the high-priced public servants, not the prestige-laden ones of the front row, but perhaps one of the flotsam and jetsam of the second row.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Maybe the Minister of Mines.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, perhaps the Minister of Mines himself might have gone.

But then we were not in the dark for very long about where they were. All one had to do was to keep alert to the press and we found that the London Cabinet, the western Ontario Cabinet, was gathered in the city of London. There was considerable reportage of their deliberations there. Having read it very carefully in all three newspapers one concludes that in western Ontario the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) is on a par with the Prime Minister, that he has achieved parity.

Mr. Nixon: Maybe a little ahead of him!

Mr. Sopha: As my leader says, maybe a little ahead of him.

Well we saw the Provincial Treasurer last Thursday here during the debate of the amendment proffered by the leader of the Opposition, and the Provincial Treasurer stood over there and I did not think at that time that he was very dynamic.

I did not think he was breathing fire particularly. I thought he was rather meek, as he used the time allotted to him and said to the leader of the Opposition that you will have to increase income tax so many points and you will have to increase sales tax so many percentage points and you will have to raise succession duties. I really treated it as a treatise on the art of being Provincial Treasurer, sufficient to get him an honorary degree perhaps at the University of Oshgosh or the Congo or someplace.

But when one read the press on the meeting of the western Ontario Cabinet that rules this province in London, one can see that the Provincial Treasurer was breathing fire. Those of us who have seen him pounding his desk here can just get a mental picture of the ire

of the man. As he charged into that group that more or less support the views that he holds, it was an assembly of the faithful, some kind of a Conservative fish fry that they were holding there in London, one got the impression that he was fairly breathing fire as he said the Liberals are irresponsible when they say they will take over the sales tax of the province. His theme appeared to be: Where are we going to get the money?

Mr. Bryden: Now we have it on the record, they are going to increase the sales tax.

Mr. Sopha: That is what the Provincial Treasurer said. If he were here in his place I was prepared to say to him today, perhaps someone will carry the message to him, I was prepared to suggest to him that there is a large area of taxation extant in this province that is not even touched as yet. No government, no successive government in the 24 years that the Tory party has been in power, has shown any exploratory tendencies to examine the field of the socially created increased value of land.

I was going to ask the Provincial Treasurer whether at any time in his preparation before assuming the office of Provincial Treasurer, the number two position in the government, whether he had ever read the words of Henry George, who now lies mouldering in his grave 70 years this year.

My friend, the member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher), with his quick wit, he adds to my question whether he has ever read anything. That question, of course, would have occurred to the minds of almost all members of the House.

But ever since the end of the Second World War I give as my view, for what it is worth and to invite criticism for that view if it be forthcoming, that in the 22 years since the end of the Second World War we have missed a great opportunity to share in the increment to the value of land that has been socially created.

I emphasize the social creation of that value. For land increases in value as population expands, I say to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs who attends me. It increases in value as there is increasing urban concentration, as we have seen in this area of the province known as the golden horseshoe. But of course none of that increased value of land has found its way into the provincial coffers.

And I must say today, speaking today, that it is much more fashionable for me as a private member of this Legislature to advance

these views than it would have been before the Carter commission reported. If one accepts the principles of the Carter commission, that a dollar is a dollar and the label put on it is meaningless, the source from which it comes is irrelevant, then one can speak fashionably today of society, the state, the government, the repository of the interests of the people, of their rightful share in the increased value of land.

Mr. Bryden: What is the member advocating, capital gains or site valuation, or both?

Mr. Sopha: Just a moment!

It occurs to me, notwithstanding the attempt to be helpful by my friends on the left—

Mr. Bryden: No, I am just asking. I would like to get it down to particulars, not generalities.

Mr. Sopha: I want to say this about my friends on my left, the modern revisionists: We will have to have some kind of a meeting some day, as China did with Russia, so that those of us in this party will call those on the left to task for their revisionism, because they are going too far to the right.

When one talks about the increased value of land, you can imagine my consternation one night, sir, and we were in committee of supply, the absolute consternation I had to hear these people, the two in the back row, defending people like Sigmund Samuel against the expropriations of the government and suggesting to the Attorney General and to others that people like Sigmund Samuel should be given the benefit of the brief of the government about expropriation.

Mr. Bryden: When did this happen?

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes it happened lately. I sat and listened to it. The member was not here that night.

Mr. Bryden: Well we just want to know whether the member is talking about what happened in this House or in a place of his own imagining.

Mr. Sopha: But the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) and the member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) is it, they were advocating that poor Sigmund Samuel, when they set out to expropriate his land, should get the brief of the government. They should disclose to him the value they put on his land, that is the position they were taking on this.

Sometimes I really wonder about these people, I really wonder, because this country needs a party of the left and they should remain in the left. I have always had the view, my friend the member for Parkdale (Mr. Trotter) and I, on almost all things that had to do with humans, that we were much further to the left than—

Mr. Bryden: The member should sit here.

Mr. Sopha: Sometimes when I hear them defending the flag, the red ensign, up there, I sometimes think they are somewhere between Louis XIV and Barry Goldwater on the right. Really, I plead with them to get back to the intellectual climate of the Regina manifesto of the early thirties. I would like to see it return to the stage when Frank Underhill really gave the party some intellectual verve. However, they will find that disposition very useful and they will consider that at a later time.

But I say to the hon. Provincial Treasurer, when he asks us, or when he puts words in our mouth as he is inclined to do, telling the leader of the Opposition that he will have to raise income tax so many points, he will have to raise sales tax so many points, that the Provincial Treasurer shows the bankruptcy of his own thoughts in that apparently he or his department are not examining additional sources of revenue.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Please, would the member endow on the Legislature the ordinary courtesies of decent human living?

Mr. Bryden: We just want to hear what the member has to say. He has not said anything yet.

Mr. Sopha: I invite the Provincial Treasurer or someone in his department, one of his senior deputies, to have a look at the works of Henry George, to get out *Social Progress* and the other volume, the name of which escapes me for the moment, and then the Provincial Treasurer might see some useful avenues of expanding the revenues of the province through giving to society a just and equitable portion of that value that society creates.

In that connection, and having mentioned Sigmund Samuel, I was thinking about one aspect of that man's affairs in the life of this province and I took the trouble to call up the Deputy of the Minister of Public Works and to ask him how much the estate bequeathed to the province had been sold for.

I was informed, when finally they came to the end of the matter and their embarrassment could inhibit them no longer, they sold that estate that Sigmund Samuel intended should be the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor and his successors. We know that, since 1960 at least, no government of this province, and indeed not even a Tory government, would dare to turn the clock back to the year 1939 when Mitchell Hepburn sold Chorley Park and dispossessed the Lieutenant-Governor. They would not dare turn the clock back and give him an official residence at the expense of the taxpayer. So being unwilling to accept the gift, the Deputy to the Minister of Public Works, who is a very helpful person, told me that the price that was fetched was \$116,900.

Now that was a very useful figure if—

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): \$116,000?

Mr. Sopha: \$116,900. Is that what I said? \$116,900.

Now for comparative purposes one would need to know, and I directed an inquiry to the succession duty branch, only to discover that under the statutes in that behalf information is much harder to get than in the Kremlin. I am sure you could call Moscow and get information easier than you can from that department.

I wanted to know how much exemption Sigmund Samuel had claimed for that bequest. Now those who can surround a memory, told me their recollection was that he claimed \$400,000 of an exemption, which of course relieved his estate, his executors, of paying the appropriate succession duty on that amount. One would need to know, in that connection, what the appropriate tax would be on the exemption he claimed to determine whether the province got done out of any money or not.

Now I say to the Provincial Treasurer, in that connection, it may be that with a little more temerity and a little more determination, I have always had the feeling in reference to the collection of taxes that just a little more determination could turn up many millions of dollars more.

I have yet to see the day that I open up the financial statement of a public company—I wish somebody would phone me if they ever see the day—that I open up the financial statement of a public company that sells its shares on the Toronto stock exchange and see where the income tax paid is equal to 52 per cent of the net profit. I have not yet seen that day. They never do. They are always much less.

I have wondered about the injustice of all these allowances and fancy sophisticated accounting methods that they use. Because the man working for wages, your honour, does not get away with any. His are deducted at source. The government puts its clammy hands on it right at the source, and if the employer fails to remit to the government, then he becomes personally liable and he can go to jail for that failure to remit.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Now you are with it.

Mr. Sopha: I mentioned INCO the other day, that is a good one to refer to, where the gross profit was \$360 million and the amount of taxes that they paid was \$93 million. At 52 per cent, I calculate that they would owe us, and the government of Canada about \$50 million.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): The member had better speak to the federal government.

Mr. Sopha: Well the Provincial Treasurer gets a piece of this action, if I may descend to the vernacular; 28 per cent, is it not this year?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: We want more.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, 28 per cent. Maybe it is in your own interest that instead of pounding the table down in London in the bush on a weekend, you are writing to Mr. Benson in Ottawa and drawing these things to his attention and saying to him, are we getting our rightful cut of this? And of course the Carter commission pointed out to us, and it is well to keep these things alive and in the forefront of public attention, that there are many organizations in the corporate world of this country who have privileges.

I suppose that is why I am a Liberal, because this party as part of its philosophy is against privilege. That is the party of privilege over there. If a person seeks privilege he will naturally be a Tory. You will find him in the York club, the Toronto club, the National club, the Albany club, or the London hunt club. That is where you will find that person. And that of course is where influence is felt.

What else could be the meaning of this statement in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* of March 6, just last week? They are discussing the Carter report, and describing it as "A courageous case against tax privilege." Then it goes on in the editorial, in the very early part of it, and it says this, and I quote:

The courage, in fact, may verge on foolhardiness, for the industries thus assailed are among the most powerful and entrenched in the country, and it would take a brave government to implement the proposals for clipping their privileges as urged by this brave commission.

What does the *Globe and Mail* mean? What is the unwritten, the invisible meaning behind that statement? Unless it means that these industries, these centres of economic power, have a private telephone to this government, or to the federal government. What does it mean other than this? Behind the hand, in the privacy of personal communication they are able to make their views felt on government.

If such be the case, and these people have more power than elected Parliaments and Legislatures, then this country, this province is less of a democracy than one imagines it to be. But of course that is precisely what it means, and I would ask you, your honour, to remember those remarks of the *Globe and Mail* and the sinister and insidious implication in this in the light of some later remarks that I am going to make. And that brings me naturally to the fourth matter of pretence.

You will recall that in discussing my own sentiments about the usefulness and the importance and the dynamism of this Legislature in the life of this province, that I had referred to three matters of pretence which we would do well to dispel. Clean our house and toss out the antiques. Get with it, get into the 20th century in the year 1967. In that connection I am concerned about the gulf that seems to separate this place from the real world outside.

I believe we should bring this Parliament, head and feet into the 20th century and get rid of the symbolism that has outlived its usefulness. You do not know the comfort it brought to me on Friday night to see Eric Kierans, an outstanding public figure in this country, being interviewed by the CBC, when he had the courage and temerity to make his observations about the post of Governor-General.

We need more people of that quality, of that character and importance in the political life of the nation, to say those things. He did not say much. It was a simple suggestion to the Canadian people, and I hope that it was carried from coast to coast. Mr. Kierans suggested that before we make haste to appoint the replacement we should examine the nature of the institution. That was all he said.

I make no personal observations about it, but I have never made it a secret from anyone—heaven forbid, it has been quite the reverse—that I would cheerfully get rid of the incumbent of this office of the Lieutenant-Governor tomorrow. I would give all the duties and functions of this anomalous position in the life of this province, to the chief justice of Ontario for him to carry out in his spare time.

There are those who place emphasis on these institutions, but I do not see many in the House. I have a sympathetic audience because I do not imagine there are many of that group over there who would violently disagree with me, but if there were some, certain ones in the back row there, they would be scowling at me. Those that do place emphasis seem to me to overlook the fact that all of our institutions are indigenous. They were born and bred, and grew up here in Canada, to suit our needs.

Our forefathers borrowed heavily on the idea, but they molded what they borrowed to suit the Canadian environment. In the first place, we are a confederation, not a parliamentary or unitary state. Our Senate in Canada is not the House of Lords. No, it is worse. Our courts have almost no similarity to those of Great Britain; that may seem a startling statement, almost no similarity to those of Great Britain.

We are a vigorous and dynamic country and we can only achieve complete integrity and identity out of our own experience and out of our own lives and the things that happen to us. We cannot obtain integrity and identity derivatively from a parent.

Sometimes I wish in connection with this theme that there was a gigantic television screen in every public square in this province, in Chatham and Duntroon and Chester-ville and Barrys Bay and Hagar and Foleyet. I wish they had a gigantic television screen in the square or what we call the square in the north. Maybe they do not have a square in the southern part of the province; that is the main meeting place in the smaller centres. And they had the cameras focussed on this place in order to show the people the pretence inherent in what we do, and our reluctance to change it.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Interesting to hear what the people would say about you.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I will stand or fall by my convictions. I will stand or fall because when a person has convictions and states

them, it does not matter what the sequels are. It does not matter what follows. The important thing is to stand by one's convictions. That is the important thing.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: You speak for yourself.

Mr. Sopha: I speak for myself as a private member. I am the member for Sudbury.

An hon. member: Thank heaven for that.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: You are not speaking for the rest?

Mr. Sopha: I do not presume to. Heaven forbid that I should ever presume to speak for the Minister of Agriculture. I would never even think or brook the thought of taking on such an awesome responsibility. I would never want to be condemned for such asininity.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: You used that term last week.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: You could do worse.

Mr. Singer: Get the dictionary out.

Mr. Sopha: I would never want to. For anyone to say about me, in any place in this province, that I sounded like the Minister of Agriculture and Food would be a burden that I would find almost impossible to bear.

Mr. S. Lewis: Some of us agree with the member.

Mr. Sopha: Thank you. That television screen would disclose to the people how little part the individual members of the governing party play in the government of this province. How little part they play!

The hon. member for Welland (Mr. Morningstar), if he were on the cathode ray tube, would not dare to get up and make those declamations about the good guys on the Treasury benches, as he is wont to do at every opportunity. And when he does that, I do not need to include it, you have all heard him, he forgets that in his own party there are sophisticated people—there are sophisticated people who cannot buy that. The hon. member for Russell (Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence), the hon. member for Halton (Mr. Kerr), the hon. member for Beaches (Mr. Harris)—I rate them as sophisticated intellects—they must really grimace when they hear those disquisitions for the member for Welland.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Thank you.

Mr. Sopha: There would be a public demand for the removal of the member for Perth. That demand would start in Stratford, one of the most inviting places in this province. The people in Stratford would say, for heaven's sake do not send that member back home; if a man holds those views about the place of the French language, put him up in the Royal Ontario museum; he is a relic and that is where he should be.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): That is what you think. You have not heard the end of that yet either.

Mr. S. Lewis: That is what worries us.

Mr. Sopha: We have not heard the end? I hope we have not. If there are those, and the Minister of Agriculture and Food appears to be one of them, who do not believe what I have to say about it, perhaps it is worthwhile to put in the record the views of Professor Porteur in his remarkable study. I am going to take this occasion to read them, very slowly, into the record and I hope they will be digested by my friends opposite—unless they are suffering from intellectual constipation. Harken to what he has to say, an outstanding Canadian scholar:

It is doubtful that members of Parliament and members of provincial Legislatures have important decision-making powers. In his collective portrait Professor Ward has shown how short lived is the political career of members of Parliament, as measured by the proportion—about 40 per cent of each Parliament—that is made up of newcomers. Most members of Legislatures, provincial and federal, do what their leaders tell them or suggest to them as being the correct course of action. Collectively they may act as checks on Cabinets or as sources of information as to about how the country feels on certain public issues. But they do not partake in any real sense in political decision making; because caucus meetings are secret we cannot tell the extent to which Cabinet Ministers are diverted from courses of action or forced along new courses of action by their parliamentary supporters. We do, however, know that the break-up of Mr. Diefenbaker's Cabinet in 1963 was brought about by dissident Cabinet Ministers rather than by the rank and file members.

I am very happy to put that on the record.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: A Tory is a Tory in Ottawa or Toronto.

Mr. Sopha: I never saw any place that anyone had attempted to refute Professor Porteur, I never saw it.

Now if the member for London South wants to refute Professor Porteur, he can apply to replace him at Carleton, and he could write a book and sell as many copies as that one has—it was on the best seller list for several months. I have no doubt the member for London South has read it.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Yes, I have read it, and that is only one of a number of errors.

Mr. Sopha: Every so often one hears complaints that the great debates here are inadequately reported in the press. And the press is not without blame. I would not want in any way to suggest that I have any ethereal view about the press and we never of course will cure that until the press will get off the front pages the tales of rape and murder and violence and one thing or another with which they seek to titillate us every morning and evening.

I am one of those persons who can say, almost without exception, that is a portion of the front page I do not have to read because I do not read those stories. But the press still has the view, which I do not think fits the enlightened age, that the mass of their readers like to read those tales of violence, heartbreak and human suffering that they put on the front pages.

Too often, on the other hand, reports of debates here come out in a bowdlerized version which utterly fails to capture the cut and thrust of debate here.

This year, for example, we had three great speeches: We had the one by the leader of the Opposition, the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. MacDonald) and the major contribution by the Prime Minister himself.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Who got the front page?

Mr. Sopha: One of the leading organs of the press of this community, and I will not identify it, had the reports of those speeches on page 55. I looked over the front page of the same issue because I was rather surprised to see that and I saw nothing of interest or any world-shaking event other than, as I say, the usual tales of human misery that we find on the front pages. You know yourself, sir, that I do not exaggerate—if you are in a state of euphoria some day, if you are absolutely feeling at peace with the

world and your Maker and you picked up the front page of one of the leading metropolitan papers and started to read about wars and bloodshed, rape, murder, incest and everything else, you would get into the gloom of despair about it.

It was interesting to note that the Prime Minister's illness, and there is a good example, the Prime Minister's illness, was a page 1 story but in one of the leading metropolitan dailies, his recovery was on page 64, it not being news. It not being news of the same quality as the fact that he got sick.

Finally, the television panorama that I have postulated would have revealed the inherent weakness of this government with its overwhelming majority. It would show devastatingly that so many—perhaps I should not say this but I will rush in—that so many of the 78 or 77 that support the government party and its overwhelming majority, are not worth the \$12,000 they are paid. They do not earn it.

Mr. W. B. Lewis (Humber): How did they get there?

Mr. Sopha: The member for Humber ought to be the last person to intervene at this point. We are conscious over here in Opposition that he does not get \$12,000. He is a member of the flotsam and jetsam, the moonlighters, who gets a great deal more out of the public Treasury—one of that group, that anomalous group, that sits in the back row—

Mr. Whicher: Cashing cheques.

Mr. Sopha: Cashing cheques, I could not put it better than my friend from Bruce.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: This is going to make the front page.

Mr. Sopha: Now, we are on the eve of an election and I want to say through you, Mr. Speaker, that in this party we have people whose suggestions for improvement of the public statutes and administrative procedures have been accepted by the government and often very willingly, I might add. It is fitting to pick out two Ministers who willingly accept suggestions for improvement of the public statutes:

The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) is a good example; the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) is another, and both happen to have that open attitude of intellectual probity that allows them to see that in all affairs human there is room for improvement. They never seem to posit that frame of mind that by divine right, they are

correct and cannot accept any suggestion coming from the Opposition. The Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) is an example of the other end of the question; he is a person who very reluctantly and grudgingly accepts any suggestions.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): How about Agriculture?

Mr. Sopha: Oh well, I have dealt with him earlier.

Mr. Edwards: The member is getting a little prompting.

Mr. Sopha: Well, the member for York South made a very useful suggestion to me but I will have to keep it in the treasury of weapons for use at some future time.

Now, we have the satisfaction of knowing—speaking as a member of the Opposition frankly and openly—that generally in the process of government, reason and common sense prevail and that we play a part in the process of government. After all, we must never forget that government, as a democratic process, exists on consent. It can only exist by a constant flowing of consent from this side to the proposition that the party with the largest number of seats has the right to govern. And we see it evoking itself in many ways in the affairs of this House. The Prime Minister, we consent, has the right to call the orders of the day and there are any number of examples of that consent.

And we feel, the member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) and I, I believe I could speak for him looking back over eight years, we can feel that in the previous eight years we have made a modest contribution to the process of government.

I said to him one day, if you will permit me to say, that we have had some of our suggestions accepted by the Attorney General. It is always useful to remember, sir, I say to you quietly, it is always useful to remember that the member for Downsview and I do not run things around here, we just make suggestions, and sometimes they are accepted.

We in the Liberal Party, and not the less the leader of the Liberal Party, the leader of the Opposition himself, we believe as a matter of the philosophy of our party that everything human is capable of improvement. We believe that it is proper to invite change in human affairs, and not for the sake of change, but because change brings a betterment of the conditions of those we seek to serve.

This young, intelligent and dynamic man who leads this party and works very hard—

and I hope he will take all necessary steps to preserve his health in the forthcoming months—we believe if the people of this province are so minded that our contribution can be increased to the life of this province.

Now that is putting it as moderately as I would like to put it, not in any spirit of exultation or no spirit of assuming anything for the electorate in the way the Provincial Treasurer assumes the continued confidence of the electorate. Oh yes, he is the prize example of that. He will sit there and get an unctuousness about him befitting the divine right of kings and say that forever we are going to be the government of this province. And the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) appears to have been bitten by him somewhere along the line, because he gives every sign of infection of that spirit.

Others among my colleagues work very hard to maximize their roles. If and when we go to the ballot box, the people in their wisdom and in the exercise of their sovereign power return a government with an overwhelming majority, then it will be a profound disappointment to us.

I put it that simply. Having sat here for eight years and seen the disabilities and the disadvantages to the people of Ontario of having a government that has the supercilious attitude of this one with an overwhelming majority, I would ask the people of Ontario to do what is necessary to change that and bring out a proper balance of parties in the Legislature so that a small group here is not in a state of being constantly overwhelmed by a majority whose physical presence, as it spills across the way into this area of the House, is made known to us. At every opportunity when something, whether brilliant or not, whether germane or reasonable, is said over there the dutiful faithful bang their desks in almost near loss of control of their reason.

I think that is bad government, sir. It is bad government to have an overwhelming majority of one party. They would not do it, sir, if there was the giant television screen that I posited. The people of this province would not return them because they would see how irrelevant to their welfare are a good many members. How irrelevant is the rump, the penalty box, the cluster of the static, both in mobility and voice, in these 24 seats over here.

But I have the feeling that the return of an overwhelming majority is unlikely. Too many things create anxiety in our people; prices of food and consumers' products, housing and its shortage, collapse of financial in-

stitutions, labour unrest, to name four. Those four are the catalysts that exercise our people and enervate them, and those are the things that, each in his own way, they will be thinking about.

I have noticed during this session, in the light of the climate and environment that exists in this province, we do not see that same attitude on the other side that seems to want to exude its superiority and to say that because we are running things and God is in his heaven and all's right with the world, so long as we have a Tory government in office. That spirit does not move them this time.

Now the Provincial Secretary—and I come to the final part of my remarks—he wanted to talk about the year 1943. I am sorry that that very bright young man, a very nice young man, is not in his seat, either this day or last, so that I could direct some comments to him. But he wanted, you will recall when he spoke how he directed his attention to the leader of the Opposition and reminded him of the significance of the growth of this province since the year 1943. And to the end of making his argument effective he took certain statistics of the year 1943 and he compared them with statistics in the year 1967. And then strangely enough—I was not here—he summed it all up by saying to the leader of the Opposition, his old alumnus, his school-day chum, saying to him: Get with it, Bob, get up to date.

See; look at the world around you, he seemed to say, and observe what we have done, what this party has done toward the improvement of the affairs of the people of this province.

I thought that the Provincial Secretary was being rather conceited, that he was assuming a great deal, but who am I to suggest to him how he should make his speech?

If he wants to talk about the year 1943, let us talk about it. I have in my hand a document that was written in the year 1943, and I am going to read from the document and we will see how well the Tory party has done in the last 24 years. And when I am finished, I am going to give the document to the leader of the Opposition, it is very fitting I should give it to him as will become apparent. It will become apparent why it is so fitting that he should be the recipient.

This is the Conservative platform of 1943, the 22 points of George Drew, the famous 22 points of the election of August 4, 1943. And who led the Liberal Party? Who was then the Prime Minister? I ask the young Minister without Portfolio from Scarborough

North (Mr. Wells). The father of the leader of the Opposition. His father was the leader of the Liberal Party at that time, and Prime Minister of Ontario until August 4.

So I am going to give this document to him. We will look at it and see how well this party has done in the intervening 24 years. When I am finished I am going to make a suggestion about what the leader of the Opposition should do with it.

So let us get on with the task of examining it in the light of 24 years. I am, rapidly I promise you, going to go over the first plank in the platform, because I could talk all day about it and I will not.

I am reading now, this is the first plank in the platform.

We will maintain British institutions and strengthen the British partnership by every means within the constitutional power of the government of Ontario.

That strengthening, I say to my friend from Downsview, that strengthening of British institutions, that is Bill 99.

You notice it does not say anything about Canadian institutions in there. Nothing about Canada. That strengthening is what led the first citizen of the province to come in here after they had raised the new flag at Ottawa, the new Canadian flag, that led him in here; they had taken down the red ensign, he came in here and raised the red ensign again. That is the strengthening of British institutions.

Look at the flag up there. Just look at it. Canada's new flag sandwiched in between the emblem of another nation.

I do not know if it is given second or third place up there. It is a reset, and it is certainly not given first place in the life of this nation, sandwiched as it is in between the emblem of another land.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: Then another thing ought to be said, another thing ought to be put on the record. I heard that at the time that Mr. Lesage was—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Edwards: Was what?

Mr. Speaker: Order please.

An hon. member: Put it on the record.

Mr. Sopha: I am delighted to do so.

An hon. member: He will use it.

Mr. Sopha: I hope you do. At the time Mr. Lesage and some other French Canadians, leaders of French Canadian life at Ottawa were suggesting—mark this—they were suggesting that the bill passed by the Parliament of Canada to celebrate this year be called the Centennial of Confederation. The Prime Minister of the province showed some degree of irritation that Mr. Lesage and the French Canadians should remind everyone that this year, 1967, is the celebration of but a chapter in the life of Canada. One chapter. And the French Canadians properly pointed out, and I say to my British friends over there to harken, they properly pointed out that Canada did not begin in 1867. I called up Professor Creighton to ask him when he would say it began, from the point of view of continuous settlement or from the arrival of the white man in Canada, from which time there was continuous settlement. He said to take the year 1608. So if we take that year, then that means Canada is 359 years old this year. And that is what Mr. Lesage was pointing out to the people in Ottawa. That is when Canada began, 350 years ago. But, of course, the people who would support a plank like that in the platform completely overlook the multinational character of this country. And I say to the Minister of Mines, if you use it against me at least have the courtesy to go on and say that "Sopha when he stood in his place in the Legislature proclaimed the multinational character of Canada."

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): This is a democracy.

Mr. Sopha: Not French and English but people from many lands. There are people from 40 different ethnic groups in my own community.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: Say anything you like.

Mr. Sopha: Those are the observations I want to make and I hope that party over there will go to the people on that plank. Now number two.

We will at all times work in effective co-operation with the Dominion government and with all other governing bodies in Canada in all activities which will assist in the prosecution of the way to a successful conclusion—

This of course is not relevant to our times. Then it goes on:

—and in establishing a sound basis of social security, health insurance and protection in their old age for all our people.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): Done.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): Done.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. The health insurance. I move to remark, that this party, having written that in 1943, this party is almost as bad as the federal Liberals. They are almost as bad.

Mr. W. B. Lewis: Not that bad.

Several hon. members: Done, done.

Mr. Sopha: They are almost as bad. It was not until the year 1966, was it? That one took 24 years.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: It has taken 40 years in Ottawa.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, well of course. My friend properly points out, because he is mindful of the history on such things, that the prospective cooperation with the federal government in health insurance was botched up by George Drew in 1946 in his discussions with the federal government. Now it goes on to say:

At the same time we will insist that the constitutional rights of the people of Ontario be preserved and that the government of Ontario exercise full control of its own provincial affairs.

I do not recall in the history of this province—that in recent history, at least since 1943—that the constitutional rights of the province of Ontario were ever in danger of being violated by anyone. But one does observe, and we are speaking historically, that this government in the last 24 years has on successive occasions invaded the field of jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, and has taken on responsibilities, and the Provincial Treasurer ought to be mindful of this if he wants to save money. They have taken on the responsibilities time and time again, that are not the proper jurisdiction of the province. And faithfully each year we on this side move in that connection to reduce the vote for emergency measures to the sum of \$1, and properly point out that national defence and the care of our people in times of emergency is the responsibility of the federal government, and they ought to pay the costs therefor.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Pretty weak.

Mr. Sopha: Not very weak at all.

Mr. Edwards: You are going both ways now.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Sopha: Let us go to number three.

The farms, the factories, the mines, the forests and personal services which constitute the five major groups of employment will be supported by appropriate legislation in their efforts to increase employment at good wages. In every field of employment individual initiative will be encouraged and hard work rewarded.

Harken to this, I say to my friend from Bruce, I want you to grab this one:

Hard work will be rewarded by reducing taxes and removing bureaucratic restrictions.

Now if there were an intonation at the end of that one, it would have to be "failed".

Mr. Whicher: Why do you not say it?

An hon. member: Done.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Now that is a promise made to the people of Ontario in 1943 and I have a record here of the incidence of taxation. I fear that I have lost it. In 1943 the record discloses that the per capita payment of tax to the provincial government was something like \$34. In 1965 it was \$287 for every man, woman and child.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: \$34 in 1943. \$287 in 1965. Or in other words, about eight times as much.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: If you had been over here it would have been \$440.

Mr. Sopha: I say to the Provincial Treasurer, and I did not want to say this the other day because I wanted to put it in the context of these remarks when we talk about school taxes, when George Drew was on the hustings asking for the return of the Conservative Party in July, 1943, throughout this province they had emblazoned on the billboards this slogan: "Elect Drew and cut your school taxes in two."

Mr. Edwards: Have you any more old chestnuts?

Mr. Sopha: Not very good poetry. A feeble attempt to achieve metric rhyme and it had pictures. My friend from north Wellington reminds me that they had pictures and the

clear intent, I say, to the Provincial Secretary, through you, sir, of George Drew that if you elected a Conservative government then the local levy for education would be cut in half.

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: What about the \$30 a month in Hepburn's time?

Mr. Sopha: Even today, as the leader of the Opposition and others properly point out, they are still not paying half the total cost of education from the public treasury.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: The hon. member's leader is not here. Let the records show that he is not in his seat.

Mr. Sopha: We are assessing this party in the light of its history since you can only know a party like an individual, by knowing something of its origin, and these are its origins. The last three words of that plank of August 4, 1943 are so laughable that they do not deserve notice, "and removing bureaucratic restrictions".

I was not minded to find out how many people were employed in the civil service in 1943, and it really does not matter, but the Provincial Treasurer will tell us that there are well in excess of 40,000 now working and I do not think that includes Hydro. Forty thousand people working very devotedly, very sincerely, and very honestly for the good of the people. Of course this word "bureaucratic" has always been a loaded word and a hate word of the Tories. They use it in a very special sense instead of its real meaning, that it refers to the people who work for government and that is all it means. "Bureaucratic" to them means something oppressive, something dictatorial and sinister.

All right, let us go on to the fourth, and this one is for the rural members, my rural colleagues. I invite my friend the member for Bruce to listen to this one.

Mr. Edwards: How many more has the member got?

Mr. Sopha: Twenty-two. I quote:

Farming will be organized in every county under committees of outstanding farmers who will be given authority to plan production and regulate the processing and distribution of their output. Cheese boards, creameries, milk distributors, central produce markets and other marketing organizations will be under the supervision of outstanding farmers in each line of production.

Several hon. members: Done! Done!

Mr. Whicher: There are not any left, 75 per cent of them have left.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Now, the first move—remember the date, this is July of 1943—the first move to establish any comprehensive system of marketing boards I believe was about 1961 when we had the first legislation here. That took 18 years. Of course they are not under committees of outstanding farmers at all. It would be more correct to say that in many cases they are under committees of outstanding Tories, as I apprehend it.

Now number five:

Legislation will be introduced assuring the workers and employers of this province the fairest and most advanced laws governing labour relations following an enquiry to be undertaken immediately by a committee of at least 15 members to be known as the Ontario labour relations committee upon which there will be equal representation of labour, employers, and the general public.

Recognizing at the outset the right to proper and enforceable legislation regarding collective bargaining, this committee will be asked to examine the laws dealing with labour relations in other countries and draft for Ontario an Act which will establish that basis of justice, cooperation and responsibility which is so necessary for the welfare and security of all our people.

Now in the light of the multiplicity of observations that my friend the member for Downsview and I have had the advantage of hearing from labour leaders of this province, one gets the impression that whereas the Tory party might take the view that that has been carried out, certainly there is a feeling among the trade unions, I say to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Bales), that today in 1967, 24 years later, the statutes of the province dealing with labour relations are less than satisfactory.

But as for the appointment of a labour relations committee, I know of none that Mr. Drew ever appointed to look into it. The first committee that was appointed was about the year 1956, which would be 13 years after the election, when a select committee of this House was appointed to examine into the labour laws.

An hon. member: The standing committee did not meet for five years.

Mr. Sopha: That is right, that is perfectly right. Number six:

The mining industry will be assisted in every way possible and placed under the direction of a Minister with practical knowledge of mining.

Now that was never done. We have had Ministers of Mines from every place but mining communities. We had one from Renfrew South, we have had them from Peterborough and we have had them temporarily from Toronto, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs temporarily was in the portfolio at one time. He is about the only exception—

Mr. Bryden: Was there not also a Sudbury man?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, Mr. Gemmell, Welland Gemmell was the Minister for about three years. But the present incumbent of the office—and that is a very kindly way to refer to him, the incumbent of the office—could scarcely be said to come from a mining community, and he has been there several years.

Mr. Bryden: He is a diamond miner.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed! This one goes on to say:

The tax burden will be lightened and there will be a more equitable distribution of the tax between the different taxing bodies. A larger share of the taxes—

And remember—I say to the Minister without Portfolio from Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan), I say to him—the taxes they are referring to are the mining taxes—

A larger share of the taxes will go to the provincial and municipal treasuries.

Yes, a larger share! Well, you see the failure in that, when successive generations of people from mining communities have come to the doors of this government to ask for equity and justice, to plead for simple justice. As far back as 1943 George Drew, in commanding the confidence of the people of Ontario at that time, a generation ago, was promising those communities that they would be dealt with fairly and equitably. It has never been done. We await, I say to the former Provincial Treasurer, sir, we await the report of the most recent committee that the Prime Minister appointed. We have waited in anticipation to see how close the day of justice is, when there will be a—

Hon. Mr. Wardrope: There is equity and justice now!

Mr. Sopha: I am not going to tarry to talk to the Minister of Mines, because I must say, after eight years' observation Mr. Speaker, he does not understand the problem, he does not understand it and he cares less. He has never raised his voice at any time. I suppose that is his own business, he will have to answer in the best way he can. He has never raised his voice for justice for communities in northern Ontario, the very people who return him to a place and a seat in this Legislature.

No. 7: Our vast forest resources, which under proper administration are capable of creating employment for hundreds of thousands of new workers, will be placed under the control of an Ontario forest resources commission which will operate under long term policies of conservation, reforestation, and soil control.

Well that commission was just never formed. I looked into the genealogy of the statutes to see if Mr. Drew ever carried out that promise, that plank in the platform; and he never did and no such commission was formed. But you will note in 1943, I want to draw your attention to this part of it; "which will operate under long term policies of conservation". Even at that early time, a quarter of a century ago, there was concern about conservation; and of course after the 60's, after we crossed the threshold of the 1960's, conservation became a vital matter. The hon. member for Simcoe Centre (Mr. Evans), if one observes his activities in that committee which he chaired, one saw that that select committee from which we anticipate a report at some time, had to meet, once they got their teeth into the problem, they had to meet day after day continuously in an endeavour to encompass and study the vast problem of conservation and pollution of our waterways, lakes and streams in this province. It was not until the 1960's that the Tory party was moved to take some overt action in this area. The problem has scarcely been touched at this time.

You know a party, sir, by its history. When at the opening of this Legislature two different members from that party put resolutions on the order paper about pollution; and indeed one of them made so bold, the member for High Park (Mr. Cowling), as to put a bill—he went beyond the resolution stage and he put a bill on the order paper, which is a step beyond the mere suggestion to a deaf government, but it decries a certain activism on his part.

It is laughable! No, it is not. It would be a shame to laugh at the eighth plank.

But harken, I say to my colleagues, harken to what it says.

He has left the House; I was going to invite the young "Duke of Kent West" there to say whether this one is done.

No. 8: An Ontario housing commission will be created to plan a great housing programme throughout the whole province—

An hon. member: When was that?

Mr. Sopha: This is July, just a moment, we will put for posterity the exact date in the record. This is July 8, 1943.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Twenty-four years; how long does it take?

Mr. Sopha: To continue:

An Ontario housing commission will be created to plan a great housing programme throughout the whole province.

Mr. Newman: That is one-third of a house a day.

Mr. Sopha: Who was this? Who was it that devised this? Was this Leo the lion? Was this the father of Bob—Leo Macaulay—who thought this one up in 1943? Because in 1960, was it not Bob Macaulay who engineered the idea of housing by headline?

Mr. Bryden: Oh, that was long before Macaulay's time. That was Frost's idea, in 1950.

Mr. Sopha: Well by their history you will know them, Mr. Speaker. The great housing programme on July 8, 1943. The same day I was looking at this the headline of the *Toronto Daily Star* said: Housing Starts in Metro Down 59 per cent in '66.

An hon. member: Shame!

Mr. Newman: One-third of a house a day.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Now did anybody over there say "done"? Then I have got them. The record will disclose that there was a flagrant silence. The Attorney General is so embarrassed that he is poring over a law lexicon.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): No, I am reading one of the member's speeches.

Mr. Sopha: He is trying to let on that he does not know those people that sit around

him. The Provincial Treasurer has given the attitude of nonchalance, that he is discussing a few millions with the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell); trying to let on that they are not present. The Minister of Agriculture and Food is deep in the afternoon paper.

And we are still waiting, we are still waiting for the great housing programme.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: The member had better pay attention.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The member is not holding our attention.

Mr. Sopha: Then the ninth one, this is for the Provincial Treasurer:

School taxes to be cut. There will be a sweeping revision of our whole system of real estate taxation so that the owning and improvement of homes and farm land, which are the very foundation of our society, will not be discouraged by excessive taxation. As an initial step in that direction the provincial government will assume at least 50 per cent of the school taxes now charged against real estate. It is, however, to be clearly understood that this change will not affect the authority of the local school boards.

Now that was the theme of the one half of the Bobbsey twins, the Minister from Kent West, in London over the weekend.

Down in London, what was he saying? No doubt he was pounding the table too and singing in high C, he was saying: We are not going to take away the local autonomy from school boards, education should be a local matter—when everybody in the country knows that education is run by The Department of Education; everybody knows that Eglinton Avenue determines the nature and quality of education in this province. They set the standards, the textbooks and the curricula.

My friend the teacher from Windsor-Walkerville nods in agreement because he experiences these things. But it is good politics for the boy soprano from Kent West to be talking that way down in London.

The Provincial Treasurer, it is a wonder he did not leave the House when I read that about the 50 per cent, going to take over 50 per cent of school taxes now being charged against real estate! That is what it says. That was the basis of the slogan: "Vote for Drew, cut your taxes in two." Right there!

Is there anybody over there that says, "done", about that one?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What did the Prime Minister of the day say?

Mr. Sopha: Hon. members notice that. Notice the intervention of the Provincial Treasurer. That is an attempt to disassociate himself from George Drew.

Mr. Edwards: What is the member's selection?

Mr. Sopha: He does not want to be connected with Drew. Well, those are his ancestors, he will have to stand or fall by his ancestors. And he is the first.

Mr. Bryden: That is rather a harsh view.

Mr. Sopha: I am delighted that the Provincial Secretary finally arrived from the nether regions of his constituency, because I say to him we are talking about 1943, which was the very theme of his speech made in the Throne Debate; yes.

Hon. Mr. Welch: A very significant year.

Mr. Sopha: Yes! To continue:

No. 10. Our educational system would be completely revised so that every child in this province will have an opportunity to be educated to the full extent of their mental capacity, no matter where they live or what the financial circumstances of their parents may be.

Now that one makes you weep. You want to break down in tears about that one.

In 1943, they say that in 1943. And they did not start to build universities in this province until after 1960. The year 1960, I believe, was the year that they chartered five of them.

Hon. Mr. Welch: There were only four in the province when we took power.

Mr. Singer: Seven years later there were still only four.

Mr. Sopha: If you live in Dryden, or Armstrong or Foleyet or Gogama or Moonbeam or some other outer reaches of this province, you know it is not true that there is equal opportunity of education. You know it is not true.

Hon. Mr. Welch: Let us have some facts, not general statements.

Mr. Sopha: My friend from Windsor-Walkerville says it is not even true in the cities themselves.

An hon. member: In his heart the member knows he is right.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, he is very apt. In his heart the Provincial Secretary knows but I doubt whether he has ever been in Moonbeam or Gogama or Foleyet or Sultan or Biscotasing or Armstrong; never been there.

Hon. Mr. Welch: I have even been in Sudbury!

Mr. Singer: Never been to Biscotasing?

Hon. Mr. Welch: No, I do not think I have.

Mr. Sopha: Listen to 12—I mean the pain of the embarrassment of this—

An hon. member: Give us one they have kept.

Mr. Sopha: No, I cannot; not one.

No. 12. Steps will be taken immediately to prepare plans for great public undertakings which will create employment—

Now where are they? Where are they in 24 years? I would like to have someone name one. Where are they?

Interjections by several members.

An hon. member: The Centennial centre of science and technology.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, the Centennial centre. They must mean in the 12-lane Highway 401.

An hon. member: The Don jail? The London court house.

Mr. Sopha: Great public undertakings.

An hon. member: You built the city hall, did you not?

Hon. Mr. Welch: No unemployment now!

Mr. Sopha: Well, I go on to the next one.

No. 14. Plans will be made for land reclamation throughout the province so that all areas which can be brought into production will be fully developed. These plans will be drafted immediately, but the actual development of most of the areas will be deferred.

They are still deferred.

Mr. Whicher: Say that again.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, it must have been a poet that wrote the rest of it. He said:

This will open wide opportunities for immediate employment when the war is over, and will offer to veterans and their families the chance to settle in organized

groups in areas where their economic security can be assured.

Well they must have very conveniently forgotten that one immediately, because we never heard of any great grandiose plans for land reclamation. Perhaps some of my friends will tell me whether the Luther marsh still exists.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Yes.

Mr. Sopha: It is still in the same state, I suppose, as it was a generation ago.

Now No. 15, and this is thinking, your heart will have to warm to this:

Taxation will be reduced and efficiency of government increased by the elimination of all provincial departments and services which duplicate those of the federal government.

Well I made some observations about the elimination of some departments. It would not tear at my heartstrings a bit, Mr. Speaker, to see the Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) go; no it would not tear at my heartstrings.

Mr. Bryden: How would they manage the news if he went?

Mr. Sopha: If the man from Kent West is the boy soprano, this is the boy contralto, and his voice could be stilled and the affairs of that department could be taken over—part by Economics and Development, part by Lands and Forests, perhaps part by Municipal Affairs, with the saving of many thousands of dollars. As a matter of fact, and you know it, Mr. Speaker, the truth of the matter is that instead of consolidating government and retrenching, it has expanded. So whereas Drew might have had something like 13 or 14 Ministers when he took over in 1943, now we have 22 of them occupying the Treasury benches.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is an expanding province.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Rapid expansion—

An hon. member: Not very much.

Mr. Sopha: Now No. 16. I have to admit we have reached the first one that they have done. The first one. We had to get to 16.

An efficient and permanent civil service system will be put into effect.

The fact that it is efficient and permanent does no credit to anybody over there, it just happens that good men come to the public service.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: What attracts them, I wonder?

Mr. Sopha: No particular credit can be claimed. Now my friend from Downsview will appreciate No. 17.

All legislation will be repealed which denies any individual the right to defend his person and property before the courts.

In the light of the state of the expropriation statutes of this province that is a mockery. That is a mockery of justice. Bill 99, over which we fought so hard in this Legislature makes a mockery of that and I think, honest to goodness Mr. Speaker, that George Drew was all right when compared to these people. These people are deviationists. They are some form of Trotskyists that have deviated from the guiding hand of their first prophet. When you think of their record in the light of the expression of principle of George Drew in 1943.

Number 18 dealt with an immediate increase in mothers' allowances and old age pensions. Now No. 19 for my rural friends.

Adequate supplies at reasonable prices of fuel, milk and other basic necessities will be assured by effective organization and administrative control.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron Bruce): They have not achieved that.

Mr. Sopha: Well my hon. friend from Huron-Bruce says quite properly and he is supported by my hon. friend from Bruce, that this one is a far cry from being achieved.

But I am going to leave off, and I want to tell you Mr. Speaker, what I am going to do with that document. I am going to hand that document to the leader of the Opposition and I am going to say: "Sir, there is magic wrapped up in this. All you have to do is rewrite a few words in this and take the date July 8, 1943 off it and put the date May 30, 1967 and with just a couple of minor changes, that can be your election platform."

Mr. Bryden: I thought that was where he got it. You know I was wondering where he got it.

Mr. Sopha: That can be his election platform. He need not bother himself about writing it. That is the indictment, the fact

that I could stand here having read the major portion of that and make that statement.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: That is Liberal logic, the Tories' programme of 20 years ago.

Mr. Sopha: No, not the Tory programme of 20 years ago. The reference in that programme to the problems that are still with us, after a generation of experience with that party.

I come to the end where I merely say quietly to my friends over there that come the election campaign, and I am one who looks forward to it, I will be delighted to meet you on the hustings throughout the length and breadth of this province. We are not going to in any way exhibit any trepidation about such a confrontation. We are merely going to talk to the people of this province in the light of the things left undone. To my mind Mr. Speaker, come the fitting words of the Anglican confessional, if we are talking about prayers. That would be a better prayer. That would be a better one. We have done those we ought not to have done and we have left undone those things we ought to have done and there is no health in us. Is there an indictment that could fit that government more fittingly?

Then in the same prayer of course there is some reference, I forget the context, to miserable offenders. That is this group. That is them. That is the attitude we are going to take and in essence as we point to those problems that were with us a generation ago, we say they are still with us. We can say that honestly to the people. In essence, we will sum up by saying, have you had enough? And whenever the voting day comes I am one of those that is persuaded that the sensible intelligent people of this province are going to say, yes, finally, after 24 years we have had enough and the rascals will be turfed out.

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, in rising to say a few words in the Budget Debate, I would first of all like to inform the hon. members present that the humble words I have to say will not be nearly as entertaining as the previous speaker's were.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): I hope more sensible though.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): More truth in them.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Read your own words.

Mr. Walker: First of all, and I am afraid that the hon. member for Woodbine will not agree with this next statement, I would first of all like to offer sincere congratulations to our Provincial Treasurer on his very fine Budget presentation.

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that it is obvious that he will do a very adequate job in his new portfolio, even as he did throughout his years as Minister of Highways.

The Budget which he presented is designed to meet the requirements of our very rapidly developing province and will supply the financial foundation for the people's programme as outlined in the Throne Speech. As one Metro editorial commented:

The Budget puts muscle in the people's programme especially in the fields of health, education, and welfare.

This year we are faced with Ontario's largest Budget in history. Our 1967 Budget might well be described as a sign of the times which is evident at all levels of government as increasing prosperity brings increasing responsibilities to provide the many and varied services which our people require.

This year half of every dollar spent will go for education and training programmes. As the Budget outlined, there is a 35 per cent increase in education spending. This major Budget expenditure clearly indicates the government's awareness of their responsibilities in this field and their determination to provide the best possible educational facilities for the thousands of students throughout our province.

There will be increased grants to various departments of municipal government. These grants will provide some assistance in holding the tax line, although the ever-increasing costs will still leave our municipalities and school boards hard-pressed to finance their urgent responsibilities.

I spoke at some length during the Throne Debate on the financial problems of our municipalities and I do not wish to be repetitious, but there remains a real need for revision in our tax structure at the municipal level.

During this session, as we proceed through the departmental estimates there will be an opportunity to deal at length with the various items outlined in the Budget and I am sure this will be done.

I would like to make a reference to one particular department in which I am interested, and that is the Ontario water resources commission, and the big problem which they

continue to face in their battle against water pollution. I was pleased to see that the OWRC had been granted a substantial increase in their budget, actually more than double, and I have no doubt they could use considerably more in the battle they are waging against pollution in our province.

I think we would all agree that Ontario has been richly blessed with natural resources. In the examination of our storehouse of natural resources we must, next to people, place water as our greatest asset because without it life is impossible. No single factor has a greater influence on human beings than water. It has been a decisive factor throughout the history of human civilization and will continue to be so in the future to an even wider extent. And if we despoil it by pollution, it becomes almost useless.

Here in our province we are blessed with immense water resources. Lake Superior is the greatest body of fresh water in the entire world. There are large quantities of water in the north, and major rivers and smaller lakes are scattered all across our province. It is little wonder that sometimes we are lulled into the position of disregarding any thought of water shortage. We turn the tap and we obtain as much as we need at a ridiculously low cost. We have vast bank deposits of water resources.

Today's problems with water resources can be divided generally into two categories, quantity and quality. Our use of water is increasing rapidly. It is of little value if it is not available where needed. Uneven distribution creates many problems and will continue to do so. We no doubt will have to continue to build long pipe lines, as is now being done between Lake Huron and London, and pump the water inland.

In the midst of what appears to be plenty, we are in need. This is indicated clearly in the fact that the flow of water past this province through the St. Lawrence River in little more than one day is sufficient to supply every municipality in the province for an entire year. Distribution is a major problem. Pipe lines and other measures can be used, but the costs will be high.

From the standpoint of quality, water pollution is now one of the very challenging problems in this country. We live in an era of great significance, an era of great challenge. Science and technology have made phenomenal advances. There has been a steady, rapid growth in population and most of this is concentrated in urban areas.

Industrial expansion has been greater than at any time in our history. These changes have done much to raise our standard of living and we cannot expect such changes without difficulty. Urbanization and industrialization have brought a concentration of pollutants into the water, and also into the air.

It is doubtful if any part of our natural resources field has in recent years been under such critical review as that of water pollution and air pollution. It is obvious that there is now greater concern than at any previous time.

The questions with which we must concern ourselves is do we have enough clean water to satisfy our needs; can that water be protected against these many pollutants now and in the future and be available for all general use?

The major emphasis of our water resources management must be placed on pollution control. We cannot expect that urban centres will cease to grow or that industry will not expand. This again is the challenge of change. We must under these circumstances gain control of pollutants of all kinds.

I was surprised to read recently that one of Ontario's better known conservation experts estimated that pollution costs us \$1.175 billion each year. This figure includes the cost of sewage treatment plants, research government spending and other factors such as the cleaning of exteriors of large buildings.

This conservation expert suggested a federal-provincial conference should be called to settle jurisdictional questions. One overall authority should be established to lead the fight, and in this latter suggestion I found it interesting that he received the support of the federal Cabinet Minister who is charged with the pollution problem.

Let us not underestimate the pollution control job which is being done by our Ontario water resources commission. Notable advances are being made. Strong pressure has been applied on municipalities, industry and the individual.

One of the leading officials of the OWRC recently was quoted as saying that legal procedures to deal with water pollution by industry must be simplified. Our problem in enforcement deals with the law rather than the technical side. Technically, he said, it is easy to pick out polluters; but we find that when we get into court this is the greatest way to spin our wheels. He said the OWRC had to work for the next six months in some

cases untangling legal knots arising from pollution cases.

One thing is certain, in meeting a situation of this kind there must be public support and acceptance of any programme for water resources management within the municipality. This is essential, because the costs will seem high, and especially so when there are so many other projects in competition for the tax dollar.

Pollution control may be likened to a treadmill; we have to run just to keep up, there is no place for apathy or indifference. Every effort must be made to promote enthusiasm from persons in all walks of life in an all-out attack on this problem.

Legislation and administration cannot do the job alone. Industry has a great responsibility, both to ensure that its water needs in the future can be satisfied and to make certain that water quality can be protected.

We in government must ensure that vigorous administrative measures be taken to bring about the punctual execution of a policy that none of our rivers and streams of the province shall receive untreated industrial waste. We must provide our Ontario water resources commission with law enforcement regulations under which they can have a clearer legal pathway toward enforcing pollution by-laws when the need arises. But above all, we in government must brook no delay or obstacle in overcoming this pollution menace.

I would like for a moment to turn to another matter which I suppose is mainly of interest to the people in my riding; but also, I think, of general interest across the province.

The great riding of Oshawa continues to grow and expand at a very rapid rate. The city of Oshawa, which in the next provincial election will become Oshawa riding, reports another substantial increase in population and now has a population in excess of 77,000. Since the last provincial election this city has increased its population by at least 12,000. During the past 20 years the population of Oshawa has increased from 28,000 to 77,000, approximately 175 per cent.

With the rapid rate of population increase in the present Oshawa riding, which starts at the eastern boundaries of Metro, we are faced with the problem of rapid urbanization. This entire area, the easterly terminus of the golden horseshoe, is confronted with what might be referred to as "growing pains". Within a short 20-mile stretch immediately east of Metro there are seven different municipalities, each

of which is attempting to provide the many different services which are required for the taxpayers in their various areas.

Much is said these days about improvements that might be made to govern our municipalities more economically and more efficiently. One has only to look at the duplication of administration, municipal services and maintenance equipment in the short 20-mile span of my own Oshawa riding to realize that greater efficiency and a higher level of service could be given to the ratepayer under a system whereby these expensive services and costly equipment could be used to better advantage under one type of administration.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, we are rapidly reaching the stage where in our own best interests larger municipal units of government must be adopted.

It is recognized that there are inequalities in the administration of the existing tax base of our various municipalities and there is an urgent need to improve standards and practices in municipal assessment. This matter of municipal finances must be recognized as a most important factor in any consideration of new government structure.

We have been waiting, sometimes impatiently I suggest, for the report of the Ontario committee on taxation. I have spoken previously on these problems and I am rather looking forward hopefully to the presentation of this taxation report, which is expected to deal with the question of municipal finance as well as the broad question of taxation policy.

In the riding which I represent there is urgent need for an overall regional government study. In this highly industrialized area it is obvious that the present rapid growth and development cannot continue to fit neatly into the framework of the present municipal boundaries.

I am fully aware that our Department of Municipal Affairs is willing to cooperate with municipalities in conducting regional studies when requested. Last year the county council contacted the city of Oshawa seeking co-operation towards instituting such a study. The city readily agreed, but unfortunately the county of Ontario has taken no action to date. Today we find two of the smaller municipalities making plans for amalgamation covering all the land immediately on the western boundaries of the great city of Oshawa.

On the one hand, these small municipalities cannot be blamed for their desire to broaden their economic base and possibly provide a greater degree of required services. But on

the other hand, it is generally recognized at the municipal government level that piecemeal amalgamation is only a temporary expedient that may only serve to complicate future problems.

The city of Oshawa may find itself in the position of having to oppose this amalgamation proposal because of their own need for future expansion. The present situation will no doubt engender some hard feelings and entail considerable expense to all parties concerned, and the problems will become more difficult as the discussion continues. The cost of the three consultant studies in support or opposition to the proposed amalgamation issue would have covered the municipality's share of a regional government study, which after all should be the end result.

It is interesting to note that practically all elected officials concerned are on record that regional government will become a must within the next few years. Unfortunately, the present situation which is developing may tend to delay rather than advance this regional study.

I have suggested to this House on previous occasions that government should take a more determined attitude in the direction of the regional government studies programme. Such a more determined attitude, as I have mentioned, might mean stepping on the toes of some municipal officials. But in the overall interests of many thousands of taxpayers who are concerned, I submit we are reaching the point where we should be offering more than permissive cooperation.

I hasten to point out that I am not suggesting government should override municipalities and establish regional governments in various areas, but I do feel there is cause for concern in some of our rapidly developing areas, and a need for leadership in bringing municipalities together in a cooperative effort to discuss and plan effectively for the future in the best interests of the entire region.

Mr. Speaker, as we enter our Centennial year we in this House, indeed all citizens of this great province of Ontario, can be justly proud of the stature of our province among the provinces of this Canada of ours. Sometimes as we listen to the doom and gloom speeches by our friends to the right, some of us are prone to leave unsung the tremendous heights which this province has reached.

In the more than two decades since the end of the Second World War we in Ontario have enjoyed a period of dramatic expansion and vitality. This has been a period in which Ontario has played a major role in Canada's economic growth. We have seen striking

changes in the social and economic activities which occupy the lives of our citizens. These have been exciting years. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, they are the greatest 20 years of growth and development this province has ever known.

Sometimes when I hear that old refrain regarding the tired old Tories, I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what fantastic heights we might have reached during these years if only we had not been so tired.

Today our industries produce 40 per cent of Canada's net value of commodities. The personal income of our people is 40 per cent of that of the Canadian people as a whole. Over the last 20 years the personal income of Ontario residents has been well above the average for Canada. The figures for 1964 show our average personal income in Ontario to be 17 per cent higher than the Canadian average, and higher than in any other province.

Ontario is the mirror of Canada's economic prosperity. We continue to outpace the rest of the provinces. Our strength is firmly rooted in a base of development and diversity.

In 1966 Ontario's economic growth was very impressive. It rose nine per cent over 1965 levels. Manufacturing shipments exceeded \$19.2 billion, an eight per cent gain over 1965. New capital investment was more than \$5 billion, up 16.4 per cent, while retail sales grew to \$8.5 billion, six per cent over 1965.

In terms of diversity, Ontario claims more than one-half of the national manufacturing output, including the bulk of steel and auto production and about one-third of power and construction. Ontario accounts for more than one-third of our country's population and two-fifths of the gross national product.

As the Ontario economy continues to expand our gross provincial product has risen to a new high of nearly \$23 billion.

Manufacturing is the key to our provincial economy. It makes up the vast majority, approximately 70 per cent of the output from all Ontario industries. Construction accounts for another 15 per cent. During 1966 our Ontario employment picture remained at a high level, even though the labour force grew by approximately four per cent.

Education is another major area of expansion. During the last 20 years more than \$1 billion has been spent in capital expenditures for schools. In 1946 one out of every six persons in Ontario was a student in school. Today the average is better than one in four. University enrolment has tripled in the last

10 years and in 1967 we will be faced with capital outlay by provincially assisted universities, plus operating expenses, of well over \$300 million.

Mr. Speaker, these are fantastic costs compared even to 10 short years ago. When you consider the indisputable facts which I have just outlined, facts which are readily available, it is interesting to note the words used by Opposition leaders in this House; ridiculous statements such as the "rot of government responsibilities"; "government's refusal to face up to its obligations"; "fumbling administration."

I realize the job of the Opposition is to oppose, but to those otherwise reasonable men faced with the task, it must be a thankless job in the light of the undeniable facts of the tremendous growth and development of this great province, which is indeed the province of opportunity.

No one in this assembly can challenge my assertion that a vigorous and expanding economy is the key factor in social and cultural development. In his timely and significant speech to this assembly during the debate of the amendments to the reply to the Speech from the Throne, our Prime Minister outlined for us the government's coordinated programme for the future development and expansion of Ontario as we move into our second century.

One of the vital ingredients in this programme is the maintenance within this province of a healthy climate for business and capital investment, both Canadian and foreign. I would like to emphasize a part of my leader's speech. Consider the importance of these words:

We are seeking, through agencies such as the Ontario development corporation, or activities such as the trade and industry branch of The Department of Economics and Development, or if you like by developing policy in The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, to establish a refreshing climate in which business and capital investment may be encouraged in all parts of the province.

In this area as in so many others, Mr. Speaker, the able government of Ontario is providing leadership not only to our province but to the entire nation. Each of us is extremely conscious of the confusion which exists in the ranks of the Liberal Party, both federal and provincial, on this issue of capital investment.

Not too long ago a federal Cabinet Minister, with a world-wide reputation as an

economic nationalist, resigned from the federal Cabinet. He apparently could find no role for himself as a private member of the government party in Ottawa. Indeed he toured the country in an unsuccessful attempt to sell his narrow, nationalistic approach in general and the Liberal Party in particular. Now, inexplicably, he has rejoined the Cabinet. He has been placed at the head of a committee of Ministers who were to study the whole field of foreign investment in Canada and to prepare a white paper on the subject.

Should we not shiver at the thought of what this might mean? One national newspaper pointed out in an editorial:

It would be hard to find a parallel for Walter Gordon's appointment as head of a Cabinet committee to study and advise on foreign ownership of Canadian industry.

The paper added:

It is as if the country's hangman, John Ellis, had been named to head an enquiry on capital punishment.

While these events were taking place in Ottawa another Cabinet Minister was travelling through the United States in an attempt to reassure our American neighbours of our desire for closer business relations with them and of the continuing need for their investment capital.

One of the major arguments against the flow of United States capital into this country is that it is a threat to our sovereignty. But how can one logically argue about the loss of our sovereignty as a result of an influx of American capital when the defence of this continent is fully integrated with that of the United States and while our security is very largely dependent on American equipment and manpower? How can one reconcile a policy of nationalism while we have the auto pact agreement? Or with the need for a continental approach to the movement and marketing of such resources as oil and natural gas?

The truth is, Mr. Speaker, that many of our people see no peril whatsoever to their country if we follow the economic internationalism outlined by our Prime Minister during the Throne Debate and elsewhere.

Many Canadians recognize that the concept of the nation state is incompatible with the maintenance of a standard of living which depends increasingly upon international exchange in matters of defence, education, science and technology.

Exemplified in the programme for people as outlined in the Throne Speech and supported by the Budget presented by the Provincial Treasurer, is the recognition of the importance which an expanding economy must play in our future welfare.

Our government is offering the citizens of Ontario an updated version of the philosophy for the future that Sir John A. Macdonald offered to his people nearly 100 years ago. This philosophy covers a long range programme for development, embracing all segments of our society. In it the requirements for capital investment, housing, social services, education and research are being effectively coordinated to assure the continued growth and prosperity of Ontario.

Our Opposition today, as in 1867, is unable to challenge the wisdom of this concept. It is understandable that they must grasp every straw. They must cry out about this, they must cry out about that, but they have failed dismally to challenge the sum and substance of our government's programme for the people, a programme which will provide even greater opportunity for our people in the years that lie ahead. Mr. Speaker, I move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 14 by Mr. Trotter.

RESOLUTION: That this government should enact legislation that is in effect a "Bill of Rights" for tenants, wherein tenants are protected against harsh and excessive terms in rental contracts.

Mr. J. B. Trotter (Parkdale): I move, seconded by Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South), resolution No. 14 standing in my name.

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 15 by Mr. A. F. Lawrence.

RESOLUTION: That, in the opinion of this House, the practice, by owners of multiple-type dwellings, of requiring a large deposit or prepayment of rent from tenants is unjust, and that, if continued, consideration should be given to the interposition of an independent supervisory or licensing third party to act as trustee to regulate and hold such deposits, so that a speedy and just procedure can be evolved whereby tenants will be able to recover such deposits with interest at the current bank rate, at the termination of

their tenancy, less the cost of any actual damage caused by them during such tenancy.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): I move, seconded by Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka), resolution No. 15 standing in my name.

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 17, by Mr. Renwick.

RESOLUTION: That this government should introduce legislation for the protection of tenants of self-contained units in multiple-dwelling accommodation and single-family dwellings, to include: 1. Abolishing security deposits. 2. Establishing of a rental and tenancy review board. 3. Enacting a standard form of lease to be used by all landlords. 4. Prohibiting landlords from charging tenants a fee for subletting an apartment. 5. Outlawing all clauses in leases restricting tenants' rights to purchase milk, bread, other foodstuffs and personal service from the merchant of their choice. 6. Prohibiting landlords charging for extra occupants. 7. Requiring landlords to provide adequate standards of maintenance, safety and health for their tenants. 8. Requiring all landlords to carry liability insurance. 9. Abolishing the landlord's right of distress. 10. Authorizing the courts to delete any clause of a lease which, in the court's opinion, is unreasonable.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): I move, seconded by Mr. F. Young (Yorkview), resolution No. 17 standing in my name.

Mr. Speaker: I might advise the members that I have three speakers speaking to these three resolutions and if they would take a look at the clock, they would see that in order to give an equal distribution of time, they would have about 17 minutes each; so I would ask that they govern themselves accordingly.

Mr. Trotter: Mr. Speaker, I put this resolution on the order paper because I believe that with the changing circumstances of our industrial life in this province and in this country, we are going to have to take a much harder and more severe look at the way we handle affairs *vis-a-vis* tenants and landlords, especially in large apartment buildings.

There are too many abuses, particularly and especially on the part of landlords, that are turning hundreds of thousands of tenants in large apartment buildings into nothing better than serfs. We have contracts in

existence today where a tenant has little or no say in what he signs, that virtually takes away his right of choice of what he is going to buy in many aspects, and just how he is going to live. We may well say a person need not sign a contract, but if we look at the housing situation as it is today we know that many people grab the first apartment they can get when they arrive, particularly in a large city such as the size of Toronto.

Now, of the three resolutions on the order paper, I have deliberately made mine rather short and used the term "a bill of rights" because I feel the whole picture of the situation of tenants should be closely examined. I cannot agree with the member for St. George that a trust should be set up for deposits that are made by tenants to the landlords in case of damages that might be suffered to an apartment. I believe that this whole business of allowing a deposit in case there is damage to an apartment should be abolished. For a number of years now the landlords have insisted that about a month's rent be paid in advance. If you pay \$110 a month it is that amount which is paid in advance. That does not include the last month's rent, or the last two months' rent you must pay, but this is \$110 extra. Or if your rent is \$140 a month, then you have to pay \$140 extra, and the landlord has the benefit of that money interest-free as long as you are in that apartment. In all fairness to the apartment developers committee of the urban development institute here in Ontario they say they are now going to pay four per cent as of March 1. It is obvious that they have made this move because of the public outcry of the misuse of this fund. But in my view and that of this side of the House, it is just an extra charge being put on the tenant that increases the cost of rent here especially in as large a centre as we now are in Toronto.

I have seen many cases where people have moved from an apartment, and then have applied for this deposit insurance to be repaid to them and the landlord goes into that apartment and nine times out of ten he finds something wrong with the apartment and he either holds back the entire deposit or keeps a very large portion of it. But assuming there is nothing wrong with the apartment, it sometimes takes a great deal of time to have the landlord pay up the deposit, and he has had the advantage and use of this deposit for as long as the tenant occupied the apartment. And yet, as soon as the tenant's lease expires and he legally vacates the premises, the money in many cases has still been held up.

I know of one case where it took me four months to get an individual deposit back because when he moved from the apartment he was in the owner of the apartment said, "Oh I just bought this building and I know nothing of that deposit". So of necessity we had to go to the trouble of chasing the original landlord. If such deposits were outlawed in the beginning this waste of time on the part of the tenant would not be necessary.

So I say that we, as legislators, should see to it that this government takes action on one of the terms of a bill of rights or legislation affecting tenants and their landlords. Deposits held to protect the apartment should be wiped out completely. The vast majority of people who do rent apartments are good tenants. There are bound to be some that will cause damage but the landlord has his legal right to pursue that tenant and the landlord is far more able to sue and pursue a tenant through our legal procedures than the tenant is in the case of the landlord. Once again in a modern society we have this problem of the unorganized individual being at the mercy of the well-organized and well-financed group of individuals or corporations. This is something that we should take a hard look at, and take swift action.

The second thing is that in a lease, tenants are allowed in most cases to assign their lease and even when the landlord consents to an assignment, and even assuming that there is no loss in rent, as the one tenant moves out and the sub-tenant moves in there is no loss of rent for the landlords and many landlords charge \$50 for the cost of assignment. This is another unnecessary charge which is completely unfair to the tenant and one more item that boosts rents here in the province of Ontario.

There have been a number of wrongful evictions here in the city of Toronto of recent date. The landlord particularly in apartment buildings has almost complete control of the situation.

When a tenant is in arrears of rent, the landlord simply locks the door, and when the tenant comes home from work he cannot get in.

Not too long ago in my own constituency, there was a situation where a woman went to her apartment and was locked out and the landlord said she had not paid the rent and she insisted she had. That night she had no place to go and a friend took her in. After some prolonged proceedings it was discovered that the tenant was not in arrears of her rent and yet during all that time she had

been put at a disadvantage of being locked out from her furniture, from her clothes and literally being homeless.

In a large industrialized society this simply should not be allowed. Bearing in mind the size of these apartments and the control the landlord has I believe that the right of distress should no longer exist because we can well imagine that should there be a depression, even of short duration, we could find ourselves with literally hundreds of people locked out of their apartments. The landlords in turn have every legal right to sue tenants for the money that is owed them, and certainly we have no intention of taking away the legal right to go to court and sue for what moneys are owed them. But, also we have to think of the social aspect of this situation, and again I plead with the government to protect the hundreds of thousands of people who are at the mercy of the whim of any landlord. This is a matter that is going on every day in the city of Toronto and I have seen some cases that were very tragic and extremely unfortunate. It is a situation that we here in this Legislature should pay far more attention to than we have in the past.

What we especially need in the matter concerning the landlord and the tenant is a standard rental contract. I do not know if most of you in this House have seen the rental contracts that they have in these large apartment complexes, but some of the clauses in them are really fantastic. You must remember that hundreds of thousands of people are now becoming involved with these contracts, and again many may say, "let them read the small print, let them be responsible," but I repeat that in practice two things happen. The average person does not read the small print, and secondly even if they did what can they do when they are looking for a place to live but simply sign and hope for the best?

I have looked at a number of these contracts and because of the limitation of time I do not intend to go into all of them but there is one here in particular. I would just like to cite a few instances where, when a person as a tenant signs one of these leases they literally sign away many of their rights to make choices.

For example, on the plumbing, he must admit that the plumbing and heating work and drains in and about the said premises are now in a sanitary and satisfactory condition and that the premises are now clean and in good state of repair.

Well now, Mr. Speaker, if any of us looked at a large apartment building and walked around, how would we know that the plumbing is in good repair? There has got to be an authority greater than the individual and someone with more knowledge in order to tell if the plumbing is in good repair. And yet, if something does go wrong, a clause like that is used against a tenant. In some cases there is a defence, but it certainly puts the tenant at a disadvantage.

As a matter of fire safety, here is another clause:

Provided further that the lessee agrees with the lessor that the lessor may but shall not be bound to place and maintain in the demised premises such fire extinguishing apparatuses and appliances as the lessor may consider reasonably necessary for the due protection of the demised premises or building.

Well even if the lessor, according to this, thinks that he needs fire protection, he does not have to put in the necessary fire protection. Well I admit the average tenant does not read that or think anything about it, but still the tenant is signing away his or her rights.

There is even a sweeping clause, and it is very common, and in that clause, I will not read the whole clause to you, Mr. Speaker, under which the lessee waives and renounces the benefit of any present or future Act of the Legislature of the province of Ontario. In other words, the landlord is literally setting himself above this Legislature, and this is something about which you and I as legislators here should make certain that swift action is taken.

Well now there are in these clauses, Mr. Speaker, clauses releasing the lessor, that is the landlord, from any responsibility for any damages to automobiles, for any damages through injury in the building or in the elevator. If the elevator stops the landlord is not responsible. There are so many things that a tenant can or cannot do.

Mind you, sometimes in these contracts the landlord gets generous. He covenants to give quiet enjoyment, and adding to that, Mr. Speaker, he says:

To permit the lessee and his family to have the right in common with others entitled thereto to a reasonable use of the lavatories and water closets in the said building.

Well I think even there the landlord may be pushing things a bit too far.

But in most of these contracts the landlord decides who will sell bread; who will deliver newspapers, who will sell milk; and although the landlord may object to any interference with him and call it free enterprise, it is pretty obvious that the free enterprise and freedom of choice has been taken away from the tenants in the province of Ontario.

So I do feel that we are going to have to have—I hope in the very near future—some type of review board, some type of office, perhaps under The Department of Economics and Development for they are looking after housing, to see to it that the hundreds of thousands of tenants in this province have their freedoms and rights respected, because it is going to continue to be a problem with us as long as society lasts.

The large apartment complexes are here to stay. Complex living presents a lot of opportunities, it is true, but it also brings a great many problems, and particularly the problems of children.

I think it is going too far for a landlord to give anybody two months' notice just because the wife has had a child. I agree that apartments may not be the proper place to bring up children, but when you have the housing situation that you do today where are the young couple to go if they get two months' notice to get out simply because they have had a child?

These are serious social questions that this Legislature has to take into consideration. The time is long overdue that the tenants in this province had a bill of rights.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, coming as I am, between the hon. member for Parkdale and the hon. member for Riverdale, I find myself again in the position, I suppose, of being the ham in the sandwich, or perhaps the rose between two thorns—I am not too sure which.

But I do hope that I can inject a note of reasonableness and common sense and moderation into a very great problem that does exist today in the heavily populated urban areas of this province. It is not a problem that is unique to this province; and it is certainly not unique to Metropolitan Toronto because I understand that we are having these problems in Windsor. We are having these problems in London, we are having these problems, of course, in Toronto, we are having these problems as well in the city of Ottawa. I have had correspondence from all of these places in respect of this problem. It is certainly a province-wide problem and it is not one that affects Metropolitan Toronto alone.

I have been very intrigued in attempting to find out the solutions that have been enacted in other jurisdictions. I am sure that in metropolitan New York, for example, and in Chicago and in Los Angeles and San Francisco, and some of the other large urban areas of the United States, this problem has occurred.

So far, I have been unsuccessful in finding that there has been too much that is worth copying from some of these other areas. Now perhaps some of the members are not aware of what some of these problems are.

The problem today, and especially here in Metropolitan Toronto in my view, is due of course to the great demand for apartments. I am not too sure if the members of this House realize it, but most landlords in the Metropolitan Toronto area today demand first of all a pre-payment of rent. This pre-payment of rent can be a pre-payment of one month to a pre-payment of three months, although I have had two cases brought to my attention where the landlord has demanded a pre-payment of six months' rent in advance.

To me this is wholly unjustified unless the tenant has some record of abuse of previous apartment facilities.

As well the landlords today are demanding, and this is a pretty universal practice I understand, security deposits, which are anywhere between \$50 and \$150.

Now for a young couple or a young person today, attempting to get into a decent grade of apartment, there is right off the bat this pretty large financial hurdle for that person or that couple to jump. I think in a great many cases the insistence by the landlords on these amounts are quite unjustified.

Now when the tenant leaves, then, the dirty work really begins. First of all, at the expiration of the term the tenant in a great many cases will find that he has an extremely hard time in attempting to collect back that security deposit that has been paid to the landlord. In a great many cases the landlord has refused to give back more than half the deposit and he has indicated that the balance of the moneys have been needed to cover such things as redecoration, replacement of tiles, small holes in the wall, some of which come from the tenants putting in pictures.

In my mind, Mr. Speaker, these items should be included in the normal wear and tear in any well run apartment development scheme and paid for out of the normal rent that is due to the landlord from the tenant. This should be the normal risk of the business, and should be part of the monthly rental.

Now as well, some of the prepayment of rent and this deposit to the landlord are held for extremely long periods of time by the landlord. There may be one indication of the scope of this problem in which perhaps even the Provincial Treasurer might be interested. I have had at least 25 or 30 cases brought to my own attention as the member for St. George in the city of Toronto, and of course St. George riding covers a very small part of the city of Toronto proper. I understand that "Action Line" in the *Toronto Telegram*, for instance, has had over 100 complaints just since last May on this very question of tenants' deposit security.

The scope of the problem is perhaps much greater and much larger than most members of this House realize. Here is where I think the ears of the Provincial Treasurer should perk up, because there are large amounts of money involved.

I have seen a report from the Metropolitan Toronto planning board that there are over 165,000 apartment units in Metropolitan Toronto—165,000. The urban development institute, which is an organization including a group of apartment owners in this city, estimate there are 140,000. But let us be really conservative about it, let us say there are about 100,000 apartment units, rental units, in Metropolitan Toronto in which there is either a prepayment of rent or a deposit—100,000. As I say, this is a very conservative figure because my information is that by far the great majority of these apartment landlords now require either or both a prepayment of rent or a deposit. Let us again be very conservative in our figure and let us say there is either a prepayment of rent or a deposit of \$100 in each of these cases of 100,000. The Provincial Treasurer will be very quick to realize that we are talking here in very minimal amounts of over \$10 million in Metropolitan Toronto alone, tied up in this manner.

This \$10 million at the moment is available to these owners and landlords to their credit, and in their own account. This money is available really for them to do almost as they please with at the moment. There is no interest paid on it to the tenants whatsoever, no interest at all, and yet some of these periods of time can run up to, who knows, five years? Ten years? For the first 25 years of my life I lived in an apartment. In those days of course there was no requirement of deposits and prepayment of rent. But it does not take very long to figure out that the compound interest even at six per cent on \$100,

multiplied by 25 years certainly equals a fair amount of money.

So I would estimate that here in Metropolitan Toronto alone there is over \$10 million tied up in this way alone. That is a fair amount of money, which I am sure any Provincial Treasurer would begin to look at rather enviously.

Why should interest not be paid on those moneys? These are trust moneys. These are moneys that do not belong to the owners of the apartment, and they should be held in trust as trust funds on deposit to the benefit of the real owners. And the real owners are obviously the tenants. This is something that I think should be given a fair amount of thought by us all. These are moneys that are not owned by the landlord at all and yet the landlord has them to his credit and in this day of apartment construction in the city we can easily see how these large apartment developments can be financed by some of these large owners solely and simply on the basis of the trust funds held by them as deposit for their own tenants in another development. I think this is something that is really worthy of government investigation, and perhaps even government action.

We are dealing, I think, in this field of abuse, with a minority of the landlords. And I must be fair about it, as well as the 25 or 30 cases that I have had of people who have written to me as their member complaining about various abuses, I have also had other indications that people have had no trouble in getting the whole amount of their security deposit back. Granted it is only a minority of the landlords at the moment who are abusing this system but the whole purpose of any lawmaking body is obviously to cure abuses that are being perpetrated on the public by a minority of the population. The whole purpose of laws in this province, usually in any event, is either to protect the majority or to cure abuses that are taking place as far as the minority of the people are involved. Laws are made for minorities.

I think the obvious answer to this, and this particularly appeals to one with my political persuasion, the obvious solution to this is to make the industry itself police these abuses. If they themselves could cure it then there would be no need for government intervention in the field. I am very pleased that after my resolution was put on the order paper there was an announcement by the apartment developers committee of the urban development institute that they were going to cure some of these defects. They have come along

with a scheme that would take effect as of May 1 of this year, in which they would pay a four per cent interest rate in relation to these security deposits. They would make it mandatory for these security deposits to be returned within 15 days of the termination of the tenancy, and they would make it mandatory on their members to set a \$50 subletting fee. They would make it mandatory upon their members to stick very closely to a schedule of fees for certain stated repairs. This is fine and dandy and I want to give full credit to the urban development institute and to their committee. But first of all I do not think they go far enough, and second, we must bear in mind that this particular institute, by its own figures, accounts for only 56,000 out of the total of 165,000 apartment units in Metropolitan Toronto alone. Heaven only knows how many more apartment units there are where some of these same abuses are being fixed on the tenants across the rest of the province. This is only a small number of the apartment owners and accounts for only about 60,000 of the 700,000 apartment dwellers in the Metropolitan Toronto area.

I am going to be watching with very close interest, and I would hope the government is, to see whether the plan of the developers committee is going to be accepted and is going to be very widespread in the industry after May 1. I hope though, that the people in the institute will not take it amiss if I say that some of us are going to be very skeptical. We appreciate and we agree with what they are now doing, but this is a problem that has been going on now for a number of years. They themselves only came forward with a solution after some of us have attempted to publicize the matter and bring it before the floor of this House and I quite frankly have my doubts that we are going to see this plan very widely accepted at all in the industry.

Now, I do not know what the answer is. Quite frankly, I cannot agree with my friend, the hon. member for Parkdale, that we should pass legislation completely wiping out these security deposits. Quite frankly, I view this demand for apartments right now as one extreme swing of the pendulum. I am sure even the member for Parkdale can remember back a few years ago when some of these apartments were being rented with a premium being granted to the tenant of one, two, sometimes even three months free rent. At that time there was a glut on the apartment market and it was certainly a renters market. The pendulum has now swung the other way and

it is now a sellers market, and I would hope that at the current rate of apartment construction in this city that soon things are going to return to a sane and safe level on their own. But I am not sure, and this is why I feel there should be a closer look at this whole field by the government of the day. Perhaps we should look into this very dangerous situation and perhaps at the same time ensure that some of these abuses are going to be rectified.

It was in that vein and with that hope that I attempted to bring this matter before the floor of this House by putting in the resolution on the order paper that I did. Granted there are many problems there that are not covered but I must say that I have not taken the easy way out and merely called for a "tenant's bill of rights." In this regard I must compliment the hon. member for Riverdale who is about to follow me, if I give him any time, in regard to the specifics that he had mentioned in his resolution. I do feel however, that this method of handling this matter and getting it on the order paper as far as the hon. member for Parkdale is concerned, is typical of the way in which that party has handled these matters and these specific problems in the House here this session. At least we have attempted to be specific, at least we can see the problems and attempt to come up with some sort of constructive answer instead of using some of these blanket phrases.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, in the brief time that is available to speak to the resolution standing in my name and which in some aspects is quite similar to the resolution or the content or the remarks of the member for Parkdale and also to the content of the remarks of the member for St. George, I do not propose to deal with all the various aspects of the relationship between the landlord and the tenant.

Each of the items, Mr. Speaker, which are specified in the resolution which I have placed on the order paper deserves specific comment of its own, but time does not permit that specific comment for each of them.

The relationship, Mr. Speaker, of the landlord and tenant is in the province of Ontario, entirely one of agreement between the landlord and the tenant subject only to the statutory provisions which affect that relationship. The result has been that over a period of time what had become a normal accepted relatively brief form of lease, which was used in the time when there were not very many apartment houses in the city of Toronto has now become a document which contains

usually about 100 separate individual paragraphs. I will not comment upon the way in which they are printed and the smallness of the type, but I simply defy anyone to say he can sit down and read the usual form of apartment lease in any intelligent way and by the time he has read the 100 or so paragraphs in that lease have any comprehension of what his obligations as a tenant might be under the lease.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we think that this government must give serious consideration to an effort to determine by statute a statutory form of lease, a lease which would cover the principal points in the agreement between a landlord and his tenant. If there were variations to be made in that standard form of lease then they could by a different colour of ink, or in some other appropriate way be brought specifically to the attention of the tenant at the time that he signs the lease.

Because the lease has had the benefit of some very meticulous legal draftsmanship it is, as I have said, both incomprehensible; and as all of us now know some of the clauses are ridiculously impractical so far as any protection of the tenant himself may be concerned.

I think the government must give that matter consideration. There has been on the books of the Legislature, as we are all aware, a Short Form of Leases Act which at an earlier time was designed to specify the meaning which certain short forms of words in a lease would have by repeating the rather lengthy terms of the short form of words in the statute. But when you find, Mr. Speaker, that the leases of a modern apartment building commence usually with the phrase that this lease is made in pursuance of the Short Form of Leases Act, and yet at this time contain, as I have said, including the schedule of regulations anywhere up to or in excess of 100 separate paragraphs, you will realize that method, originally devised many years ago by the Legislature to deal with this problem, is no longer adequate at all.

I will not dwell at any great length on the question of security deposits, because the member for St. George and the member for Parkdale have spoken about it at great length. The problem as we see it is a problem related to a small number of landlords in the metropolitan area, and I am sure throughout the province of Ontario, who abuse the return of the money to the tenant at the expiration of the lease. But the other side of that question is that there is in the metropolitan area and throughout the prov-

ince, only a small number of tenants who in fact do the kind of damage which would warrant the imposition of such a requirement on a tenant to make a deposit of varying amounts, usually from \$50 up to \$100 or \$125, which will remain with the landlord throughout the whole of the period of the lease.

Now so far as the abuse is concerned, we are all quite aware of it and the member for St. George has spoken of it. I had, for example, a complaint from a constituent of mine in my riding who had left an apartment house in another area of Toronto and found that having just arrived from Scotland a short time before he had to put up a security deposit. When he left that apartment building, quite legitimately and quite properly, when he left it he was unable to get the return of the \$50. I went to the division court on his behalf and after two or three months we managed to recover the \$50.

The constituent of mine in that particular case, of course, in recovering the \$50 lost a day's wages, which amounted to \$17 or \$18. In the circumstances, I simply point out that I wanted to have the benefit of knowing what took place on such an application and I of course, made no charge. But it is perfectly clear that no lawyer is going to appear in division court on behalf of anyone to recover a deposit. The tenant cannot afford that kind of luxury.

Now the member for St. George has indicated that the money should be considered to be trust funds and should be segregated in some way and that an elaborate—and this is my criticism of his suggestion—an elaborate administrative machinery should be set up to provide a method by which someone else would decide whether the security deposit is or is not to be returned to the tenant.

Now my criticism, Mr. Speaker, is simply that it would be a cumbersome administrative procedure which would have to be followed. The so-called benefit of the interest on the funds would be eaten up in the administration of such a scheme and it would not be possible, in a metropolitan area, to so operate such a fund efficiently as to make it worthwhile to follow that procedure.

On balance then, Mr. Speaker, in considering this question we came to the conclusion that there is no need for security deposits, that in fact the danger which the landlord apprehends is ill-conceived and is not one which he should be protected against.

by penalizing each tenant by requiring a security deposit.

It is not a simple question, I agree with the member for St. George, and I would always give way to evidence which indicated that the landlord in fact required this to protect himself against malicious damage to his property or damage beyond the ordinary provision of reasonable wear and tear. I have yet to see such evidence, and therefore on balance we have come down on the side of abolishing the security deposit. On balance we think the evil to be remedied is much more than the benefit to be derived by keeping the security deposit.

The area which is of utmost concern to me, however, is the antiquated provision for the right of distress which a landlord has for non-payment of rent. I would like, Mr. Speaker, to take a few minutes to bring to the attention of the House the views which I have as to why this right of distress, this right of self-help which the landlord has, should now be eliminated.

I refer first of all, Mr. Speaker, to a situation which has nothing to do with the relationship of landlord and tenant, but deals with the relationship of a debtor and a creditor. The creditor sues the debtor and he gets a judgment in the court in accordance with the normal court proceedings and he issues a writ of execution. He delivers that writ of execution for the judgment which he has obtained to the sheriff and the sheriff then proceeds to levy execution in order to realize the amount of the judgment which has been granted. You then find that the sheriff is governed by The Execution Act and he is not entitled, in levying execution, to seize household goods. He is not entitled because the statute, The Execution Act of Ontario, specifically provides that the following chattels are exempt from seizure under any writ issued out of any court. The items which are exempt from seizure are the household furniture, utensils and equipment that are contained in and form part of the permanent home of the debtor, the necessary and ordinary wearing apparel of the debtor and his family, such food as the debtor actually has in his possession for the purposes of consumption by himself and his family, such fuel as is in the debtor's home and such books, tools and implements and other chattels necessary to and actually in use by the debtor in his business, profession or calling to the extent of \$1,000.

All of us are aware that the furniture in most apartments in the city of Toronto and elsewhere through the province of Ontario

is not entitled to that protection. And all of us would agree that for the purpose of a knockdown sale of the value of the contents of an apartment in the city of Toronto, it would be well within the exemption of the \$1,000 of value which is permitted for the furniture.

If you are a tenant in a building you do not have the protection of that section of the exemption. True, if there is non-payment of rent, the statute provides that after 15 days the landlord can re-enter and take possession of the apartment without notice. We have no quarrel with that specific right of re-entry for nonpayment of rent after 15 days without notice which is conferred by The Landlord and Tenant Act.

But, Mr. Speaker, that particular provision is not of any use to a tenant so long as there is this right of distress, because under the statute, and usually under the lease, you find that the landlord can, immediately there is a default in payment of rent and without having to wait for any 15-day period, through a bailiff as his agent but not as part of any court proceeding, take the furniture of the tenant free from the exemption contained in the statute if he gives a statutory form of notice within three days of giving such notice.

He can take it, he can impound it, he can put it up for sale and sell it off. Of course, the tenant still remains liable for any additional amount which may be owing.

We here, Mr. Speaker, simply feel that under no circumstances in our society should there be a situation where a person can, without going near a court levy execution in substance although it is traditionally known as taking distress, take by way of distress the household furniture, goods, and equipment of any person. We think that a person should be fully protected in that right and that the landlord's right of distress should be eliminated.

Under the statute, as I have said, there is a statutory form of notice which can be delivered to the tenant and a three-day period. If the tenant pays the rent, or gets out of the apartment those protected goods are still protected. But you usually find that a tenant does not know what his rights are, has no way of knowing what his rights are, and that his lease usually contains this extraordinary provision, which I am sure each lawyer is familiar with in the assembly.

That the lessee waives and renounces the benefit of any present or future Act of the Legislature of Ontario taking away or limiting the landlord's right of distress and

agrees with the lessor that notwithstanding any such Act, the lessor may seize upon and sell all the lessee's goods and chattels for payment of rent and costs as he might have done if such Act had not been passed.

Whether or not that is a valid provision, every lawyer is familiar with it and it is contained in practically every lease that I have ever seen and so far as the tenant is concerned if a bailiff appears he would bow to the fact that he had to turn over all his goods to pay for any defalcation in payment of rent.

We here, Mr. Speaker, and I simply leave this point at that position, say that right of distress, that right of taking the law into one's own hands, in the hands of a landlord, should be eliminated from such a statute; again reiterating the fact that we have no objection to retaining the provision for re-entry for non-payment of rent as provided in the statute after 15 days without notice.

The other items, as I have said, deserve, each of them and all of them, deserve comment. I would, however, wish to agree with the member for St. George about the landlords being in some way or other obligated to belong to an association which would provide some area of self-policing of the apartment buildings in a municipality such as Metropolitan Toronto. It is a device, of course, which we use for the professions; it is a device which was used not so very long ago to solve some of the problems in the broker-dealers association of those who trade in the market. There is no reason, so far as we can see, why a statute should not

be passed in this assembly which would enable a particular municipality, if it so chose to do so, to require all landlords, that is of multiple accommodation dwellings, to belong to an association in that municipality and at the same time granting to such an association wide powers of self-regulation and self-government.

We think that in a very real sense, with adequate modern guide lines laid down in a statute for the protection of a tenant, that such an association of landlords in any particular municipality could well make certain that there were not abuses by landlords of their rights as landlords and at the same time provide, which they are entitled to have, provide for themselves, as landlords, adequate protection for the property in which they have invested their funds.

Now Mr. Speaker, I simply leave it at the point where I would ask the government to seriously consider bringing in legislation which would deal with some of the modern requirements of lease apartment occupancy, particularly in Metropolitan Toronto, but as has been said throughout the province of Ontario. I think it is time the archaic relationship of landlord and tenant should be updated by modern rules.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with the estimates of the Attorney General. I move the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, March 14, 1967
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1967

The House met at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Winston Churchill collegiate institute, Scarborough and Winona public school, Winona; and in the west gallery, Burk's Falls high school, Burk's Falls, and in both galleries, St. Maria Goretti separate school, Scarborough.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence (Russell) from the standing committee on private bills presented the committee's tenth and final report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill Pr24, An Act respecting the city of Toronto.

The following bills were introduced, read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time tomorrow:

Bill 51, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Bill 52, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Bill 53, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to provide a system for inspecting motor vehicles for mechanical safety and for enforcing safety standards.

THE USED CAR DEALERS ACT, 1964

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, two main amendments in this proposed bill involve the following: The disclosure of additional information to be provided to the registrar by the used car dealers; the authority to make regulations is expanded to require disclosure of the history of prescribed classes of used cars and to prohibit or require disclosure of alterations to used cars or parts thereof.

THE LOAN AND TRUST CORPORATIONS ACT

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The purpose of this bill is to require, Mr. Speaker, that the auditors of loan corporations and trust companies registered under the Act be acceptable to the registrar appointed under the Act.

THE SECURITIES ACT, 1966

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, this bill gives the securities commission wider discretion in dealing with prospectuses of finance companies.

Basically, The Securities Act relies on the doctrine of full, true and plain disclosure. The amendments give the commission power to refuse prospectuses to finance companies. As it will be changed in the wording of the amendment, the commission may now reject the prospectus if it is not satisfied with the plan of distribution, the manner in which the

securities are secured and for such other financial reasons as may be specified by the regulations.

Regulations may be made as to the amount of paid up capital and surplus, the liquidity of assets, ratios of debts and paid-up capital surplus, the audit procedures to be applied to finance companies and the frequency of the furnishing of interim financial statements. It will provide standards for trust indentures relating to finance companies, qualification of trustees and the rights, duties and obligations of such trustees. All of these provisions are designed for the protection of the investor.

The amendment gives the Ontario securities commission, acting on the advice of its director, the authority to order that all trading and the primary distribution to the public of finance company securities cease when the commission director is satisfied that a company is not meeting the provisions laid down in the Act.

The amendment gives to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council power to specify categories of companies. This power, sir, is a necessary supplement to the establishing of special rules relating to finance companies.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, may I submit a question on the statement he has made about that bill?

I just want to ask the Minister whether that is the government's answer to the void which exists in the field of finance and acceptance company regulations and supervision.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: If that is any question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Well, answer it then. It is a perfectly legitimate question.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), who has been ill, has provided me with an answer to part 1 of the question from the member for Scarborough West of February 9.

I would advise as follows: The meeting on September 21, 1965, was for the purpose of discussing future planning for the federal-provincial land holdings at Malvern, in the township of Scarborough. It was agreed at this meeting to reactivate the Malvern committee in order to determine basic land uses and the logical planning of development.

Present at this meeting were senior officials from the head office and regional office

of central mortgage and housing corporation, officials of the then township of Scarborough, The Department of Municipal Affairs, and Metropolitan Toronto housing corporation. The Scarborough representative was the commissioner of planning, Mr. D. F. Easton.

On November 23, 1966, representatives of central mortgage and housing corporation, Ontario housing corporation, the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and Scarborough reviewed the technical problems associated with the future development of the Malvern land. At this meeting it was agreed on the recommendation of the Scarborough officials that the federal-provincial partnership should engage a firm of consulting engineers to carry out an engineering feasibility study. It was agreed that Ontario housing corporation should retain the engineering consultants, and a recommendation to that effect was submitted to the board of directors of Ontario housing corporation.

On December 7, 1966, a meeting was held in the offices of the commissioner of planning of the then township of Scarborough. In attendance at this meeting were representatives of the Ontario housing corporation and the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. The township of Scarborough was represented by the township clerk, the commissioner of works and the commissioner of planning.

At this meeting, the terms of reference of the engineering feasibility studies were agreed upon. Due to the illness of the Minister, he was unable to meet personally with mayor Campbell. In his absence, the mayor had a preliminary discussion with the managing director of Ontario housing corporation. As a result of this discussion, arrangements are being made to meet with the board of control of the borough of Scarborough on April 5.

A precise indication as to when development of the Malvern holdings can commence cannot be obtained until the engineering feasibility report is completed. Until that time, the Minister states he is not prepared to comment on mayor Campbell's statement concerning the provision of services by the spring of 1968.

Now, Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet I have a statement before the orders of the day. The hon. member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Gaunt) asked a question on February 13 regarding the application of retail sales tax on tires for farm tractors. At that time I advised him officials of the retail sales tax branch were meeting with a delegation from the Ontario federation of agriculture and considera-

tion would be given to their submission on a much broader range than tires.

I believe this is an appropriate time to make a statement to the Legislature regarding changes which will be coming forward under regulations and rulings made under The Retail Sales Tax Act. Regarding the submissions by the Ontario federation of agriculture and the Ontario fruit and vegetable growers association, I am happy to advise that practically all their requests for exemption were granted as the items were considered necessary for farming.

Farmers may purchase farm machinery and equipment used solely for farm use on an unconditionally exempt basis. However, other machinery and equipment is used quite frequently for purposes other than farming. We have in mind bulldozers, snow ploughs, tractors, and so on. The farmer may purchase this type of equipment tax free, using an end use certificate stating that it is for farm use only. In addition, farmers will continue to pay tax on articles that are normally taxable, such as items a farmer would use in his own household; for example, stoves, refrigerators and like articles.

Provision has been made in the regulations to clarify the tax status of bound books, wherein our interpretation will agree with that contained in the federal Excise Tax Act and should reduce some interpretation difficulties in applying the tax on printed material.

Another change in the regulations which I thought might be of interest to the Legislature is the application of tax on children's clothing. The only controllable method of providing exemptions for children's clothing is associated with sizes, having in mind the difficulties that would be encountered by vendors if any other approach were used.

We have seriously studied other approaches, but invariably realized that the most feasible approach was the size factor. Some parents have questioned the payment of tax on clothing for their children, and as it is pretty hard to explain a 12-year old wearing a size beyond the exemption, and which is taxable, it makes it look as though we are against large children. We are proposing an enlargement of sizes which will broaden the exemption but will stay within the size range of clothing designed for children.

This provision will reduce the imposition of tax on clothing worn by children, but I would be very remiss if I did not remind you, Mr. Speaker, that tax on clothing worn by some large children may still occur. Also, if an adult can, and wishes, to wear clothing

designed for children he might purchase exempt sizes.

It is interesting to note, I think, that one of the recommendations in the Carter commission report indicates that children's clothing should be subject to tax.

We have also modified regulation 8 which will permit less frequent reporting by vendors, thus substantially reducing the work of smaller vendors on the branch. This will reduce the number of annual returns being filed from 1.2 million to approximately 800,000 and not expose us to any appreciable revenue loss.

Regulation 19 has been amended so that retail sales tax will not apply in the transfer of taxable, tangible personal property from legal entity to another if they are looked upon as substantially the same person.

For example, related companies where a parent and subsidiary are involved. The previous requirement did impose a hardship on small corporate bodies who may not have had access to good technical advice as larger corporate bodies have. This will allow greater movement of assets without tax, providing the companies or persons are associated to the extent of 95 per cent of parallel ownership. These exemptions will apply to one transfer of the same assets.

The preceding remarks are related to regulations changes, and I would now like to refer to some of the ruling changes. The formula for determining the cost of materials on which sales tax is figured by sheet metal contractors has been improved whereby a more simple formula has been devised for the calculation of the cost of materials.

It has been noticed that furriers and upholsterers have had some difficulty understanding their tax status with respect to repairs. Under certain conditions they would be required to collect tax as a manufacturer and this has not been easily defined. To provide a clear-cut instruction for these vendors, it has been decided that tax will apply on labour and material if the total charge exceeds \$100. If the charge is less than this figure, the tax will only apply on the material, providing it is charged separately from labour.

Tax applied on alteration charges to clothing has been proven very difficult to explain, particularly when the tax was applied when alterations were required on new clothing, but did not apply when the article was altered at a later date. A ruling is, therefore, being introduced so that tax will not apply unless the alteration charge exceeds \$15 for either new or used clothing.

It was thought advisable to provide some clarification regarding the application of tax on packaged sales, which contained both non-taxable and taxable articles. We have decided that if the package contains more than 75 per cent taxable goods the tax will apply on the total value, but will be exempt if that percentage figure is not reached. A good example would be gift packages.

We have also provided that calcium chloride, or similar products which previously have not been considered exempt when used by municipalities, may now be purchased on a tax free basis because of their more frequent usage in road repairs. This was announced at the annual meeting of the good roads association of Toronto in late February and will afford some degree of relief to the municipalities in keeping their costs down.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the explanations I have advanced will provide some clarification to the members.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (Yorh South): Mr. Speaker, I have two questions, my first to the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Has the milk marketing board the power under section 27 of The Milk Marketing Act, 1965, to enforce existing contracts between the dairy and producers pending the setting up of the milk pool, and if so has such power been exercised in the instance of Cousins Dairy in Aurora?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I would ask the hon. member if I may take this as notice? I was just handed this question as I walked into the House. I was not in the office all morning, but was attending the Cabinet and then the agriculture meeting. I would like to look into this myself.

Mr. MacDonald: My second question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Attorney General.

Does the Attorney General propose to take any action with regard to the harassment and threats against gasoline retailers by oil companies, evidence of which has been presented to him by the superior auto service association; indeed, almost a year ago?

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member for York South is already aware that I met with the superior auto service association representatives last June and I discussed with them in considerable detail the allegations they made against the oil companies.

The evidence presented consisted of statements which in my opinion and that of my

advisers did not indicate any criminal offence or circumstances that would warrant police investigation. The dispute was over the enactment of a local closing by-law which the dealers were supporting. The oil companies evidently had a contrary interest and both groups were pressing their legitimate interests in dealing with the proposed municipal by-law. This does not in my view warrant police intervention or criminal prosecution. I propose to take no further action in the matter and I have so advised the association.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have three questions for the Minister of Education.

1. Has The Department of Education had any private meetings with any groups from or representatives of boards of education in Metropolitan Toronto with regard to teachers' salary demands?

2. Has the department made any overtures of any kind to any of the parties involved in the wage negotiations?

3. Has the department given any detailed thought to intervention by way of mediation should negotiations between teachers and boards reach a total impasse?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): The answer to the first two questions would be no. On the third question, the department is giving continuing consideration to all matters that could be difficult as far as education in this province is concerned.

Mr. S. Lewis: One day we will stop fencing on this issue.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I rise on a question of a point of order.

The current issue of the *Rural Cooperator*, renamed *Farm and Country*, March 14 edition, has a report of the meeting of the agricultural committee that was held about a week ago. In reference to that portion of the committee hearing where the chairman of the milk board indicated that he had been in receipt of an extra quota, it comments and I quote:

After his explanation the legislative committee members agreed he had not acted improperly.

Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge there was no discussion by members of the committee of that point. One member of the committee, the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher), did indicate personally that in his view the chairman had not acted improperly. But the committee as a whole came to no conclusion and I personally have no hesitation in stating

that I believe he acted unwisely and indiscreetly, but not improperly, and therefore has complicated public discussion or resolution of this thorny issue.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

I would inform the House that their microphones are alive although there is some difficulty with the equipment. The proceedings are being recorded, but the loudspeakers are not working.

Clerk of the House: The fourth order. House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Continued)

On vote 202:

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, over the years we have had a number of discussions about the advisability of having magistrates and judges on the police commissions of the province of Ontario. And the criticism has often been made, and properly so, that it is most difficult for a person who is charged with the day-to-day administration of the law, such as a magistrate or a county court judge in his capacity in sitting on criminal matters, to deal at the same time with the administration of police forces.

We on this side of the House have urged on many an occasion that this practice be stopped because there is an obvious possibility of conflict of interest. There have been numerous articles about it; there has been great concern expressed, particularly in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto in this regard. I wonder if the Attorney General has any views at this time?

I think we should at long last get some sort of announcement from the government that they are concerned in separating the police arm from the judicial arm. The government encourages the intermingling of these—which is bad for the community—by allowing county court judges and magistrates to continue on police commissions.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, The Police Act, which establishes the composition of a board of commissioners of police for a municipality, used to provide that the board would be composed of: the head of a municipality, a county or district court judge—not necessarily the one in the area but that usually followed—and also used to provide a magistrate.

That was changed four or five years ago, I am not sure of the year, to make the composition, the head of the municipality, either the district or county court judge, and one other person. Since that change in the Act, on a considerable number of occasions and with respect to a considerable number of boards of commissioners of police, we have not appointed a magistrate for this other person—not in every instance but in quite a number.

If I may be permitted to say this—in my own riding, the city of Sault Ste. Marie, a year or more ago, the appointment was not a magistrate but another citizen, a former mayor. So several recent appointments have been of that nature, rather than the selection of a magistrate. There are some pending now, and I may say to the House that in those presently before me it is not the intention to appoint magistrates.

But the hon. member requests, or inquires on the matter of government policy; he uses the expression “obvious conflict of interest” and relates it both to judges and magistrates. With regard to that, I would say that many municipalities favour and express the view that they like the judge sitting on the police commission, and a number of them indicate no objection to the magistrate.

There is this to be said: While it may be argued the magistrate is close to the police, in that he sees them in his court from day to day as they come before him and give evidence, he has an opportunity to deal with them on a very intimate basis. The magistrate, nevertheless—and these remarks apply to the judge also—is at least an independent person. He is established, since he is a magistrate to the end of his retirement years and not subject to dismissal, except for misconduct or misbehaviour.

The same thing applies to the judges; they are independent, they are subject to no pressures. No local pressures can be brought upon them to vary the attitudes of police. And although they deal with police with respect to their hours of work, and regarding their pay and the conditions under which the members of the police force carry out their duties, they are immune from local pressures. They are judicial persons—another characteristic which I think is required on a board of police commissioners. Generally, boards of commissioners of police have worked well, made up as they have been in most instances of the head of a municipality, the judge and the magistrate.

The hon. member is aware that municipalities have the alternative, and have the

option, of governing their local police forces by committees of council. We have found in these situations, although many municipalities still retain the committees of council, that local pressures do create serious difficulties. The member of council is a person who is elected, who changes from year to year, or from time to time, and situations arise where we get serious complaints about the operations of those committees.

I know that is not quite relevant to the question, but I point out the distinction that exists between a board of commissioners of police on which sits a magistrate and a judge, as compared with that where there is an individual, an elected person. If you were to dispose of the magistrate entirely, as we have the option now, and select a citizen, even though he is not an elected person he might still very well be subject to those pressures of which we become aware in the situations where there are committees of council.

I have no policy to announce on behalf of the government. I express my own view that, in our appointments of recent time, we have gone largely to—not with the judges, we have no option with respect to a judge, it must be a judge—but with respect to magistrates, we have appointed persons who are not on the magisterial bench. I would not say that I would not—tomorrow or the next day or some time in the future, if I found general respect and approbation of the magistrate's position—appoint him to a police commission.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Attorney General for his full answer. I cannot say I find myself in agreement with his answer. He summed up my objection when he said: "Do not forget that magistrates and county court judges are judicial people", and this is the very distinction I think we have to maintain. When you take a judicial person and you put him on a policing job, or an administrative job, therein lies the conflict of interest. As careful and as independent and as clear in his thinking as one of these people might want to be, the fact that he sits from day to day reviewing the actions of a particular police force, associating with the senior officers of that force, determining their salary and so on, to my mind puts him in a very difficult position when he has to sit in his judicial capacity and assess the evidence that is given by the various police officers that come before him. This is a real conflict and it disturbs me. This is why, over the years, Mr. Chairman, I have suggested that there be some clear-cut break in this branch of the

Attorney General, separating the police arm from the judicial arm.

I suggest it is no excuse at all to say that there have been abundant complaints from a variety of sections of the province. I suggest that this, while a very important distinction, a very important point to be made, is too subtle. It is only when on occasion some particular incident bubbles above the surface and explodes that we hear about it; but the danger is there. And one of the very important principles of our system of administration of justice can very well be in jeopardy by the continuance of this.

The Attorney General, as is his wont, is nibbling at this problem—and I say, advisedly, just nibbling at it—when he expresses a little concern about the continuing appointment of magistrates. He does not say that he will not appoint them, but he is looking very carefully at it—and I say he is nibbling at the problem. Maybe the point again is to get through to him. It is a pity that, after certain events which we anticipate will take place, it perhaps will not be his decision to make any more; but if, by any mistake, he is still there, maybe some of this thinking is going to get through to him.

I am concerned particularly with what is happening in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. There has been great concern about the constitution of the police commission in Metropolitan Toronto. There was great discussion in this chamber a year or so ago, Mr. Chairman, about by-laws that our police commission has passed. There was great concern about some of the secret meetings that were held, and that sort of thing.

There has been much press comment and much comment from the members of the Metropolitan council expressing their dissatisfaction with the present constitution of the Metropolitan Toronto police commission. And I would have hoped there could have been some authoritative statement from the government as to whether or not they believe that the Metropolitan Toronto police commission as presently constituted is working satisfactorily.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Metropolitan Toronto for a moment, I would point out that the composition of that board of commissioners of police relating to Metropolitan Toronto comes within the Act respecting Metropolitan Toronto, and it is not in The Police Act. It is a distinct and separate situation—all by itself. I have had representations made, I may say, by mem-

bers of Metropolitan Toronto and I have discussed this to some extent with the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner). It is not, however, in The Police Act. It is a special creation.

I would just like to go back, Mr. Chairman, for a moment, to the remarks made by the hon. member about the magistrate and the judge, and to point out that the reason I mention the judicial attitude, the judicial training, is that they are dealing quite frequently in boards of commissioners of police with matters of discipline or conduct of policemen. And they are able to act on the independent side without fear or favour. They do have to exercise the qualities of a judge or of a magistrate in judging matters which call for judicial discretion.

This, I think, would even be true with respect to matters of wages, hours and working conditions. There is judicial judgment required there, and I was wondering why the hon. member tries to provoke me by saying that I am "nibbling" at the matter. I was looking back at the Act to see when this change was made from the requirement of a magistrate to another person. I must—when I have time; I cannot do it now—go back to *Hansard* and see what he said then. Because I am surprised—I did not sit in the House on that occasion—if it was intended by the Legislature that a magistrate should not be appointed, that was an opportunity to say "another person, not a magistrate."

The Legislature did not go so far, and I am moving along the lines that are indicated by the legislation. I wonder if the hon. member at that time said, "Let us carry it all the way and prevent a magistrate being a member of the board of commissioners of police." Maybe he can tell us.

However, I am just not "nibbling" at the matter; I am going in the way that the legislation directs.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I think when the Attorney General has an opportunity to examine *Hansard*, he will find that I am consistent in my remarks as I usually try to be.

I am a little unhappy about the response to my questions about the Metropolitan Toronto police commission, because I suggest it is not a sufficient answer to put it in a separate cubbyhole, and merely because reference to the Metropolitan Toronto police commission happened to be assigned, by the mysterious legislative process that we sometimes go through, to a bill that was sponsored by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

It should not and does not, in my opinion, remove what should be the watchful eye of the Attorney General over the whole process. And I would suggest, as the Attorney General knows, that since there has been some pretty substantial dissatisfaction with the present constitution of the Metropolitan Toronto police commission, it is hardly sufficient for the Attorney General to say, "Well, by some process, it got into the hands of the Minister of Municipal Affairs." So while he listens politely he refers the matter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Really, it is not the responsibility of the Minister of Municipal Affairs—while he has many others and he avoids some of them sometimes. I do not think that he would be wrong in saying, "I know nothing about police commissions; it is a matter for the Attorney General and he should have an opinion on it."

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I did not say that I had referred it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. I said that I had discussed it with him, or perhaps I should have said further that I have some thoughts on this matter; some proposals in mind which I have not yet put in the form of a recommendation to government, but that the matter is not out of my consideration. We are studying it and we may be able to find some solution to the complaints which are offered.

Mr. Singer: I would infer, Mr. Chairman, that the representations have been received, but there is no immediate action contemplated by the government in regard to the representations made about the Metropolitan Toronto police commission.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: As I say, the matter is still under study.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, there is another point that I want to discuss briefly. There was some trouble a year in Pembroke regarding the police commission and the municipal council. It is my recollection that the police commission entered into a bargain with the police association to pay certain salaries after a considerable number of bargaining sessions. And the municipal council came to the conclusion that they could not afford it.

For a while there were occasional press reports and then they seemed to vanish. I have no idea how this problem was resolved, or if it is resolved, or what that kind of a problem in fact leads to. And I would like to hear the Attorney General tell us what really did happen, and if the question has been resolved and what is about to be done,

if anything has to be done, to make sure this situation cannot occur again.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not suppose anything could be done to prevent it occurring again. It might occur. It was a rare, unique situation, I would think, and is not likely, I hope, to occur again.

With respect to Pembroke itself, the hon. member perhaps knows that the dispute between the members of the local police force was really with the city council, in the sense that although the board of police commissioners had entered into an agreement relating to pay—particularly to pay—and had tied it to the rates of pay which would be approved for the Ontario Provincial Police, when that increase came to the Ontario Provincial Police, city council then said it could not afford to make such payments.

After negotiation and arbitration, an agreement was reached which was apparently satisfactory to all concerned and was, I believe, signed by those representing the police force and the board of commissioners of police and, I believe, by city council. In any case, it appeared to be satisfactory.

The board of commissioners of police then released three members of the force because they felt they could not meet the full payroll.

That situation, after some discussion, was resolved by council taking back two of the persons released. Apparently they had quite a legal right to do this. The police were well advised by very eminent counsel. The police association of Ontario was involved in the matter from the beginning. The one man who was injured and off the force at that time has since been returned to duty. There is just one man now who is not employed as he formerly was, on the police force, and I am hopeful that in their budget arrangements now progressing they may be able to find it possible to restore the force to its full number, which was 19.

Now I should say that in the course of the whole matter the Ontario police commission was continuously informed and involved. And in fact, when the three men were released, the commission sent its advisers down there and studied the situation in Pembroke to ascertain if the force, as it then was at 16, was adequate. The report made by the Ontario police commission to myself was that such a number was not adequate to properly look after the law enforcement in the town of Pembroke.

It was then that we were quite insistent that unless the force were restored to what would be a reasonable state of adequacy,

the Ontario Provincial Police would be required to supplement the local force, or go in and police the town under the appropriate section of the Act. That was communicated to the council and it resulted in two men being taken back. And I am hopeful that the third man will be taken back shortly. But the force is restored to a reasonable state of adequacy and the situation seems to have been fairly well resolved.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I think this points up an anomaly in our method of controlling these matters.

The Attorney General answered a couple of supplementary questions that I had, but he did not give as elaborate detail as I would like. When the Ontario police commission went in and made their examination and subsequently reported, did they give you their opinion as to what might be the number of an adequate police force for Pembroke? And if so, what was it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have not got the report in front of me. It seems to me that the report generally was in these terms, that the force had been 19, that this was a minimum for reasonably adequate policing of that area. When the force was reduced to 16, we were able to say to the town, "If you do not restore your force we shall have to supplement it by the Ontario Provincial Police." Arrangements were actually made to do that but, with the restoration of two of the constables, we did not find it necessary to go in.

I might just say on this point, two very capable police officers who advised the commission went down and made that assessment. They made a very thorough assessment of the situation. They examined traffic cases, break-and-entry, all types of criminal things which happened in that community over a period of time, the nature of the population, and the adjoining area where the RCAF personnel, I believe, are in camp. Then they came up with their decision.

It is a very difficult thing to do. It is something of which you cannot be quite so definite—as you might in some other situation—and say, "Eighteen men are not adequate, or 19 men—that number will be adequate." It is a matter of allowing some little leeway in judgment. Otherwise we could go in to a number of municipalities in this province and, taking the history of criminal occurrences in such a municipality, might very well say, "You need two or three more policemen"—or one more. I think this is possible. So I think we have to use a certain amount of discretion and consideration in all these situations. Although

we have the power in the Act, and we are prepared to exercise it, we got the result that we desired by indicating that we were prepared to exercise it. I think reasonable consideration has to be given in these situations.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am not suggesting that anybody be unreasonable; but what we were talking about here, in plain and simple language, is dollars and cents. The police commission, in their wisdom, bargained with the police association. They came to an agreement. An agreement was signed and the council turns around and says, "We cannot do it. We have not got enough money." There is the simple, economic fact.

I do not blame the police association who, I am sure, were bargaining in good faith. Least of all do I blame the municipal council, who recognize the financial ability of that community and their ability to levy taxes. But it all gets back to the same thing that we have been talking about in almost every department of government as the estimates have come before us. There has to be a bigger responsibility lodged in the Treasury of the province of Ontario, to provide for the administration of justice. We almost had a very serious situation there in Pembroke and it should not have been allowed to occur.

I think the province should be taking a larger share of the cost of administration of justice, which includes policing. As I say, I find it difficult from this position to fix blame on the police commission or the police association, or on the municipal council, as I think it is fairly obvious that there has to be some responsibility attached to the government. This is a situation that is not uncommon across the whole of the province of Ontario, for proper policing.

Now you have an arm in the police commission that can give us a far better idea whether we have proper or improper policing. For proper policing there has to be a real thought of how that is going to be done. There has to be a cost-sharing, on the basis of ability to pay; and as you continue to overburden the municipal taxpayers, something is going to have to give. In this case it was almost at the price of the proper policing of the city of Pembroke; and in this I think the government stands condemned.

You shuffled through this one fortunately, but you are going to have another one. You will have three or four more before very long and, somewhere soon along the line, Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General and his colleagues are going to have to face up to this responsibility. They are going to have to recognize that there is a responsibility in the

government of Ontario to make sure that proper police service is given to the people of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman, while I am on my feet, I have two or three more things that I would like to explore, dealing with the police commission in particular. They did do these investigations in Pembroke. Can the Attorney General tell us how many police investigations were done in the last current year by the Ontario police commission? There is another reason, Mr. Chairman, why it is so difficult to adequately criticize these estimates; we do not have that report before us.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there were surveys of municipal police forces in 72 municipalities. Then there were special surveys of municipal police forces, 10 of those conducted jointly by two advisers of the commission; five were conducted by one adviser.

The commission investigated complaints involving five police forces, and complaints involving police officers regarding alleged assaults. There were two of those and they were investigated. Assistance was provided on request to police-governing authorities, in the appointment of chiefs of police and other departmental appointments, to the number of 10.

There were meetings with and advice to authorities regarding police operations within their individual police forces to a total of 20—10 where one adviser went in, and 10 where the two advisers of the commission went in and advised the municipality and the police authorities.

There was assistance provided on request to boards of commissioners of police regarding police matters, to the number of three. Assistance and advice upon request to chiefs of police regarding police operation and administration—there were 13 of those in which the commission offered assistance and advice.

Police zone meetings were attended to the number of nine; and surveys conducted as to the adequacy of police forces—two; in each case by the two advisers working together in a municipality.

Surveys were conducted as to unification of police forces, three—one by three advisers, one by two advisers, and one by one adviser. Those are some of the activities which will appear as the report is prepared.

Mr. Singer: Well, just listening, it is very hard to make even a mental note of all these things. The last two statistics caught my ear, surveys as to inadequacies and

surveys as to unification of forces. Did the surveys—I think the Attorney General said two as to inadequacies—lead to the conclusion that these particular forces were adequate or inadequate?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: One of those was Pembroke, I believe. On the other one, I think we found the situation adequate.

Mr. Singer: Another report that was inadequate. All right. Insofar as the amalgamation of forces was concerned, was the end result of those surveys that there should be amalgamation or that there should not be?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think, Mr. Chairman, that in the discussion of these estimates one night, when the hon. member was not present, we covered this fairly thoroughly. I offered to the members of the House at that time some facts as to the possible amalgamation of police forces as reported by the Ontario police commission. I will repeat it: The areas of possible amalgamation as offered by the police commission are 14 now in number: No. 1, the cities of Port Arthur and Fort William; No. 2, the city of North Bay and the townships of West Ferris and Widdifield; No. 3, the cities of Ottawa and Eastview, including the village of Rockcliffe Park and the townships of Gloucester and Nepean; No. 4, the city of Oshawa and the town of Whitby; No. 5, the town of Ajax, the township of Pickering; No. 6, exclusive of Metropolitan Toronto, the police forces in the county of York, it was suggested, could be merged; and No. 7, the city of Barrie and the townships of Innisfil and Essa; No. 8, the towns of Midland and Penetanguishene and the designated portion of the township of Tiny; No. 9, the towns of Brampton, Port Credit and Streetsville, with the townships of Chinguacousy and Toronto and the village of Bolton; No. 10, the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and the township of Waterloo; No. 11, the city of Galt and the towns of Preston and Hespeler; No. 12, the town of Stoney Creek and the township of Saltfleet; No. 13, the city of Sarnia and the township of Sarnia; and No. 14, the town of Grimsby and the township of Grimsby North. Those areas have been studied with a view to possible amalgamation of the police forces.

I might mention that The Department of Municipal Affairs is doing a broad study into all matters with respect to the Lakehead cities, Port Arthur and Fort William.

Mr. Chairman: I should remind the member for Downsview that we did discuss a

number of these items under vote 202 on Thursday evening and Friday.

Mr. Singer: I only missed Thursday evening, Mr. Chairman. I recognize that I was not here, and I should have been, and I apologize if I repeat a little of the ground.

I was going to say that this is the "investigation-est" government that we have ever had in the province of Ontario. We have more studies and more departments than any other government in the world has going on at the same time, most of which produce very little. But we do have a lot of studies going on, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): They sure need it.

Mr. Singer: Insofar as those 14 studies are concerned, may I ask the Attorney General if it was indicated, as a result of these studies, that it is logical to amalgamate those 14 sets of forces?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is pretty difficult to answer "yes" or "no" to, Mr. Chairman. I think I might be permitted to answer in little wider terms than those. Those were the areas where it was indicated amalgamation could possibly be brought about. Let us take the most simple one perhaps, the one that would appear to be the easiest—that would be Port Arthur-Fort William, two cities which run into each other. I suppose you could not tell which was which or where the boundary was unless you were a native and knew the streets. But even in that situation considerations arise—as to where the headquarters is to be located, are you going to be able to get along with one, how do you set up your board of commissioners, where different considerations now apply in their administration; how do you work these out together? When the hon. member asks if they indicated that these could be accomplished, I would say "yes, but they are going to take a little time yet."

I am not sure that we are the most investigating government in the world; it is a very broad piece of territory to take in. But it must be borne in mind that the police commission has only been in existence for, I think, four years or something of this nature. It takes time to get organized and make these studies, and one of the things we are anxious to move into is an improvement in policing. One of the ways this can be accomplished is by amalgamation, or by what we are doing with the provincial police, taking over the smaller forces.

I think the member might be charitable enough to afford us the time we have taken to investigate these situations; and we are asking, you will note, for another adviser to the commission in our estimates so we may complete this work more quickly.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I cannot quarrel with that sort of thing, but I get very unhappy when we get into the Fort William-Port Arthur system and the Attorney General points to his colleague, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and says, "He is conducting investigations, too."

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is for amalgamation.

Mr. Singer: Yes, I know. The two things are intertwined, and which comes first, the chicken or the egg? There have been so many municipal investigations; if all of these necessary reforms are going to have to wait until the Minister of Municipal Affairs makes up his mind on each one of these things, we are never going to get any progress—if the people leave those fellows sitting on the benches any longer.

My concern—I have expressed this before, and I would not want the Attorney General to think I am inconsistent—is that there should be power in the statutes for the government after they have researched it to order amalgamations of police forces. The Attorney General has refused to ask for that power up to this moment; in fact, if my memory serves me correctly, he has said he really did not want that. He would rather conciliate, or try to bring all the persons who have any concern in these matters together and get them to agree.

In my opinion, Mr. Chairman, a government has a duty to govern, to lead, to direct; and one of the serious concerns that many people have, and more and more people are having every day about this government, is that all they do is investigate. They do not lead, direct or govern.

I dare say that, out of these 14 investigations about possibilities of amalgamation, the Attorney General has very carefully selected his words. I think he went as far as saying that the reports indicated that amalgamations were feasible. Without having the commissioners here and looking at each report, and being able to question the commissioners on each one of those investigations, we do not get the final answer. Is it not only not feasible, but is it practical and is it necessary for the better enforcement of justice in that par-

ticular area? That is the key question. I dare say that, hidden in those reports, is that answer in some instances.

But the problem that concerns me is that even when that conclusion could have been reached there is no power in the statutes; nor is the Attorney General seeking power to force such an amalgamation to come about. I think this is wrong because we are beginning—and I give him full credit for this—we are beginning, through this arm, the Ontario police commission, to be able to conduct reasonable inquiries of this type.

But there has to be the enforcement power. And if government is going to govern after proper investigation, and when the signs are indicated that a certain line of action must be taken, then government has a duty to take that action. It is just not good enough to say that we are getting it and we are studying it. The Minister of Reform Institutions does the same thing with the jails. He is running around mediating and conciliating and hoping that councils will join together to help him build his jails.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): They are, it is coming along very well.

Mr. Singer: Oh, they are not doing it the way it should be done. The fact is—we will deal with this Minister when his estimates come up—but we still have all these old jails around.

This is the same sort of thing, Mr. Chairman. The Attorney General in his department, the Minister of Reform Institutions in his department, have not the power, nor are they seeking the power, to govern. It is just not good enough that they run around investigating and attempting to conciliate. Things that are needed in this province are delayed because this government has refused to govern.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on this vote there are a couple of things I am not clear on.

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): Just a couple?

Mr. Sargent: I wonder if the Attorney General could advise how many police commissions in Ontario operate under a committee of council, and also how many police commissions operate under the standard three-man board?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, those municipalities having boards of police commissioners number 93; those not having boards of police commissioners number 169.

not only because of the absence of the report, but because of the profound public interest in the necessity in this Legislature of each year getting an adequate statement from the Attorney General about this very important matter. I quoted at that time the provisions of the police commission report for 1965.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I made, I thought, fairly full and complete remarks. I indicated that I did not think it would be perhaps proper, advisable or helpful to give statistics to the House, or to make those public. I indicated that I spoke frequently with the members of the commission and consulted with them and was aware of the situation. The only thing I could add now, I think, would be to direct the hon. member's attention to section 48A of The Police Act and then to make some comment upon it.

That section which is in the area providing for the general subject matter of the Act, refers to the police commission and says:

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct the commission to inquire into and report to him upon any matter relating to (a) the extent investigation or control of crime or (b) the enforcement of law and he—

that is, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—shall define the scope of the inquiry in the direction.

Then this was the legislation we discussed, you will remember, with great attention and in great detail in the session in 1964:

For the purpose of an inquiry under this section, the commission may summon any person and require him to give evidence on oath and to produce such documents and things as the commission may direct.

But I direct the hon. member's attention particularly to the first part of the section:

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct the commission to inquire into and report to him upon any matter relating to (a) the extent of investigation or control of crime or (b) the enforcement of law.

The theory, I think, of this whole Act is that in the appointment of the commission, the commission was to be set up and given such duties and powers and such facilities as would enable it to make itself aware of the extent of crime and the condition of the enforcement of our laws.

And that commission, reporting again, as I have mentioned, to the Attorney General, to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council would

say, "there is a situation with respect to crime". And I will not bother making the distinctions between organized and syndicated crime, because I think there is no simple crime. Two men rob a store; they are organized, in my view.

The commission decides from its studies and its intelligence, what the situation is with respect to crime in its whole aspects, and as to the enforcement of law. And if it is concerned, then it asks the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for an investigation.

It is quite apparent that since no such investigation has been asked, the commission has not found it necessary to report that a situation exists which is alarming to the extent that it calls for further investigation. And I hark back to my previous remarks: crime will always be with us, will always be seeking to fasten its tentacles on any society, particularly an affluent society. Our approach to keeping it under control, putting down crime, is to maintain our police forces in adequate numbers, properly trained, properly disciplined, properly equipped, as I think we are doing, and to give our commission the intelligence services to ascertain the extent of crime and how our laws are being enforced.

I do not think I can add anything further than that.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I will simply leave that, saying I cannot understand why the Attorney General would feel that that is his only obligation in connection with this vote. And I leave it on the basis of asking him, and putting on the record, certain questions.

Is there collusion among major criminals in Ontario, Quebec and bordering centres of the United States? If there is collusion, in which fields is the collusion present—narcotics distribution, bankruptcy, arson, insurance frauds, gambling, counterfeiting, the planning of major robberies, and large scale disposition of stolen bonds, jewellery and furs?

Have there been any criminal occurrences in Ontario during the past year which have clearly indicated the continuing existence of syndicated crime control reaching into Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Buffalo and Detroit and in Canadian centres such as Montreal, Calgary and Vancouver?

To what extent is there infiltration into legitimate businesses by known criminals? The police commission has referred to that as a trend which has lately become more prevalent.

Now I assume that we are going to get some kind of a statement in due course from the police commission, but obviously the Attorney General is not prepared to pursue this matter further. I think he must seriously consider giving an adequate explanation of the extent of crime in the province of Ontario. We cannot possibly deal with the important relationship between the police procedures in the province, the methods by which the police operate, and the correlative part of that same problem—the question of the individual citizen's rights, his civil liberties or that area of concern.

Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong the question of the composition of police commissions. I simply want to reassert as a position which we have had, that the Metropolitan Toronto police commission should not be composed of four appointed people and one elected person, that the Metropolitan Toronto police commission should have a majority of elected persons.

In due course, apparently, at some point when The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Act is up for review again, we have some kind of assurance that the chairman of the metropolitan council will be an elected member. That would give us the mayor of the city of Toronto, or whoever the appropriate elected official is, on the police commission, plus the chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto council, both of whom would be elected. And we say that at least one other person should be an elected person, Mr. Chairman.

I agree with a great many of the remarks of the member for Grey North on this topic. He is obviously concerned, as we are concerned, about the composition of police commissions and the need to have at least some elected representatives on such bodies. It is no longer adequate to continue to have solely appointed people on police commissions.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister if studies have been undertaken by the police commission concerning retirement ages of policemen?

More and more we are getting the younger individuals entering police services, so that you have a young man at the age of 19 becoming a cadet in the police force. By the time he is 60 he has already put in 41 years of service. There has been a clamour in some parts of the province for the lowering of the retirement age on a voluntary basis from 65 to possibly 60. Has the police commission

undertaken any studies on this aspect, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I think not; I am quite certain of that. I am indebted to the hon. member for making this inquiry and bringing it to our attention. I would think at the present it is probably a matter with the local police forces and their employers through the board of commissioners or through the council. But perhaps it is something that might very well receive our attention. I am quite sure no studies have been made in this field yet.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, rather than have it on a local level, I thought there should be a base policy for the whole province, either voluntary at 60 or compulsory at—I think it is compulsory at 65 now. I notice in jurisdictions to the south of us, individuals at 50 years of age have put in 25 years of service and retire at fairly substantial pensions. They go to the southern states and become gainfully employed in either police work or other types of pursuit. I know the officers in my own community I imagine must look with envy seeing their counterparts across the river in Detroit retiring at 50, 51, 52, and still having possibly 15 more years in which they could contribute their services to some community.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Chairman, I have just one question of the Attorney General regarding the last item of this vote 202, Ontario police college. I know that in the last few months requests were made in various areas for candidates, who were bilingual, to attend this Ontario police college.

I know that in many areas which are predominantly French-speaking there were no candidates for the police force, and some of those areas had to be policed by unilingual members of the force. Could the Attorney General tell me what success he has had in getting recruits for this college, I mean bilingual recruits for this college?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can only say, Mr. Chairman, that I know the Ontario Provincial Police have had very good success in securing a good number of recruits to that force in response to their endeavours to get bilingual persons. I cannot tell you how the municipal forces are fixed or suited in this regard, or what success they have, but I would think that municipalities which are in bilingual areas, or areas that are largely French-speaking, let us say, would suit their forces to the situation. I know the Ontario Provincial Police have sought, and with good success, to

I think its work is very valuable, and it has taken a great quantity of material off the shelves of dealers and prevented its dissemination.

Mr. Newman: Has there been any prosecutions, Mr. Chairman, in the past year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not think we have had a prosecution in this field.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, I can understand the committee's dedication to its job. On occasion I wonder, sir, whether there are any so-called literary works—any of the contentious literary works—which the committee has seen fit to cause to be withdrawn from news stands. Is this "pulp" commercial material, or are any of the more contentious literary works involved?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can tell the hon. member this: I have seen boxes, crates, full of literature—I do not know whether that is the right word for it—the pulp-and-paper type of thing which is trash of the purest sort, or the worst sort. But the type of thing the hon. member is talking about, the so-called literature, the classic which is questionable—and I could give a number of titles but I do not think I need to do that here—the committee on obscene literature does not deal with that.

Mr. Singer: On vote 203, can the Attorney General tell us what the law revision committee is doing, or going to do, for \$30,000?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is the committee which deals with the following fields: in special studies, research, investigations, the securities legislation—which we had, obscene literature, consumer credit. We have had, in the past year, expenditure for the 10 months ending January 31, 1967, \$46,317. I do not know at the moment what the particular attention of the committees might be directed to but I think we will find work for them.

Mr. Singer: You have just put the \$30,000 in, in case you think of something that the law reform commission is not going to do. Is that the idea?

I was rather interested, in looking at the public accounts under this heading, that this committee on securities legislation paid to two well-known legal firms \$102,000 for their investigations into securities legislation. I would suspect that there must be accounts, and there must be hourly calculations and so on, but surely, Mr. Chairman, there must be a better way of getting advice insofar as securities legislation is concerned than having

to spend over \$100,000 to hire two legal firms?

Is it not possible to investigate the sort of thing that is done in many American jurisdictions, of borrowing from time to time in the public interest from some of these large firms; or getting, from the universities, people of capability, rather than having to go into the market place, and the most expensive market place there is? Those who cry wolf about the tariff of fees for legal aid, just do not know what they are talking about when they look at \$102,000 for services rendered by two legal firms on the same subject in the one year. It seems to me that there must be a better way of doing it, at a substantial saving to the taxpayers, the people of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the study with respect to the securities legislation, as the hon. member knows, was a very special and protracted, detailed and comprehensive study. It was a continuous piece of work. Even if we had borrowed, as he suggests, personnel—I think even two individuals—of the type of quality and knowledge and the capability that we would need in that field of study, when we were preparing our legislation which I think I may say, without in any way sounding boastful, is the most up-to-date, the most comprehensive securities legislation—if I can borrow the hon. member's words—"in the world", then I do not think—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): You mean the most comprehensive in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I think we can go beyond that, because our friends across the line admit that it goes further than theirs—the SEC in the United States. They give us that accolade; these are not our own words.

When we had to study that particular field, prepare legislation—and the hon. member for Downsview attended many meetings of the committee on legal bills and he knows how detailed and how controversial many of the sections were in that legislation—they assisted us in the Act, and then the regulations, which was just as big a job, really, as the actual substantive law itself. I think we got a bargain. We got a great bargain in being able to get the type of assistance we got from lawyers and accountants and actuarial people. We got it at a bargain price.

I would agree with the member that, in other areas perhaps, where we do not have such a protracted, detailed and important field to deal with, we could perhaps follow his suggestions. Certainly, we would be able to get assistance if we needed it at less expendi-

ture than was required in connection with The Securities Act; that is why the estimate which I ask at this time is in the sum of \$30,000.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, my friend coupled together accounting and legal advice, and while I do not want to unduly berate my colleagues at the bar, their bill for these two accounts is over \$100,000; and Peat Marwick, which is a well-known accountancy firm, has a bill of only \$8,400.

If you can equate the two kinds of advice, Peat Marwick either gave you lesser service or gave you service at one twelfth the rate. But if their advice can be related—and I think it could be, they are an outstanding accounting firm—it seems to me that when you start paying out legal fees of \$58,000 to one firm and \$44,000 to another firm, there must be a better way of doing it.

Now I did not put my standard question this year. The word got back to me that I was bothering a lot of people. They had to look through all sorts of records and so on; and being kind and generous and anxious not to disturb anyone, I did not put it on. But I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that the province of Ontario is now approaching over \$1 million a year in outside legal expenditures.

I hearken back to the point that I have made so many times, and that the hon. member for Sudbury has made so many times, that we should be able to keep in government employ the best legal talent available in Ontario and pay them well enough. It may be that when you get into the unusual fields, such as securities law, that for a bit you are going to have to go outside, but this figure of over \$100,000 for two legal firms in the one year—and I would think that if we had the figures for last year, I am looking at the figures for two years ago, it would be at least that high, if not higher.

Mr. Bryden: Why not ask for them?

Mr. Singer: Can the Attorney General tell us what it is for this year, the one that is not in the public accounts?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: While that figure is being obtained for me, I would say again that securities work was a very special instance.

Speaking of accountants and lawyers, the lawyers were engaged in drafting legislation, which is a very different thing from looking at it from the point of view of an auditor; you cannot compare the two services.

We have built up our staff in The Department of the Attorney General and we have

not employed an outside prosecutor for the last year, something which I think was a good approach and a policy we have adopted and will continue. But this was a special situation. I think to have expected the staff of my department to produce a securities Act would be something that even the hon. member for Downsview would think was unwise. I do not think that we would have gotten it done in time and I do not think that we would have been able; eminent and capable as those chaps are this was a specialists' job and we needed that assistance. I think that it was certainly not overpaid. I will try and get the figures.

The hon. member was asking what was paid last year?

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: For all outside legal services?

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This comes under vote 206 actually in the criminal law division for Crown counsel prosecution.

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest to the Attorney General that he answer it at that time.

Mr. Singer: Well then just the figure under this vote is the one I want; what was spent under items 4 and 5 in the last year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Under item 4, the figure was \$46,317; there is nothing for counsel under item 5.

Mr. Singer: Can the Attorney General tell us something about the conference on uniformity of laws? It is not a big expenditure, but what are we getting done on that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This is a conference of personnel made up of people from all areas of our laws and we report to the Canadian bar association with a view to achieving some uniformity in laws. There are conferences held with the law officers of other provinces and jurisdictions in Canada to see what can be achieved.

This, I think, is a very important objective. We have had some success. I think the focus is being directed more now than previously, particularly in the field of securities, insurance and things that affect our economic life; and I think we are making some headway in the criminal law.

We have had meetings with the federal people and the Attorneys General of other

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Hon. Mr. Wishart: I just wanted to say we needed continuous and unrelenting effort; not just six or eight or ten hours a day, but for 12 or 14 hours a day, which the staff of my department joined. They submitted their account on an hourly basis. They showed the number of hours spent at so much an hour.

Mr. Sargent: How much per hour?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well it might vary from \$15 per hour to \$50, depending on the seniority, the ability, the capability of the lawyers.

Mr. Sargent: Fifty dollars an hour could be the fee?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I beg your pardon?

Mr. Sargent: Fifty dollars an hour could be the fee then?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It could be, yes.

Mr. Sargent: Could we put it at \$500 a day?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Many lawyers earn that.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Sargent: All right. I am not through with this point yet. I am sorry, is the hon. member going to speak on this vote?

Mr. Chairman: The member has the floor.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, well I was going to dodge back to the committee on obscene literature under this vote. The actual budget in 1966 was \$3,500 a committee. In essence you spent \$3,500 in all Ontario to survey the obscene literature field. What is the estimate this year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not think we spent \$3,500 last year. There are four or five gentlemen on that committee who act for an honorarium and the top honorarium paid is \$600, to the chairman. And the others I believe get \$400 or \$500. So our budget will not exceed, I am sure, \$3,500 this year.

Mr. Sargent: There will be \$3,500 spent this year on the same—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would not think we would spend that much, but somewhere in that neighbourhood.

Mr. Singer: What was the hourly rate or per diem rate on these two accounts?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think the top hourly rate was \$40 through most of the study, and

I think in the latter part it was \$50 an hour. That is the top.

Mr. Singer: Do you do—and I have asked this question before—as The Department of Justice does in Ottawa; have either a tariff of fees for outside legal counsel or arrange on more important matters a fee in advance?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In all our Royal commissions, before we engage counsel we work out with them a definite fee which is to be the hourly or daily rate they will charge in every case.

Mr. Singer: Not just your Royal commissions. When you went to MacDonald Davies, for instance, did you say: "We would like to retain you and we will retain at 'X' dollars an hour or 'Y' dollars a day"?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, we did not. That was arranged by the committee on securities legislation, the Kimber committee. In their studies, they engaged that firm and we continued with them then in the preparing of the legislation.

Mr. Singer: And does the Attorney General think it would be unprofessional to, as The Department of Justice does in Ottawa, either have a tariff of fees or, when you are retaining prominent counsel, tell them that your fees are the fees that the Ontario government pays—"X" dollars an hour, or "Y" dollars a day?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I do not think this is unprofessional at all. We try to follow that out. I am not trying to shuffle off responsibility, but a securities committee was set up and working before I came to the House, or to the department. We already had that situation. I am not taking anything away from the work that was done, but the arrangement which I fell heir to, as it were, was an arrangement that was going on when I came on the scene.

Mr. Singer: The companion question is: Has the Attorney General as yet, or does he intend to, have a taxing officer for these accounts, as The Department of Justice does in Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have in my department a particular member of my staff, Mr. Robin Scott, who is my taxing officer. One of his functions is to tax every account that comes in and check it in detail. He then submits it to the Deputy Attorney General with his comments, his criticism, or his recommendation and the Deputy Attorney General then deals with it.

Mr. Singer: Well, can the Attorney General recall whether, on the advice of Robin Scott or anyone else, in the last 12 months, any bill that has been submitted has been paid at a lesser amount than submitted?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, there have been some.

Mr. Singer: There have been?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, this vote on the office of the legislative counsel is one of the most important votes because this is the area where the public has its only protection—I say this again, its only protection in the question of delegated legislation and regulation-making power. As I understand it, the regulations which are made under all the statutes of the province go through the registrar of regulations, and through the legislative counsel's branch.

As the Attorney General knows, we have asked year in and year out that there should be a standing committee of this Legislature on regulations so that we would have additional protection for the public as to the extent by which regulations confer powers on persons beyond what the Legislature in fact intended in any particular statute. The Attorney General knows there is a very real danger that power under our system can bypass this assembly, and simply not be considered by this assembly when the power is granted.

I think we should compliment the legislative counsel branch on the ability and skill with which they deal with this problem, but it does not by any means answer the question of the public interest. It is the legislative counsel's office, as I understand it, which is the sole determinant of whether or not regulations are within the powers conferred by the statutes. It is the legislative counsel's office which ultimately determines what the regulations will be.

Over a period of time they have obviously built up a considerable degree of expertise in the field; and, in the course of that expertise, and the knowledge which they have developed, they have worked out in their own mind the rules by which you determine whether a regulation should be accepted or rejected, as being within or without the powers conferred by the statute. But it may well be, Mr. Chairman, that what the legislative counsel's office believes to have been the intention of the Legislature, in the extent of the powers conferred by a particular section of a statute—which we must remember the same legislative counsel's branch has

drafted—it may well be that the results in actual fact, as embodied in the regulations, go beyond what we in the Legislature considered the words to have meant when the statute was passed.

On this basis, I would again ask the Attorney General if he does not think that the time has come when there must be some public scrutiny of regulations other than to rely solely on this office of the legislative counsel, skilled as they are. I would put it on the low grounds, if on no other ground, that at least it would serve a valuable public educational experience if a standing committee of the Legislature on regulations, with its own counsel—not with legislative counsel, with its own counsel—were able to have brought before it not only those who are interested in the regulations, and the substance of them, and the administrative detail of them, but the legislative counsel's office, which could explain—

By and large they are the only ones who can explain the basis on which they make the decisions, as to whether the regulations are *intra vires* of the statute, and what their interpretations are when they have believed over the years that these forms of words in a statute have meant that this confers this kind of power to pass this kind of regulation. This would be most helpful to this assembly.

I think, and I simply urge the Attorney General in this very important field, that we cannot leave this question of delegated legislation—of which I am not one who is frightened. We must have it under our system, not leave it without public scrutiny by some body of this Legislature—with its own staff and expertise to act as a doublecheck on the extent to which powers conferred by regulation are granted, the ways in which they are granted, the extent to which they are granted and at the same time provide a public forum in which matters of regulation could be subject to scrutiny by a committee of the Legislature.

Mr. Chairman, I think it is sufficiently important that I would ask the Attorney General not only to express his views on this particularly important office, the office of the legislative counsel, that aspect of it, but I would solicit his assistance in persuading his colleagues in the government to give serious consideration to the need for some such standing committee of the Legislature to deal with regulations.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, this is a very important matter which the hon. member raises, and about which he comments.

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before that. I will admit that this government, at breakneck speed, have admitted eight years later there is a problem. Or seven years later; last year the Prime Minister said there was a problem and he was going to have a study made. This year he said the study was completed and he was going to let us take a look at the results, but there it sits. Can we not get some assurance that the government is really going to do something about this?

Why not put that weighty report before some committee or other? Call the committee on privileges and elections—it would be a good start—it never does anything anyway. Let it take a look at this for a few meetings and make recommendations so that we can do something about it at this very session, not at the session 10 years hence from next year!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the views I expressed were mine. While the hon. member was speaking I was referring to the remarks which the Prime Minister had made. My views as stated then are still the same. I think there is room for study here and the Prime Minister apparently has undertaken that there will be a study. I cannot enlarge upon his remarks.

Mr. Bryden: He did say that a study had been made; that is, a study had been made by some researchers in the government. So all that is necessary now, I would judge from what he said, is that a committee of the House should consider the facts brought out in this study that was undertaken within the government. I am going to ask the Attorney General if he will not just put a whisper in the Prime Minister's ear. Of course he was ill for a period, but he seems to have forgotten about this altogether. Maybe we can get the thing moving in the next few days.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General mentioned salaries paid to counsels for Royal commissions. I had that question about Atlantic and the cost of it. The Attorney General told me a few days ago that the answer was ready but it has not been tabled yet.

I suppose that strictly under this vote it is not applicable but I would like to know what those salaries were, and particularly salary paid to counsel on that commission.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he will get that information elsewhere. I would like him at this time to stay—

Mr. Singer: How else can you get it? I have had a question on the order paper for

several months, and here is the responsible Minister. He told me that he had prepared the answer and it was in somebody else's hands. It has not been tabled yet and it is information we are entitled to. You mentioned Royal commissions a moment ago and I would like to get the information.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can only say I prepared the answer some time ago. I will undertake to try and hasten its being tabled in this House very quickly.

Mr. Singer: Can you tell us the figure that counsel got in that?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he will, please, wait for the answer to his questions which are listed on the order paper.

Mr. Sargent: This is the place to get it now.

Mr. Singer: That is no good, Mr. Chairman. I have asked him well in advance of the estimates coming here, and if we cannot get the information and then ask questions about it, what use is it? It will be tabled later and there will be no other opportunity to allow me to ask the Attorney General about it.

Mr. Chairman: Except that the opportunity is not before us now.

Mr. Singer: Yes, it is. He mentioned Royal commissions. Surely he did.

Mr. Chairman: No, the vote before us at the present time is 203.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I will give the hon. member the figure.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, the only thing, Mr. Attorney General, is that under the circumstances of this particular vote the members have asked me to stay with the sequence of votes. What we have before us now is the office of the legislative counsel.

Mr. Singer: And under that is other committees' expenses, and this is another committee's expense.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think there is any money under this vote at the present time for—

Mr. Singer: You do not know! The Attorney General has \$30,000 here and he says it is to take care of contingencies. Maybe it is going to take care of that contingency.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Shall I give the information?

Mr. Chairman: I have no desire to withhold information at all; I wish to expedite the work of this committee, that is all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have it here. I think I have. The total professional fees for legal counsel, solicitors' fees, \$145,468.50.

Mr. Sargent: How much?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: \$145,468.50.

Mr. Sargent: We are in the wrong business.

Mr. Singer: And that covers a period of how long, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is the period from the beginning of the enquiry to January 31, 1967.

Mr. Singer: And what is the hourly rate or the per diem rate on that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Thirty dollars per hour, for Mr. Albert Sheppard, QC.

Votes 203 and 204 agreed to.

On vote 205:

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on vote 205 I would like to ask the Attorney General whether under this vote he would consider it appropriate and in the interests of the assembly, to make some statement as to the position which is being taken by the senior Crown counsel on the reference to the Supreme Court of Canada on the off-shore rights, from the point of view of the province of Ontario with particular regard, of course, to Hudson Bay and James Bay. It would seem to me that on that kind of a reference we are not subject to something such as a *sub judice* role, but it would be most helpful if the Attorney General gave some indication of the line of approach which the senior Crown counsel is taking in representing the province on that reference which is now before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, we support the position of the other maritime provinces: British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland. Our position is that the province has had a jurisdictional right over the off-shore areas and to the mines—the minerals lying under those off-shore areas which fall within the jurisdiction of the provinces.

Ontario's position is somewhat different from that of the other provinces, particularly the maritime provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, which came into Confederation and had been exerting control and using and exploiting their off-shore areas before the time of Confederation. Ontario is not a coastline province—James Bay and Hudson Bay are regarded as an inland sea—but we claim a jurisdictional right over those off-shore areas and to that extent we support the position of the other provinces who are claiming their off-shore rights.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Attorney General could have walked to his home and back in the time I have waited for an answer to this question. Luckily the only chance we have to nail it down is under these votes when they come before the House.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: What was the question?

Mr. Sargent: The question was—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: When was it asked?

Mr. Sargent: About 45 days ago. Under this vote, Mr. Chairman, we have the office of the director of public prosecutions. I asked the Minister, in the case of the Stephen Truscott trial, how much per diem Donald Scott, Crown attorney, was receiving over and above his annual salary. How many days did he work? Was this at the standard rate? How was this justified? How much money has this case cost the province of Ontario due to such research and travel?

Mr. Chairman: I heard the member refer to the public prosecution. Would this be under the next vote?

Mr. Sargent: Are we not on 206, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: No, we are on 205.

Mr. Sargent: My apology. I am sorry.

Mr. Chairman: Under 205, please.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, just to comment briefly on what the Attorney General said about the position of the province. Is my understanding right that there is no question about the jurisdiction of the province so far as the Great Lakes are concerned, out to the international boundary? The question which is of concern, in reference to the Supreme Court of Canada, so far as Ontario is concerned, is related solely to Hudson Bay and James Bay. Is that a correct statement?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think that is right. We are not in the present reference at all, but we are there making submission in support of the case put forward by the province of British Columbia. Our concern is with the James Bay - Hudson Bay area. I think there is no question as to our rights in the Great Lakes out to the international boundary at all.

Vote 205 agreed to.

On vote 206:

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North.

Mr. Sargent: I do not think that I need repeat what I asked the Minister before. Does the Minister have the answer, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think I can give the hon. member the answer, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Sargent: Why does it take so long to get an answer? Does the Minister not have staff? He has computers and all that jazz.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There is a procedure for getting answers on the table. Our part is to prepare them and submit them. We have done our part and I have the answer in my hand. Although it has not reached the table, I am prepared to give it to the hon. member.

Perhaps I should refer to the question. The inquiry is: In the case of the Stephen Truscott trial, how much per diem is Donald Scott, Crown attorney, receiving over and above his annual salary? The answer to that question is \$75 per day for 73 days, only.

The second part of the question: How many days has he worked? I inform the hon. member that he has worked 139 days.

The third part of the question: Is this at the standard rate? The answer is that there is no standard rate for that type of assignment.

Part four: How do you justify this? It is justified under the provisions of The Justices Expenses Act, which is Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1960, Chapter 5.

And the section in that Act to which I referred reads as follows:

Where services are rendered by a person in connection with the prosecution and the services are rendered by the direction or with the approval of the Attorney General, the person rendering the services is entitled to be paid such sum as the Attorney General directs out of the moneys appro-

priated by the Legislature for the administration of justice.

I have a further note that such funds for the purpose of section 10 have been appropriated in the approved estimates of the department under this vote 206, and we would propose to pay it out of this vote.

The fifth part of the question is: How much money has the case cost the province of Ontario due to Scott's research and travel? The total cost to the province of Ontario under that part of the question is \$14,761.96. That includes the extra amounts paid to Mr. Scott as well as his salary—the whole amount received by Scott, his extra *per diem* allowance and his salary for that period of time.

Part six of the question reads: How much did his expenses amount to? The answer is \$2,848.59.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would you classify justices of the peace under this vote?

Mr. Chairman: I should judge that it would be under the following vote, 207.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, under vote 206 I see in the public accounts a series of salaries which I presume relate to all of the Crown attorneys in Ontario. Then, two or three items down—I am reading from page B-11—"Crown Counsel Prosecutions", an additional series of amounts paid to these various gentlemen, some of whom at least are Crown attorneys. For instance, H. L. Daufman, who is the Crown attorney in Kitchener, I think, is he not? He was paid \$17,499.94 during that year, which seems to be the highest salary paid to Crown attorneys. Then, in addition, under "Crown Counsel Prosecutions", he gets another \$3,472.05. Why does Mr. Daufman get two salaries?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Under the "Crown Counsel Prosecutions", these are special prosecutions usually where a Crown counsel is sent from his area to take a special prosecution. For example, the Daufman item, \$3,472.05, was a special prosecution of the fraud relating to Atlas Steel—and I am trying to think of the other company involved. This was a very special prosecution involving considerable time and a great deal of preparation.

I might say that this arrangement, which has obtained over a very long period of time now, has been abolished from February 1 of this year. The Crown attorneys will now serve for their fees.

Mr. Singer: For their fees only, did you say?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: For their salaries and expenses.

Mr. Singer: Well, that is what I was going to suggest because it seemed to me that Mr. Daufman being paid some \$17,500 a year, which was the highest going rate for Crown attorneys in that year, was employed on a full-time basis. And why, because you sent him off on another job, should he get an extra \$3,400 which apparently did not relate to travelling expenses? I can understand his expenses being paid, but the extra \$3,400 did not make sense. If I understand the Attorney General correctly, this has now stopped; and a man like Mr. Daufman will be getting "X" dollars a year and he will be available in Kitchener or Toronto or Windsor or wherever you want to send him. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are proposing to introduce a bill to make them all Crown attorneys at large, to operate anywhere in the province, and to operate within their salaries, and put an end to this practice which has prevailed for many years.

Mr. Singer: On that vote and again in the public accounts, looking now at page 312, Gilbert R. Barrett and Company, who are auditors I know, they received some \$30,184.79 for sundry investigations. Throughout these accounts there are all sorts of outside auditors who are hired from time to time. Have we not got enough auditors working for the government of Ontario that we do not have to hire outside auditors? What did the Barrett company do in the relation of unusual services that could not have been done by auditors within the government employ?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This was the matter of the bankruptcy of a Toronto firm; the investigation carried on by the Toronto police. And we supplied as part of our duties, the accounting firms to do the accounting. The investigation was being done by the Metro Toronto police. I cannot think of the name of the bankruptcy. This was the accounting service. We undertook to do that and engaged the firm to do it and paid for it by that sum.

Mr. Singer: That is why you did it. But are there not within government employ, accountants and auditors who would be available to do this as part of their regular job?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I would say there are not. We would need independent evidence, independent witnesses in this case. And as a result of that investigation, five charges have been laid. Perhaps we have auditors who could make an audit, but I think we need independent evidence here in the field of prosecution.

Mr. Singer: Why would you need independent evidence? Surely the Provincial Treasurer, when he prosecutes somebody for not paying enough sales tax, relies on the evidence of his department's employees. Surely the income tax department at Ottawa when they prosecute people for failing to make proper income tax returns or failing to pay enough money, use their own people as witnesses. I do not see why you have to have independent people. You have to have competent people, but not independent people.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think there is quite a difference between a prosecution under a tax Act and a criminal prosecution where we would be in the position of having the Crown, in this case the Crown in the right of Ontario, paying our witness in a criminal prosecution. A person on our own payroll, as it were. Now here we engage an independent firm and say, "do the investigation." I think there is a little difference in this, in a criminal prosecution and a tax Act.

Mr. Singer: Well, the line my friend draws is a most tenuous one. I cannot follow it at all. What is the difference between paying a policeman who investigates, or a detective to investigate, or an employee of the Crown laboratory who comes in and makes certain reports that aid you in a criminal prosecution, and having your own auditors who can do exactly the same thing?

Dr. Ward Smith, as a result of his examinations, goes into the box and says, "I found so and so." He is not independent in the sense that his salary is not paid by somebody out there; it is paid by the people of the province of Ontario. But he is a competent witness and he is called, or his staff are called to give their evidence. Why should you not have accountants in government employ to do this for you?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member cannot follow me in the distinction, I cannot explain it any clearer. I just would not want him to be prosecuting me as Attorney General with someone on his payroll.

Mr. Bryden: But it is a distinction without a difference.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There is a distinction I think.

Mr. Singer: If you use the government pathologist, how is he any different from a government auditor?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on this vote, last year the actual expenditure for criminal investigations, sundry investigations, amounted to \$32,779 was expended. This year they are asking to spend only \$3,000. I see where a firm of Gilbert R. Barrett was retained at a fee of \$30,000. Who are Gilbert R. Barrett?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That was the question just asked by the hon. member for Downsview. I just answered that.

Mr. Sargent: All right then. I had thought that they might possibly be wire tappers, engaged in bugging. Mr. Chairman, I asked the Attorney General—I do not know what sundry investigations cover—but I asked the hon. Attorney General some time ago what was his policy insofar as wire tapping and bugging and he referred me very adroitly to *Hansard*.

I must say I tried to find it in *Hansard*. There is no denomination or heading for bugging or wire-tapping in *Hansard*; how does one look it up? I do not know what your policy is, and insofar as this group is concerned, there has been great fanfare in the United States on CIA, etc., about wire-tapping. I would like to know how much money you are expending on this type of operation in Ontario and what is the policy of the government on wire-tapping and bugging?

Mr. Chairman: Is there any money under this vote for that?

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I would like to know what vote would it come under then?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We do not have any money for that.

Mr. Sargent: Well let us not be naive now. If your security force is doing its job you must know what is going on in this deal. If you are not, you are the only jurisdiction in North America that is not doing it. And I would like to know, and under this we are talking about the criminal law division. You must have some type of operation along this line. What are you doing about it?

Mr. Chairman: I would say to the member for Grey North, we have nothing under this vote for that—

Mr. Sargent: Well, let us look at it this way.

Mr. Chairman:—so I would rule that out of order.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, you are a very fair man. If there is any point in this discussion of the estimates where we can ask a matter of very real importance to the people of Ontario insofar as their security is concerned, where are we going to discuss that in these estimates? Will the hon. Attorney General tell us his policy?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, perhaps this would come under the Ontario Provincial Police, Vote 211. But if the hon. member—I have already stated twice in this House my views with respect to the matter—if he wanted a statement on the policy which I regard as a proper one, if the Chairman permits, I have no objection to doing it again.

Mr. Sargent: Please do.

Mr. Chairman: As long as the members of the House, with their unanimous approval, will permit me.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I was asked this by the hon. member for Grey North some time ago, in a question before the orders of the day. I answered it and I referred him to an answer I had given previously. I stated that in my view, if it is in the public interest, in a situation where a criminal situation is apparent to the police, and of such a serious nature that the public interest requires them to use methods of securing evidence by some technological device such as wire-tapping or some other device where they can get evidence, then they should do it on application to the court—relating the situation in which they find themselves and which they wish to investigate—and obtain the permission of the court under an order of the court permitting the use of these devices to secure such evidence.

At the present time, there is no law against, for, or relating to it at all. Any evidence that is obtained by wire-tapping or other such devices may be offered to the court. It is up to the court to determine whether or not it is then admissible, and courts have accepted such evidence. Our courts in this province have, on occasion, accepted such evidence.

What I do not like about this is that in a situation of this kind, where there is no law, it leaves it to the discretion of the police officer, the personnel of our police force, to determine whether he will take these means to secure evidence. He is the judge of how far he goes, how far he will trespass on privacy, how far he will seek to tap or insert some technological device to get evidence.

If he had gone to the courts and said, "I feel there is a criminal conspiracy, something is about to happen, criminals are at work in this area, I want the right to see if I may use these devices to get the evidence." Then the court, on his approach and on his request will make the order and he would be protected. I think this is what I have stated twice before and what I have represented to the federal authorities in this field.

Mr. Sargent: Just one thing.

Mr. Chairman: I think, in fairness, I should say to the member for Grey North that it was with the unanimous approval of the House that we allowed the Minister to make a statement. I did not want to get into a debate.

The member for Riverdale.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of matters that I would like to raise on this vote. The first one, I am sure the hon. Attorney General will recall it, is that on March 8—it is recorded in *Hansard*—I raised during the debate on the bill presented by the member for Downsview for the appointment of a legislative commissioner, the question of the length of time with which an inmate in the Don jail had been faced when he was convicted. It went to the court of appeal on an *in forma pauperis* appeal, the appeal was then dismissed, and so he applied for appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. That appeal was filed in June.

In the correspondence, *Hansard* will disclose that The Attorney General's Department had the information to prepare the appeal in September but that it was not until February 1 that the material was supplied which permitted the inmate at the Don jail to complete his appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada or to complete the filing of the papers required for the appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. The inmate advised me that even at that particular point—and perhaps the Attorney General would confirm this—he had to move in the court for an order, before The Attorney General's Department could expedite the matter and that finally the

material was made available about February 1. Granted the length of time that the preparation would take place, it seem to me, and I think it would appear so to everybody, an inordinate length of time—three or four months to process such an appeal. I would ask the Attorney General to let me know what procedure is being adopted and what can be done to shorten this period of time, if in fact this is the normal length of time that such an appeal would take to be processed.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to say I think there was some delay in my department; but there were procedures in the preparation of that evidence, getting it in order, setting it up, the typing of the appeal books and records. We are dealing with the appeal court; and when we get to the Supreme Court of Canada we are dealing with the Supreme Court of Canada; each of them have their special procedures. I know we have taken steps to speed these matters up. I have to admit there was some delay but not to the extent that might appear at first glance, or first blush. These are long procedures, which are time-consuming, and they take time to prepare a case in the proper order to get to the court of appeal or the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. Renwick: As I understand the context of the remarks which the Attorney General's Deputy conveyed to me at the time—he wrote a final note to me on this question—the length of time that an *in forma pauperis* appeal would take to the court of appeal in Ontario is now a matter of relatively uniform procedure, and is relatively speedy. I would like the Attorney General to confirm that that is so, that if a person has been convicted of a criminal offence in the Supreme Court of Ontario and wishes to file an appeal, the length of time is not inordinately long, in that the appeal comes on speedily. Then I would like to find out what is being done to speed up the procedure from the court of appeal of Ontario to the Supreme Court of Canada?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the procedure is uniform. We do everything possible to expedite it. We cannot control—put it this way, they are as speedy as the court permits or the court allows, and the necessary procedures are now completed expeditiously in our department. We are also doing our best to expedite the transmission of the appeal from the court of appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada where those cases

arise. But our procedures are uniform, and I think they are quite expeditious.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, a year ago I raised with the Attorney General, and I preface my remarks by saying that I realize that it is not within his jurisdiction, but I raised the question of the writs of assistance which have been available to government officers of the federal government and to members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police—in the wide terms under which they are granted, the wide authority granted. The Attorney General indicated that he was interested in this matter and that he would take it up with his counterparts in the government at Ottawa with a view to either curtailing the issue of writs of assistance, or moving for their elimination, or for some specific judicial review of their use from time to time. I wonder whether the Attorney General has done anything about this, whether or not he has made any progress, and what the reply has been, if any.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I first of all would say that my attitude is unchanged from before. I do not like those types of writs of assistance and of course we do not use them. I would not favour their use. I can only say that my recollection of the matter is that I did write after our discussions last year. I put my views forward. I cannot recall that anyone has paid much attention to them in Ottawa, which is perhaps not unusual. I cannot recall that anything has happened as a result of my stating my views.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, on the question of the writs of assistance, I want to put on the record in the House the comments of the judge of the exchequer court, when this matter was up for review before him in 1965. Because I do not intend to quote the whole of the case by any means, I would like, however—

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member for Riverdale: If it does not come under our jurisdiction, how does he feel it would come under vote 206?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, there are people in the province of Ontario whose houses are entered under writs of assistance, which are wide writs for entering premises without any other authority required than a lifetime writ granted to a police officer under Acts of the Parliament of Canada. I do not think that it is reasonable to say that that problem is not a problem related to the At-

torney General; I think the Attorney General must be concerned about that kind of a problem.

Mr. Chairman: Under the circumstances, I should judge that it would come under the Parliament of Canada, but how does it come under vote 206?

Mr. Renwick: It relates, Mr. Chairman, to the criminal law division of the Attorney General, because the persons who are affected are subject to prosecution in the courts of the province of Ontario and evidence is adduced which has been obtained by the issue of these writs. I think it is important that in this particular vote there be a notation of the extent of the authority granted by these writs.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would say that I have sympathy for the views of the hon. member. He is trying to get them on the record, by quoting the judgment. I am not objecting to that, but I would point out that the prosecutions which take place are prosecuted by the federal authority. We do not prosecute those cases and I reiterate: I do not like those writs which are blanket writs, with very wide, sweeping powers. While I have no objection to this going on the record, in any event I would like the hon. member to send me the judgment to which he has referred. I could find it but I would be glad if he would send me a note of it in any event.

Mr. Chairman: I do not like to curtail discussion in connection with this. If the member for Riverdale has a brief comment that he wants to get on the record under this particular vote please do so, but it really does not come under this vote.

Mr. Renwick: I will abide by your ruling, Mr. Chairman, and I do not feel in any way curtailed in my discussion. I would simply refer to the remarks of the judge in the exchequer court of Canada, which are reported in the exchequer court reports of 1965 at page 645, and leave the matter at that; and I will take the Attorney General up on his suggestion and send him this document that I have.

Just before I leave that topic, and with your indulgence, I would point out to the House that in March of 1962 the Minister of Justice stated in the House of Commons that members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police held 2,047 writs of assistance and there is no reason to believe that the number has diminished. I think that is a substantial

number of people to have the right to enter anyone's house, just so long as he happens to be a police officer and during the whole of his tenure as a police officer, without any specification of the place or house being required to be justified before he exercises the authority under that writ.

I would like to turn now, Mr. Chairman, to the question of the procedure which the House established last year under The Mental Hospitals Act, by which an inmate of a hospital could have his case reviewed by a board of review. I would like the Attorney General's comments because of the contrast which Mr. Bernard Green drew. Mr. Bernard Green is a professor at the law faculty of the University of Toronto, and he drew various contrasts between the position of a person in an Ontario hospital and the position of a person charged with a criminal offence.

I think it is important to ask the Attorney General whether or not he has interested himself in accelerating or implementing or assisting in any way the use of the procedure established in The Mental Hospitals Act by which a person could have the reason for his confinement reviewed by the board of review established under the Mental Hospitals Act.

It seems to me that where a person has been deprived of his liberty in this rather nebulous and vague field of mental health, that the Attorney General should specifically interest himself in the position of those persons, to make certain that every conceivable facility is made available to such persons to have their cases reviewed. When you consider that a person can be taken out of society and placed in a hospital on the certificate of two doctors; regardless of the effective way in which the mental hospitals are undoubtedly operated, and regardless of the quality of the staff, nevertheless the inmate in a mental hospital is in a much more difficult position than a person who is an inmate in a jail in regaining his liberty or having his case reviewed.

I am just asking the Attorney General whether he considers that he should interest himself in this procedure or whether he just intends to leave this whole area solely to the Ministry of Health and to the procedure which is specified under The Mental Hospitals Act.

Mr. Sargent: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, this is administered by The Department of Health and committal is made on court order, generally

on the certificate of two doctors, two medical persons. We do not interfere, we do not intervene, perhaps I should say in that field at all except if an application of *habeas corpus* is made. Then of course it becomes something which concerns us.

But since the administration of that whole area is in The Department of Health, we have not deemed it necessary to intervene at all, and I do not think perhaps we should. I think the administration is now outlined, and many safeguards are contained in the legislation for these cases. I see no particular occasion for the Attorney General to get into this matter.

Mr. Renwick: Before we leave this vote, I would like to know whether this is the point at which the Attorney General would like to take up again the question I originally raised last week about police procedures on arrest, in the O'Connor case in particular, and to develop an exchange of views with the Attorney General about the minimal procedural deficiencies to which we here think a person should be entitled in case of arrest or custodial interrogation.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder if the hon. member would allow me to suggest that it be dealt with under the heading of administration of justice in the next vote, and then I might discuss it.

Vote 206 agreed to.

On vote 207:

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, we are going to be quite a while on this vote 207 which carries a lot of things, but one thing that puzzles me, there seems to be a gentleman named F. A. Luet, L-u-e-t, whose name turns up in the public accounts in a variety of places. Under Supreme Court of Ontario, in the administration of justice division, he gets, he was paid, some \$12,500. Then under miscellaneous and main office he gets another \$6,000. Under another miscellaneous and main office he gets another \$2,000.

I was just wondering why Mr. Luet draws three salaries, two of which are miscellaneous, which add up to about \$20,000. And who he is; he is miscellaneous!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He is the chief supreme court reporter, I am told.

Mr. Singer: Well why does he draw three sets of salaries?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well one salary, I take it, is his salary in fees as a Supreme Court

reporter; and then he has gone and done outside work, I believe it was in connection with the Atlantic Corporation hearing that he did reporting. I do not know what the third one is at the moment.

Mr. Singer: Well Mr. Chairman, I am only trying to be helpful in these things, but it would seem to me that Mr. Luet is a valued public employee and apparently he is, that he should be paid a good wage for the work that he does for 12 months a year, and that fact should be reflected somewhere in the public accounts. We should not have to list him under three or four different places and give him extra bits and pieces, because obviously somebody has come to the conclusion that he is not getting a good wage in his main job, chief Supreme Court reporter, in getting some \$12,000 or \$13,000 in the year for which these public accounts were written.

Now it just does not make sense to me that we have people who work for the government of Ontario, and in order to give them a proper wage we have to go through all sorts of subterfuges. This is really what it amounts to.

Mr. Luet is a senior court reporter. Obviously he deserves a good wage, and if he does then let us pay it to him and let us show it all in one place in the public accounts. It just does not make any sense that we run around in ever increasing circles to disguise these things and make them difficult to find.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I had discussed this case at one time with the Attorney General concerning Frank Binder and Son, the tailor, back in the city of Windsor, who happened to have had his establishment broken into and some 14 or 15 suits stolen. The individual who was responsible, I understand, was apprehended with the merchandise. The thing that disturbs the gentleman, the tailor, is that the suits were in the police station, they were in there from August—and I think they are still in there.

The gentleman is not a big operator, 14 or 15 suits is a sizeable investment to him. Is there not something that can be done to release the greater portion of the stolen merchandise to him so that he can carry on his business? He could not get insurance because the merchandise was in the police station at the time. Surely there should be

something that should be done to remedy a situation like this.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I sympathize with Mr. Binder, but we discussed this, I discussed this with the hon. member. I have had it investigated, I took it up with the police department and Crown attorney.

The suits are needed, they are evidence in the case if we are to convict this alleged thief. How can we give them back? All we can do is try to expedite the hearing, and I have forgotten for the moment the reason why we could not get the thief before the court, whether it was injury, sickness, absence or what it was, but if we are going to go on with this prosecution we have got to have the evidence there.

If we give them back to Mr. Binder; the reason he wants them is so he can sell them. Even if he were to say I will forget the case, we have an obligation and a duty to prosecute this criminal, this alleged criminal, and we have got to have the evidence to do it. Much as I sympathize with the gentleman, we just cannot give him back the suits.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I understand that, but surely one garment is sufficient, is it not, to prosecute; do you have to have all 15? Give him back 14 and keep the one.

You know this is a small operator, he is not a big operator and it certainly put him at a disadvantage, especially with the Easter season coming on. If the suits are in the police station he cannot sell them.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, we have already established that this government is very politic in its appointments, insofar as the choice of a Crown attorney, sheriff, and now a justice of the peace. I am told by the Chairman that this is the place to discuss a justice of the peace.

I might say, Mr. Chairman, I have high regard for the Deputy Attorney General and the very wonderful way he tries to handle his department. I do not want to embarrass him, but a year ago you changed your policy on justices of the peace. You nullified a lot of the appointments of justices of the peace about a year ago, and even went so far as our chief of police, taking the powers away from him and appointing outstanding Tories to the job. If any of you have ever been in trouble, he is a very important man, the justice of the peace.

I would like to ask the Minister his policy, why he changed the pattern insofar as the

appointments of justices of the peace are concerned, and why the current system is not working out up our way, in the Owen Sound area, and if he is satisfied with the new regime he has now?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The answer, Mr. Chairman, is very simple. The policy to which the hon. member refers, and the change with respect thereto, is simply that we do not feel that police personnel who will be involved day-to-day in the prosecution of cases, in the giving of evidence before the court, should be the persons to sign and take information as justices of the peace. If they are going to be involved in the prosecution of the case they should not be involved in the laying of the charge and the assessing of it at that level in its first instance. We should have a clear break there. If they are going to be policemen, they are not going to be justice officials at the same time.

Mr. Sargent: They are at least better than nothing.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Of course, they are better than nothing. I am just making a distinction between the person who is in a prosecution—that it would be the police role to discover the crime, to get the evidence, to follow it to the court, to give the evidence with respect to it. He should not in the first instance make the charge against the person he is going to take to court; that way he has an interest in convicting him because he has been involved in laying the charge. We think that it is a segregation that was very necessary and very proper.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on this point I do agree there is a lot of merit in what the Attorney General says but the fact is that we have a built-in machine now with the Crown attorney being a political appointee of the government, an outstanding Tory, with the sheriff being an appointee of the Tory government, with the justice of the peace being an appointee of the Tory government. We have had a built-in machine for over 25 years—25 years of this type of operation.

I think it is unbecoming, Mr. Chairman, to any government, to get so low as to do this in an area where there is a great need for a justice of the peace, to help people when they are in trouble. We do not have a justice of the peace many times because they cannot find the proper Tory to appoint—although many people are willing to take the post. I think that it is a disgrace that this government can sit there—the Prime Minister

sits and smiles about it, but the people are getting sick of this kind of thing.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Wellington South.

Mr. H. Worton (Wellington South): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Attorney General: Are some of these appointments automatic with the position? Are some positions in a municipality automatic? Or do they all have to be requested?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not think that any of them are automatic. None of them that I know of are automatic. I think there are some—I am trying to recall in The Municipal Act whether the head of a municipality has some. I think if the member is speaking particularly of a justice of the peace, I believe they all have to be appointed. They are appointed, it having been made known to us that there is need for a justice of the peace in a certain area to carry on the administration of justice.

Mr. Sargent: Can the Attorney General advise why he took the powers away from the mayor and members of council to be justices of the peace? Were they not formerly justices of the peace—the mayor and members of council?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I did not take them away.

Mr. Sargent: The mayor was justice of the peace.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I was trying to think a moment ago, and I had an impression that a mayor had some powers of justice of the peace. If he had them, he still has them, because I did not take them away from him.

Mr. Sargent: They do not have them now.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I did not take them away.

Mr. Sargent: Anyway, they have disappeared, so it is in one awful mess the way it is now. But I would like to ask in this vote here: We have outside judicial offices; are they county sheriffs, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: County sheriffs, county clerks.

Mr. Sargent: We are paying our sheriff \$10,822, I think. You have also appointed him as a legal aid director; what is he being paid for this job?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I did not appoint him actually.

Mr. Sargent: The Conservative Party appointed him.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In a sense, yes; but in a sense, no; because all the area directors under The Legal Aid Act were nominated and proposed by the local bar in the counties, the districts, and the municipalities—that would be mainly counties and districts. They selected the person in their area who they thought was competent, and fit and proper to manage and conduct legal aid. I presume that the person you were speaking of—is he a lawyer?

Mr. Sargent: He is the sheriff.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, he is the sheriff, but is he a lawyer also?

Mr. Sargent: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He is a lawyer. So he was selected by the legal profession in that area—nominated at least by them—approved by the law society, and then submitted to us for final approval. And, without exception,

those recommendations have been accepted. His salary has not been confirmed and has not been fixed; but I would think, sir, that in the area in which he serves, we have under consideration a graded scale related to the number of cases which come before the magistrate, related also—or weighed as a factor in the matter—to the number of cases which have been heard by way of legal aid in the past period of time. I would think that in the area of which the hon. member speaks, his salary would be somewhere, on an annual basis, between \$1,500 and \$3,000 for the work that he does.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Before I leave the chair I have an announcement from the Whip that the chairman of the education committee has cancelled the meeting announced for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning because of the conflict with the caucus meetings.

It being 6 o'clock I do now leave the chair; we will resume at 8 p.m.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, March 14, 1967
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1967

The House resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Mr. Chairman: Before calling the next vote I know the members of the House would like me to say a word of welcome to Mr. Robert Amaron and the group that he has here, members from the Northern secondary school. Also there is a group in the Speaker's gallery from Queensway, as the guests of the member for Humber (Mr. W. B. Lewis).

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Continued)

On vote 207:

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, you have advised that this is the proper vote in which to find out where we stand in Ontario with regard to our liberty, or lack of it, because of government lack of concern about our present bail system.

I would refer you to an article in the Toronto *Telegram* editorial page called, Breakdown of Justice:

Last spring, Metro police chief Mackey appeared before the McRuer commission on civil rights and was asked why it takes so long for citizens to be granted bail on a criminal charge. He replied: The arrested person may wait four to six hours and we are a little concerned about this; outside of that I do not think there is a real problem.

The editorial goes on to say:

No problem! How about the case which just came to light of Thomas Hall, who was held in Don jail for two weeks on the charge of stealing a 72-cent ham? The accused did not ask for bail because he thought the trial would be held quickly but it was not and no one found it necessary to acquaint him of his rights.

No one was concerned about a man deprived of his freedom for a fortnight on a minor charge; no one was worried that a man may have suffered the loss of employment and reduced income and that his relatives and friends were anxious about

him. What kind of police machinery is it that allows such gross inhumanity?

And, still quoting from the editorial:

We pride ourselves on high concepts of justice in this country. We speak glibly of the rights of the individual in fundamental liberties. But down at the ground level our police force are so bound by the sameness of their routine that they are hardened against the simple administration of a basic issue of justice.

The shame that must touch every resident of this city. A 72-cent ham is a little thing but the handling of the case touches the greatest things on which our society is built.

Now, Mr. Chairman, when an accused person is summonsed, rather than arrested, all the harmful consequences of custody pending trial are automatically eliminated.

For example, the higher incidence of guilty pleas for those kept in custody; the possibility of improper treatment while in custody; the possible delay and inconvenience in attempting to raise bail; the opportunity for the accused to become enmeshed with illegal bondsmen and unscrupulous lawyers; and generally all the personal considerations such as loss of employment, decreased income and protection of the accused's family and anxiety of relatives and friends.

English law has always maintained that the physical integrity of the body and its freedom from confinement are of paramount importance. Summonsing an accused, saves him from the indignities of being physically taken away by the police.

In the survey taken, we find this jurisdiction in the province of Ontario which you contrast with the practice in Toronto. There is a widespread use of the summons in England—the background of all our system of British justice—where approximately 35 per cent of those charged with indictable offences are summonsed. In relation to the total amount of persons charged with indictable offences, the summons is used in England over four times more than in the case of the city of Toronto.

A comparison for specific areas presents a more striking picture of the difference between the practice in England and in our home base, Toronto.

In the case of indictable offences such as forgery and uttering, 44 per cent of all persons charged with the felony of forgery and uttering in England were summonsed in 1961; in the same year, not one person out of 123 prosecuted in the city of Toronto was summonsed. So here is an area of great lack of concern, in the system of justice that we so proudly say is our heritage.

The survey goes on to show, in a number of cases, that we are sadly lacking in The Attorney General's Department in this regard.

It will take about seven minutes to read to this House and to reveal an area where we are grossly at fault in this province. An article in the *Toronto Daily Star*, which at this time of night becomes good reading because we have all come back from our dinner, shows what can happen to normally basically-good citizens in the city of Toronto, in the province of Ontario.

The story by Ron Haggart in the *Toronto Daily Star* of June 21, 1966, is headlined:

**HOW ONE MAN BECAME A PETTY
CRIMINAL**

Early in December of 1963, the job fell to Chuck Carson as usual to arrange the annual Christmas party which he held every year with five of us pals from the advertising business.

Carson told his secretary to look after details and she reserved a suite at the Ascot 27—the hotel out near the airport—and she efficiently ordered the liquor and arranged for the mix and the food, for the playing cards and for the amount of the tip to be added to the bill.

So after work on December 19, 1963, Carson went home and had a couple of drinks with his wife, reminded her that he was heading for the annual bash with the boys and went to the Ascot about 7:45 p.m. He was early so he stopped at the bar and had a few more drinks—

An hon. member: Were you there?

Mr. Sargent: No, we could have been there but we were not there. I quote:

Ralph Dale and Rob Kelly came along and they had a few more drinks before heading up to the room. There were to be a half a dozen men at the party that night as there always had been in the past. Carson, himself an executive, was

an \$11,000 a year typographical consultant in the graphic arts field. All the others were in the advertising business too, one was a camera man, another a salesman, another a plate retoucher.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, is this sort of thing permitted? This kind of recitation during the estimates?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order. I think the member for Grey North is trying to prove the importance of bail under the administration of justice. I would ask him, if he would, to make his remarks as brief as he can.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I do appreciate the time involved and I said that it will take seven minutes to read this example of what goes on in this province.

Mr. White: Mr. Chairman, on the point of order—it was my understanding that each party was permitted one introductory speech and from that time on, the proceedings were restricted to questions. Now we have seen this procedure deteriorate, sir, year by year, but I have to say that we have never witnessed anything quite like this.

Mr. Chairman: I must say to the member for London South that as far as the estimates are concerned, they have never been restricted to questions and answers.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Chairman: But I should remind the member for Grey North that his material, in connection with it, must be relevant to the vote.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, I do appreciate the fact that this is a somewhat roundabout way to show the bail system in this province:

Now, Mr. Carson, the hero in our story here—

An hon. member: The hero?

Mr. Sargent: I will continue:

—had known two of the men for more than 10 years. Others he had known for a year and a half or more. Of the six men drinking and telling stories in the hotel that night, only one was a stranger and he had been suggested as a substitute by one of the regulars who could not make it that year. But it was not the stranger who brought the girls. One of the regulars suggested that he should bring along a couple

of girls and the men happily agreed, although it was to be their downfall. So he had—

An hon. member: Was that the Tory organizer?

Mr. Sargent: To continue:

—all the ingredients of a tragedy. Girls, hotel room and Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: I am quoting:

By 8.30 all six men were in the room—

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): May I have the floor?

I enjoy listening to Ron Haggart's style, but I would like to make the suggestion that if the hon. member for Grey North would recite the story in his own words, it might be much more effective and entertaining—and much shorter.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: It was indicated that it would take seven minutes to read this article.

Mr. Sargent: It will take 15 this way, sir.

An hon. member: I think he is wasting a lot of time.

Mr. Sargent: We will get you into the act here, "Freddie." I will read it in French for you.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: I continue:

By 8.30 all of the six men were in the room playing poker and tossing back the booze. About half an hour later the two girls arrived and a couple of the men turned on some music and started dancing. By 11 o'clock the party was quite noisy and drunken and a pain in the neck to the other guests in the Ascot hotel.

Carson, the host, had passed out early as the result of the head start he had had at the bar and he was curled up on the couch when the police arrived at 11.30—

An hon. member: Party poopers!

Mr. Sargent: The article says:

Some drunk bumbled at the cops and from there on the language got worse. The police hauled the six of them down to the police station in Etobicoke and started to ask questions.

The next sub-heading is: "Night on a Steel Sheet."

Were the girls known to them? Well, Pete Smith admitted he did not really know them himself. They were friends of a friend of his and he heard that they would like to come along for a party.

Who arranged the room? Well, that was Chuck Carson, who had vomited at the police station and passed out again. He never was much help to the investigation.

Now, who had paid for the room and for the liquor? Well, they were supposed to chip in \$20 apiece, but only three of them had actually paid their share. Carson had paid for himself, and two of the others were to pay him for their share the next day. They all got pretty drunk and confused, but Carson emerged as the organizer of the affair because he was the one who had the efficient secretary.

One of the men, the salesman who had not had anything to drink in the room, was sober, but true to their traditions of what a Crown attorney was called, the Canadian "chicken coop mentality", none of them could get out of jail that night.

Carson, besides his \$11,000 a year job, had a car, a \$7,000 bank account and a \$20,000 house. The others all had jobs of junior executive rank and enough money in their pockets that night to keep a good poker game going—

Which we might know about in this House—

—but the police kept saying it was impossible to get a justice of the peace to come out at this hour of the night—

It never occurred to the police, Mr. Chairman—as it seldom does—to push these foolish men into taxis and send them summonses later. So although it was only a little after midnight, only one man was stark sober, and some of the others almost so, and although they all had good jobs and the risk of them fleeing to Patagonia was negligible, they all spent the night on the steel sheet of the police station.

The next morning, Chuck Carson woke up to find he was charged with keeping a common bawdy house.

That is b-a-w-d-y.

Five other men were charged as found-ins. How there could be a bawdy house in a room that was raided because of the noise is a detail that might have been explained at the trial, because there never was a trial. Carson, inside a police station

for the first time in his life, was appalled and frightened. He did not have the vaguest notion what the charge really meant, except the layman's impression that it was something like "madams do", whatever that is.

Nobody told him anything about lawyers, so he talked it over with the policeman. The policeman told him the absolute truth; if he entered a plea of "not guilty," the case would be remanded for two weeks. He would still have to arrange for bail. He would have to come back for his trial, perhaps on several different days and it might even get in the papers.

But if he pleaded guilty that morning the standard fine as the keeper, would be \$200, with no previous convictions, and the found-ins would be fined \$10. The six men talked it over and decided that the thing they wanted most was to get to hell out of there. They agreed to divvy the fines at \$40 each and that is what they did. They went to work, phoned their wives and lied about the drunken party where they said they had stayed all night.

A year later Chuck Carson quit his job with the ad agency because he had an offer to do the same thing in the United States for \$25,000 a year. He applied for his visa and worked away at getting the papers. He received a letter from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Ottawa saying they were enclosing his fingerprints and file number so and so. Carson did not look at the sheet of paper underneath because he never thought that this would happen to him, that he had a police record—that is what crooks have. So he sent the papers off with all the rest to the United States consulate.

One morning Carson and his wife sat down in front of the visa officers at the consulate and Carson right up to that moment did not know what was coming. I am sorry, said the visa officer who happened to be a woman, but I am unable to grant you a visa under The Immigration and Nationality Act by virtue of the fact that you are ineligible for a visa under section 212 (a) which relates to aliens who have been engaged in commercialized vice.

The visa officer stated that she would never forget the look on the face of Chuck Carson's wife. Carson still did not believe it until the visa officer showed him the form from the RCMP that looked like a hotel bill and neatly typed in capital letters in one of the corners was "Keeper of a

common bawdy house, \$200, 30 days' time to pay.

Now here is the nub of the whole thing:

Carson went to the police to get the report on what had really happened that crazy night he passed out with Mac and Robert Benson with the girls, only to find out that the Lambton court house had burned down destroying all the records. He got affidavits from his pals and the Americans did eventually let him in. The Americans believed the story that no Canadian court ever had a chance to hear. In the country to which he emigrated Chuck Carson's case could not have happened.

No judge would hear his plea of guilty until he had first seen a lawyer. In many big cities Carson would almost certainly have been summonsed rather than arrested, and the found-ins definitely so. In big cities like New York, Carson could have pleaded not guilty and had his trial and acquittal right away, not in two weeks, or four weeks later. As Chuck Carson, happy immigrant to the United States now knows, Canada the "chicken coop country" has a lot to learn about British justice, and one place to start learning about it is in the United States.

Mr. Chairman, I want to apologize to the House for taking the time to show you what is actually going on in this country insofar as the bail system is concerned.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): Mr. Chairman, I take it that it is all right to take part in this debate, because apparently that is what it is. I am just wondering if the member for Grey North, using that illustration, means that it is an illustration of what may happen in all parts of Ontario. If he does, I would like to tell him about the system that is now being used in Kingston, with full knowledge of the Crown attorney and with his encouragement as well.

There is a small committee of prominent citizens set up who review all such cases that are referred to them. They make a decision then whether to let this person go on their own recognizance or not. And I would like to advise this House that this is working out very, very well. In many cases people have been let go on their own recognizance and brought in later on to face the charge, whatever it may be.

Mr. R. Gisborn (Wentworth East): Who makes up the committee?

Mr. Apps: It is a committee of prominent citizens in Kingston.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Who are they?

Mr. Apps: Well, one of them is Colonel Louis Flynn, and he is one of the fine people that lives in Kingston, who are doing an exceptional job in this regard.

Now this has been going on, sir, for a year and a half. I understand it is in the form of an experiment and I think I brought this to the attention of the House last year in a speech that I made at that time.

This may be a little bit easier in a smaller area, where you may know people a lot better than you do in a large metropolitan area. But I did not want this to go by with the member for Grey North signifying that this can happen all over, because I feel that the system evolved in Kingston is an exceptionally fine one, and it does away with the problem that has resulted in this case which the member for Grey North has talked about tonight.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Well Mr. Chairman, I think the remarks by the member for Kingston touch up the height of this problem. We have a project going here in Toronto, sponsored by the Downsview Rotary club, modelled after the VERA foundation's programme in the city of New York.

At the time, the Attorney General participated in this to the extent of writing a letter and saying this was a noble experiment. I suggested to the House at that time, and I suggest again tonight, that this is just not good enough. Neither a voluntary project sponsored in Kingston by a group of very worthy and self-sacrificing citizens—

Mr. Apps: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. This is sponsored by the Crown attorney of Kingston and I think he was the one that instigated it.

Mr. Bryden: Well, what if the prominent citizens do not like you, what happens then?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, neither a programme sponsored in Kingston, whether by the Crown attorney through a group of local citizens on a volunteer basis, nor a programme sponsored in the city of Toronto, nor the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto by a Rotary club, with a commendatory letter

written by the Attorney General, is good enough.

In the state of New York, after having experimented for several years, under the good auspices of the VERA foundation, under the good auspices of a very substantial estate, the city of New York came to the conclusion that this was a duty of the law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction to police and to see that it ran properly.

Now I am very disappointed, Mr. Chairman, that, as we got into this vote, neither on the introductory remarks made by the Attorney General, nor as we entered vote 207, did we get any report at all from the Attorney General on how this scheme is faring.

It is my very strong opinion that there should be a method of determining whether or not citizens who are arrested or charged are rightfully subjects to be released on their own recognizance or whether they are not. We still read in the papers from time to time that magistrates use this as a form of pre-trial punishment, depending on the seriousness of the charge, and I know that this runs afoul of the sort of thinking that my friend the Attorney General uses.

He, along with most lawyers in the province of Ontario, would agree that bail has only one purpose, and that is to secure the return of the accused person before the court at the time his trial is going to be heard.

Now this is not being used, and bail seems to mean jail for poor people in Ontario far, far, too frequently. In light of the experience in other jurisdictions; in the light of the year's experiment which the Downsview Rotary club has had in Metropolitan Toronto; in the light of the experience that has been gained in the city of Kingston; it would seem to me that the Attorney General, in this election year, would be gaining a great deal of kudos for himself and his party, if he was prepared to announce to the people of the province of Ontario tonight, that at long last, the province is going to do something about making sure that bail is used as a proper arm of the administration of justice, and that, no longer, will bail mean jail for the poor.

As I say, sir, I am very disappointed, as these estimates have come before the House one after the other, with the lack of information that comes forward from the Attorney General. I would like to urge him now to tell us what his approach, and what the approach of this government is, insofar as this very important matter is.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Bracondale—is it on the same point?

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): No—well partly—but if the hon. Attorney General wishes to reply now—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I will be glad to reply now. As I think every hon. member knows, bail, the provision of bail and the giving of recognizance to appear to the charge in court, is set forth in the criminal code.

Then the discretion as to whether bail is, or is not to be granted, and the amount and the terms thereof, is left to the magistrate or the judge, or the judicial person trying or hearing the case.

We then proceed in this area; particularly of late, over the past two, three years, to my particular knowledge and within the area of my responsibility, we have encouraged our Crown attorneys and our magistrates to accept, in every case where it is possible to do so, to give a wide discretion and to accept the recognizance of the person to return to face trial.

Mr. Sargent: The figures do not show that, Mr. Chairman. They do not show it at all.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, this we are doing. This we have been doing, and I think the results, if you look at the province as a whole, will show that this is being accomplished. But the discretion still remains with the magistrate before whom the person comes.

Mr. Sargent: Are you going to change their thinking then?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, it is all very well for the hon. member to say this, but I have said before, and I shall say again, that I do not think that any person who holds a political office, whether he is a Minister of the Crown or otherwise, has a right to say, in so many words, to a judicial person—

Mr. Sargent: How can you say that—they are all political appointees anyway.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Sargent: They are all appointed by you in the first place. How can you say that?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —has any right to say to a judge or a magistrate—

Mr. Sargent: You control justice right here in your file.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to ask the member for Grey North to remain seated please, while the Attorney General makes his presentation.

Mr. Sargent: Well, he is wrong.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: —no Minister has any right to say to a judge or a magistrate, you shall do this or you shall do that, in the administration of his court.

To ever let that creep into our system of the administration of justice, would be the end of justice and to our system of the administration of justice.

It would be the end of justice if the courts could be interfered with to that extent; that would be the end of justice. And the first to complain, I think, and I would hope, would be the hon. member for Grey North.

So long as I have the honour to hold this office, I shall never attempt to tell a judge or magistrate what he may do in the way he interprets the law and administers his court.

If I am dissatisfied with his judgment, I shall appeal on behalf of the Crown and if the accused convicted person is dissatisfied, then that is his recourse.

As to the question of bail, I say it is the discretion of the court. We urge the courts to accept the recognizance—more and more, we urge this through our Crown attorneys and through seminars and conferences with our magistrates. And this result we are achieving.

But there are cases—I might say this—that in Metro Toronto, for instance, we have a justice of the peace now on duty through the night, and he travels from court to court so that bail may not be delayed. And the case which the hon. member referred to in the newspaper article he read, as I remember, was a case of 1963 which probably might have been dealt with differently had it been within recent times or today.

Under our own Summary Convictions Act which is an Ontario Act, we allow the policeman, the arresting constable, to grant bail. We give him that right under our own Ontario Act.

Now, let me take the case which the hon. member recited. Even though it did happen in 1963, Mr. Ron Haggart can make quite a story—and it is very interesting reading. Quite interesting to listen to it read again. The gentleman who was brought before the court, according to the story, had ample money in

his pocket and in the pockets of all of them, to perhaps get bail. There is no evidence they asked for bail. I am very doubtful, first of all, if any one of them wanted to be sent home that night into the bosom of their families or whether they wanted to be kept in the shelter of the police cells till they had recovered from the state they were in. I am very doubtful—

Mr. Sargent: You are reaching a bit there.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not reaching because when they came up the next day, the gentleman did not tell his wife nor did he tell her for the next three years.

Mr. Sargent: Would you tell your wife?

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: All right, but it is all very well to criticize and say he was not granted bail. He could have got bail. He did not ask for bail.

Mr. Sargent: How do you know?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The story would have said so. I am certain it would have said so. He had the means to get bail. He had the means the next day to say I want a lawyer. He did not call a lawyer. He did not ask for an adjournment. He did not ask for a remand.

Mr. Sargent: He just preferred jail.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He did not want to have the publicity of his conduct displayed in the court. He could have had a lawyer. He could have had a trial. He could have had a hearing. I say he could have had bail and I say he thought he did not want to face his family that night any more than he wanted to face them for the next three years. It is a sad story that it had to come out in front of the officer granting his visa.

It is all very well to make a story of these things and to make it sound this way, but I do not think—

Mr. Sargent: Is everything the *Toronto Telegram* or the *Star* says wrong?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not saying they are wrong. I am just saying that only half the story is told. We do attempt to assist in the granting of bail.

Now, the hon. member brought up the question of Great Britain and the administration of justice there. The summons so frequently used. I grant you that he is right that in that tight little island—where for a

long time they have had respect for law and order—the summons is used much more than it is here. We are seeking to approach that.

Let me say this to you. As you study the cases in that jurisdiction of Britain, you will find that people accept the summons; they accept the approach of the officer; they give their name; they give their address. This is necessary if you are to summons a person. Here, we find that a great many of our citizens—

Mr. Sargent: Will the Minister accept a question?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Not at the moment.

Mr. Sargent: On this particular point.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Allow me to finish. A great many people—which is their right—say I do not propose to talk to you, I am not even going to tell you my name. I am not going to tell you my address. In that case you cannot issue a summons. You must take that person into custody. This is so, and a study of this matter will make that apparent.

Now, just to go back again to the case that the hon. member took pains to read onto the record of this House. If a situation was developing in that hotel room—and it seems to have been quite a situation—how would you clear it up? By issuing a summons to the people that were there? How would you stop this?

Mr. Sargent: Do you want the answer?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, just let me pose the question first. How would you stop the racket and the uproar, which was going on and the disturbance in that hotel room? Would you say: “We will issue you summonses, come in tomorrow”? The party could have gone on—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know, I am just posing that question for the hon. member to think about.

Mr. Sargent: You should know that.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am not experienced in that situation. I am afraid I cannot answer it. I will have to leave it to the hon. member.

Those are some of the things we are doing to assist people to get bail and the Downsview Rotary club project is an experimental project. It has been going on a little better than

a year or thereabouts. The New York foundation project went on for some considerable time, before it was worked out and brought into the law. The project which has been carried on in Kingston with our approbation and under the direction of the Crown attorney there, it is also an experimental project which is working well. I think we will find ways to extend that, but we are doing many things to make it possible for people to obtain bail in a more expeditious and easy way.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General is a great fellow for setting up straw men and knocking them down again. Nobody was suggesting at all that the judicial discretion of magistrates be interfered with. The reason that magistrates are unable to bring a judicial discretion to bear is because they do not have sufficient information before them. There is no machinery in our courts now available, other than the few experiments, which gives them the proper facilities to get that information. This is the concern, and again the Attorney General makes light of the case that my colleague from Grey North referred to—that the people were quite anxious to go to jail that night and that they must have had enough money to get bail if they wanted to. He says how else could you have broken up what was going on in that hotel room.

Well, I do not care what was going on. If it was bad it should have been stopped. These were responsible people and they appear to have been. Surely by carting a couple of them off to the police station and holding them there for an hour or two and then releasing them on their own recognizance when it became apparent that they were responsible citizens of the community who had jobs and who owned homes, would have served the ends of justice.

The Minister is not going to make anybody believe, Mr. Chairman, that those people wanted to stay in jail overnight rather than tell their wives what happened. It just does not make sense. It is the same thing that you have been doing all through these estimates. You are avoiding the issue. You have neglected to advise us about the success or the failure of the Downsview Rotary plan, even though it has been underway for a year.

One would have thought that the first thing that you would have brought before this House would be a complete report on the number of cases they have investigated; the success or failure of their scheme; the number of people who have been granted release on their own recognizance; the number of people

who have been given bail; the number of people who refused bail; the number of people who failed to show up in court when they were supposed to.

One would have thought that the Attorney General wanted to be on top of this kind of problem, that he would have presented a summary of that experiment in the largest municipality in the province, that he would have presented a summary of that experiment to this House tonight. One must come to the inevitable conclusion that the Attorney General would far rather this problem go away, so that he could make general speeches, setting up straw men, knocking them down, but at the same time failing to do anything to approach this problem which is a very serious one.

It must be the philosophy of this Minister and his government that the rich people can look after themselves and the poor people are just going to have to suffer. Bail means jail to the poor and this government has done nothing to change that aspect.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: What about the legal aid plan?

Mr. Ben: I think this question is established that the administration of justice in this land is indeed in a shambles. One hundred years ago when Confederation came into being, the fathers of Confederation, basing their decision on American experience, decided that we ought to have uniform criminal legislation across this land, and they retained to themselves the power of legislating criminal matters. One would have thought that the administration of the criminal law would also be uniform, but where do we find ourselves, Mr. Chairman, as this discussion has indicated?

First of all, the federal government passes the criminal laws, the provinces can make quasi-criminal laws and the same is done by the municipalities. The judges are appointed by both the federal and provincial governments, the Crown attorneys are appointed by everyone. Now, strictly speaking, the Crown attorneys are appointed only by the province, but they are better known to the layman as prosecutors.

So we have the province appointing what they call Crown attorneys to act as prosecutors; the federal government appoints prosecutors on narcotic prosecutions and excise tax prosecutions and income tax prosecutions and unemployment prosecutions; the municipalities appoint special prosecutors to look after the enforcement of municipal by-laws. Even in

the traffic court you have the police appointing prosecutors to act in the place of Crown attorneys.

Everybody seems to get into the act, everybody seems to have the power to interfere but nobody seems to have the power to do anything about it. The judges, as I mentioned, the high court judges are appointed by the federal government, and the county court, and family court judges, and the magistrates, are appointed by the province.

Surely the time has come when we should try to bring some semblance of order into this chaos.

Let one jurisdiction take over the appointment of all the judges, be it the province or be it the federal government. I would suggest that a better scheme would be to have the province appoint all the judges and all the magistrates, with the judges of the high court being appointed with the concurrence of the bar association and the federal Minister of Justice, but that the provinces should be responsible for appointing them and the federal government should pay the administration cost.

Court houses, for instance. Each county is supposed to put up a court house and some court houses in this province are older than Confederation itself. There are some that were put up in 1836, and Chief Justice Gale has been screaming blue murder about the conditions of some of these court houses.

It is fortunate for him that he has not gone to some of the magistrates' courts across this province because I am sure he would blow his top.

An hon. member: Is he complaining about his own court room down there?

Mr. Ben: Not as yet. Now take the example of bail. There is a big cry that it cannot be done because it comes under the criminal code, and so on. Well, something can be done about it. Firstly, the majority of people who end up in jail because they cannot raise bail, are there because of traffic offences. And it seems strange to me that the senior officer in the police station can grant bail when there is an offence under The Highway Traffic Act and he cannot grant bail when it comes to the criminal code—ability impaired or drunk driving. I had an example of that just last week.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder if the hon. member would permit—

Mr. Ben: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am a little puzzled by his statement that the great majority of people who are in jail, and cannot get bail, are there for traffic offences. Most traffic offences are not arrestable offences. Speeding is not an arrestable offence. Failure to produce the licence is not an arrestable offence. Only the very serious traffic offences are arrestable offences and if it is under The Summary Convictions Act, which I pointed out a few moments go, the arresting officer can grant bail—that is our own Ontario Summary Convictions Act.

I cannot believe, I do not think it is right, that most of the people who are found in jail and who cannot get bail, are traffic offenders. This does not sound right.

Mr. Ben: Well, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I should have said I am speaking of the city of Toronto. There are about 40,000 people charged with impaired driving in the city of Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Impaired driving—

Mr. Ben: Yes, impaired driving. And I point out another of the inconsistencies. For instance, one can say that invariably in the magistrates' courts, where there is a charge of ability impaired or drunk driving, and the Crown is asked how does the Crown elect to proceed, the Crown says "summarily."

Now, although this happens invariably, I have yet to witness an instance in court where the Crown said he was going to proceed by indictment. Still, the police officers who are permitted to grant bail within the confines of The Summary Convictions Act, are not permitted to grant bail in this instance, because it is also an indictable offence.

But this situation could be remedied, Mr. Chairman, by one of a number of different ways. One way, for example, is to appoint the inspector and the sergeants as justices of the peace for the provision only of granting bail. Or else amend The Summary Convictions Act to include in chapter three, beside the other sections that are enumerated in there, the driving sections of the criminal code, the impaired and the drunken driving sections, so that the senior officer, under those circumstances, could grant bail.

Now, I had an experience when I was called at midnight to go down to a police station. I spoke to the officer—the man was charged with impaired ability—and I said, Why not just summons the man? He is a responsible citizen in this city.

As a matter of fact, I think he owned eight or ten taxicabs and had interests in other businesses in the city.

The police officer said, "Oh, no, we cannot let him do that".

I said, "Why not?"

He said, "Well, he might drive away".

So I told him I wanted a bail magistrate, I went down and I waited from about 12.20 a.m. until 2:30 a.m. for the bail magistrate to turn up. The bail magistrate turned up and he immediately recognized the individual, he was well known in the community, and he just had him sign his own recognizance.

When it came to the automobile, when I asked about the automobile, I found out there was no way he could have driven that automobile anyway, because the police had already taken it to the pound and the pound was about five miles away. Yet the man was denied bail.

Now surely there are some steps that could be taken to remedy the situation. I suggest that one is to appoint senior officers in the police department as justices of the peace and restrict their activities to granting bail, just as you appoint commissioners for oaths, but restrict the activity to the office for which that particular commissionership is granted.

Lawyers have secretaries in their offices who are commissioners of oaths but they can only administer those oaths in the performance of their duties in that specific office. The senior officers in the police department could be made restricted justices of the peace.

If that does not meet with the approval of the Attorney General, then he could bring about an amendment to The Summary Convictions Act, to include those particular sections that involve driving offences in section 3.

He may even go further, Mr. Chairman. He could also include, in The Summary Convictions Act, all the offences in the criminal code where the magistrate has absolute jurisdiction to hear the trial, misdemeanours or petty offences—include all of them.

Those are two suggestions which, I think, are worthy of the Attorney General's attention and I trust that he will give serious consideration to implementing either one or the other, or some improvement on both of them. Surely it is time some action was taken in this province on this question of bail.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if I might just speak briefly to the suggestion the hon. member has made. He asked us to do one thing which we discussed earlier today, and I think I have the

support of most hon. members of this House when I take the position that we should not mix the law enforcement, and the judicial function, in one person, and appoint a police officer as justice of the peace.

I think this would be something that would be wrongful from the very beginning.

Mr. Ben: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am sure the Attorney General understood me when I said I would restrict this power only to that of granting bail.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am coming to that. The hon. member said, "Give this power to senior police officers, make them justices of the peace and restrict their jurisdiction".

Now let me make this clear—the criminal code, and we must, after all, have regard for the criminal law which is applicable across this country, determines the indictable offences.

It mentions and names the indictable offences and it provides, in the bail provisions, as to who can grant bail for that type of offence. Even if we wished to do so, we cannot give a police officer in our province the right, even if we make him a justice of the peace, to grant bail in those indictable offences.

And another thing the hon. member suggests is that we give a limited jurisdiction in the appointment of a justice of the peace. I do not want to appear obstructive in the matter, but I do not believe you can make a justice of the peace, and say you are a limited justice of the peace.

In any event, as I say, we have to face the provisions of the code as to who may grant bail in indictable offences. I do not believe you should associate the judicial and the enforcement functions in one individual.

I do not think the police, who are going to be giving evidence to convict the person who is arrested and brought into custody, should be the person to deal with it at first instance and assess the case there in the beginning.

I think this would be wrong and I must say that I cannot countenance that suggestion. I do not think the limited jurisdiction is practicable.

Mr. Ben: May I ask a question? If the Attorney General believes that the enforcement branch ought not to get mixed with the judicial branch, may I ask him, quite respectfully, why he insists on having magistrates and county court judges appointed to the police commissions? They are judiciary and in appointing them to the police com-

missions, you put them in charge of law enforcement. Now where is the consistency, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well Mr. Chairman, the distinction I think is quite clear. We debated this matter also in the absence of the hon. member this afternoon.

Mr. Ben: Not just this year but last year.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The function of the magistrate or the judge on the police commission is not to try a person for a criminal offence. He is weighing matters of, perhaps, discipline, the rates of pay, the working conditions, the salaries of police forces and the amount of equipment they need, the other conditions under which they shall work. This is a very different thing than saying that we are equipping the magistrate with enforcement and a judicial function at the same time.

Mr. Ben: But the police officer, were he made a JP, would not be exercising a judicial function. He would simply be granting the man bail. He would never sit on trial on the person brought before him. That is one thing he would never do, whereas it is quite conceivable that a police commissioner could be sitting on trial on somebody who complains to the police commission about the conduct of the police. I would think that this is a stronger example to show that it is not mixing the enforcement function with the judicial function than the example that the Attorney General gave.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can only say this, that I find myself taking a different view than the hon. member because I consider the granting of bail is a judicial function. It is so in the code, it has been so in our administration of justice all down through the years and I think it is a proper judicial function.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, I would like to comment briefly on bail and then move on to the other topic which I raised several nights ago with the Attorney General in the same field of procedural protection for the person who is arrested or taken into custody one way or another and charged with an offence.

On the question of bail, I think that the member for Downsview summed it up. I do not think there is any disagreement that the decision to grant bail is a decision in the exercise of the judicial discretion, and that that person in exercising the discretion has

to be well informed as to the circumstances of the person who appears before him.

I think it is also true to say that he relies in a great degree—I am talking now about the morning after appearance in the magistrate's court—he relies to a great extent on the Crown attorney. The Crown attorney must be well informed so that he can make a proper recommendation to the magistrate as to whether or not bail should be granted.

Now, to the extent that a body such as the Amicus foundation can assist in providing both information about the person before the court and some assessment about the likelihood of the person's return, divorced from the question as to how much of this world's goods the person happens to own, then I think we will have made a very real step forward.

I, too, on occasion can get excited about the overnight stay in the jail. I think we have to be sufficiently realistic to say that nobody really is going to suffer any dreadful harm if he spends one night in the jail. I would hope in due course, particularly in the metropolitan area, that there will be an all-night court where persons who are in custody could, in fact, have the benefit of the morning-after procedure the night before, by having the judicial officer exercise his discretion on proper advice in an all-night court. So, if a person wishes to go home at two or three in the morning and can persuade the court that he is entitled to bail, the same procedure would be followed.

But I would certainly agree with the Attorney General that I would be most reluctant to see the confusion in the police enforcement operation in the exercise of part of the judicial process of granting bail. I think there is much that can be done in saying that I agree with the Attorney General on that particular proposition. This does not mean that I agree with him in what I think it is fair to say is his basic sort of lack of interest in what the Amicus foundation is doing. He has made no statement about the results of the Amicus foundation experiment.

I do not know how much longer the grant of funds, which I believe came from the Ford foundation, will permit that experiment to continue. I do not know what the results of it are. I do know that certain of the magistrates—in any event in the courts of downtown Toronto—are beginning to rely a great deal on the information which is provided by the Amicus foundation through the Crown attorney. The Crown attorneys, as I understand it, are beginning to make real use

of the Amicus foundation. But the Attorney General does not really appear to be terribly interested in that experiment.

I think what I would ask him to do is either to express his interest now and his determination to make certain that we will get the most possible information out of that experience, or that he will give us some assurance that the experiment will continue, that the information will be collated, and that he will study it. Then I think that we will have made some progress in the area of granting bail.

The main problem of course in bail is, do you substitute some form of assessment of a man's property or the property of his friends, for an assessment of the person himself, as to whether he will return for trial, because the person who gets hurt in the bail system is by and large the person who is the indigent. The person who does not have either property himself or friends who have property, and if he does not get hurt, if he is charged with a serious offence and bail is being considered, the only way he can get out is by going through this backdoor procedure of paying the 15 per cent to a bail bondsman which is an unlawful activity, but which is condoned because of the failure of our system.

I am not suggesting for a moment that the traditional backdoor bail bondsman at the 15 per cent fee should be abolished until such time as we have got some alternative. I think the fact that it has been condoned for this long means that it performs a function. But I for one do not like to see a person forced in fact, to forfeit say, \$150 if he is charged with \$1,000 bail in order to get that bail put up for him, simply because he is an indigent person, or does not have friends who can put up the property bail itself.

The area in which I think the Amicus foundation is attempting to make a contribution is in attempting to get away from the basis of this property qualification and attempting to make some assessment of the person as an individual and the likelihood of him returning to stand trial, and takes into account such matters as having a fixed place of abode and a job, rather than the question of his actual wealth or qualification. This still does not solve the problem of the indigent person and still poses a continuing problem. But my concern is whether or not the Attorney General himself is basically interested in this problem as it appears to us in the metropolitan magistrates' courts. It may be quite a different problem in Kingston, or in other smaller centres. It may be quite a different problem

in that perhaps the traditional paternal British system of granting bail still operates by and large, but it certainly does not operate in the magistrates' courts in Metropolitan Toronto on that kind of a basis. There have to be relatively clear steps and procedures which are followed to provide the information, as I say, and I am sure the Attorney General will agree, to the judicial person who is exercising that discretion, so he can exercise it properly.

I would like to go on to the other matter, but I leave the bail question at that point.

The other night I raised the question of the O'Connor case and the real point which concerns me about the decision in that case. I would like to have an exchange for a few minutes with the Attorney General about it.

If I could, Mr. Chairman, simply repeat the brief headnote of that case. It was a case in the Supreme Court of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would be good enough to break here and let me deal with the bail and perhaps we could keep this separate.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, before the Attorney General goes on, I have one question touching on something that was stated—maybe he can answer them both.

I was not going to rise again on this question of bail, except for the remarks made by the hon. member for Riverdale when he said he agreed with the Attorney General on the subject of separating the judicial and the administrative. I have a very high regard for the Attorney General. I would not want to make a statement lest I embarrass him. But with the member for Riverdale getting up and agreeing, I have to point out that if you do agree that the judicial and the enforcement branch ought to be separated, why in heaven's name do you give a police officer under The Summary Convictions Act the right to exercise both those functions and permit the officer to grant bail under summary convictions?

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The hon. member for Riverdale brushed in his second last sentence with the aspect that I want to deal with. When one listens to the hon. member for Riverdale and the very lucid way in which he speaks, one must be conscious, I suppose, that one out of three residents of Ontario live in the megalopolis here on the north shore of Lake Ontario. I suppose that is a statistic that we from the boondocks must never forget. But it becomes very germane

to point out that in many areas of the law my experience of 13 years tells me that there are peculiar problems here in Toronto, in the Metro area, that we do not have in other parts of the province, and bail is one of them.

In the last few years we have made great strides in bail in the smaller centres. Now there is almost no difficulty at all in persuading a judicial officer to let an accused person out on bail on very lenient terms and it almost goes in an escalator gradation, the down escalator. Many times I have seen it—to take an illustration—you will start off with \$1,000. You report back you cannot raise \$1,000 and he drops it to \$500. You report back that you cannot raise \$500 and you sometimes get it down so that the man is out on his own recognizance because there is a very broadminded and very fair view about the matter of instructing counsel and preparing the defence.

Some years ago, of course, we still had that feudalistic archaic notion that inhered in some police officers and fewer Crown attorneys that bail was a part of punishment. They had the idea that this was where the accused's punishment started, at the time of his arrest. They would begin to punish him by suggesting to the court that the bail be made prohibitively high so he could not raise it and he would stay in the bastille until such time as his trial came on.

But I say that is generally gone. You see shreds of the attitude still remaining, but given a little time that will eventually disappear. I say to the member for Riverdale, through you, that my experience tells me—and I am almost certain of it—that if there are bail—professional bondsmen here, I do not know any, have had no contact with them. I am sure that it is only here in Toronto.

Mr. Singer: They are here. No question about it.

Mr. Sopha: I am sure they do not exist anywhere else and my practice has taken me into magistrates' courts in virtually every part of the province except western Ontario. I have not been in that area. But certainly in the east and the southern part of the province, I have never heard of a bondsman in any of those courts, so there must be a peculiar type of natural life that has grown up in the megalopolis. It makes me reflect that so often that because Toronto has a problem, the rest of us are adversely affected by it, the rules are changed to suit Toronto and we have to bear the brunt of the additional restrictions.

So it goes with legal aid. I am sure that legal aid was functioning efficiently all over the rest of this province except in Toronto and it had to be changed to suit Toronto.

Let me give you an illustration. In the Attorney General's own city they had a woman charged with murder last year and the lawyers were complaining that they could not get the case because Terrence Murphy put his name on the list. The accused naturally picked Terrence Murphy and the rest of them never had a shot in the sweepstake of getting the defence of the poor woman. I do not know what happened to her. Maybe she got a medal for dispatching her husband. You almost expect that some of them are going to. But that is the way legal aid was out in the boondocks until the system went wrong in Toronto.

So it is with bail and I hesitate very, very long before suggesting some grandiose system of bail is brought in that might affect the efficient way that it is working. I respect my friend from Bracondale and maybe he sees the problems, but I can merely say that for a lot of other people who practice law in the quiet and serene atmosphere of small towns, we do not have these problems. Leave us alone.

Mr. Sargent: You are wrong. You are wrong.

Mr. Sopha: Well, we do not have them in Sudbury. I give my friend my word of honour that we do not have them.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): You have your fights in private.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I agree.

Mr. Sopha: I have not encountered them in Elliot Lake and I have not encountered them in Sault Ste. Marie, nor in Timmins, nor in Haileybury. They may have them in Owen Sound, my friend from Grey North tells me. I do not know. But I can only speak for myself.

What I want to see happen, and here is where I become the advocate of the Attorney General—I have reason to believe, in fact I know he agrees with this because he has said so in this House—I want to see a system whereby every offence—I say to my friend from Bracondale—every offence that may be dealt with in a summary way is commenced by summons. Every offence.

That would include, Mr. Chairman, every quasi-criminal offence, if there is such a thing, under provincial statutes; every one where there is a prosecution under a provincial

statute, in my view, should be commenced by a summons and never by arrest. I have seen illustrations where, for example under The Child Welfare Act—the section dealing with neglect of children—policemen are very handy at depriving the individual of his liberty by commencing the process by arrest.

It strikes me that under that statute if a man is a married man and he has in his heart any affection for his children at all, that that is the type of individual who is not likely to leave town. I make the broad general statement that once the officer determines that the accused person has some roots in the community, some roots, of any kind—he has a job or he has a home, or he was born there, even if he has neither of these other two, that this is his environment, his natural habitat—then the chances that that person will show up for his trial are very great indeed.

If statistics mean anything, I can say that in 15 years of appearance before the courts I have had two who failed to show up on the appointed day. One was caught in Port Arthur and he got far more than he would have got if he had stayed. The other one went back to his home in, I believe, it was Kentucky or one of the middle western states and he has never been heard of since, but the Crown was \$1,000 richer as a result of that.

I must say that I suffered for my fee, but that is not too important. The Crown was far better off. I have had two and I have literally defended hundreds of people I have represented in the courts. That is a pretty good record.

I would say, once again speaking of the boondocks, that that record is typical. Probably there are lawyers in practice longer than I have been who have never had an accused person fail to show up.

So my plea is simply this, arrest and apprehend and take into custody the people charged with indictable offences certainly, because they are facing a serious penalty, as soon as the offence is indictable it is a serious penalty. But those who are facing merely the charges of a summary nature and, where the result is not likely to be a penal sentence, where it is not likely to end up with a term of imprisonment but will be dealt with by a fine, then I would say that as a general rule they ought to be dealt with merely by summons.

Now, I just want to make one additional comment and that is, if I am given leave, to refer to the fact that some lawyers appear

to be able to persuade judicial officers to grant bail when bail is not normally granted.

I am not going to refer to any case at bar at all but I am going to refer to another case, and that is the case of Ferris. I want to put on the records the facts in Ferris, just what happened.

Ferris was tried by a jury and the jury reported late at night, fairly late at night. I believe it was Harvey McCulloch, Crown attorney of Hamilton, a very experienced Crown attorney, who prosecuted Ferris. The jury came in with the verdict of guilty to some count, and Mr. Justice Wells, if memory serves me correctly, sentenced the man right then and there. He imposed a term of ten months imprisonment. And lo and behold, Joe Sedgwick marched him out that night and marched him to his home, on the undertaking that the next day, he would file notice of appeal and apply for bail.

Now that was a flagrant case of privilege and preference in my view. No bail could be granted except by a judge of the court of appeal.

The Attorney General may disagree with what I said yesterday but he cannot disagree with this proposition. Only a judge of the court of appeal can grant bail, only a judge, that is where the application is made pending appeal. And I have made many of them.

You go down to Osgoode Hall with a lawyer from The Attorney General's Department, you find a single judge of the court of appeal and he grants bail, if bail is going to be granted.

To the credit of the Attorney General and his executives, let it be said that they do not often oppose granting bail pending appeal. But the great mass in those circumstances, let there be no doubt about what happens in that circumstance, would immediately go into custody and start serving sentence.

Indeed, there is a section of the criminal code, a section in the 600's some place, that says sentence starts from the moment it is imposed.

And I object, as one lawyer, to any privileges being given Joe Sedgwick, the former treasurer of the law society and a very imposing man. In many ways, I object to Joe Sedgwick.

I got the impression during the MacMillan trial, and from reading the press, that Joe Sedgwick was taking the opportunity to laugh Cormack out of court—he was laughing him out of court, that is the inference you get.

Cormack was struggling mightily, as far as I could see from the press, and Joe Sedgwick was laughing at the thing as if to say, "You've got nothing here, and I will march this person out". I do not like this type of thing.

And I can imagine that at some of the establishments of the Minister of Reform Institutions they are sitting up in Guelph, for instance, picking up the paper, seeing Joe Sedgwick's client being given bail, and saying: "Jack, Bill, Harry, Joe, we did not get any bail, we did not get any. Into the crowbar hotel with us right away. No privileges for us. Suppose our lawyer got up and said, Well, my client here, his wife is sick and he has five kids at home, could he go home for a week before he starts his sentence? The judge would look at his lawyer, in many cases, as if he had lost his marbles. He would."

But with the great prestige that people like Sedgwick come into the court, you sometimes get the idea that "We are the tops in the Toronto profession and sort of stand back and let the great North Atlantic roll by."

It is about time somebody said that, and I know this view that I express will not be found to be alien to a good many people who listen to it. That is not right.

I can tell you, Mr. Chairman, and you will understand the basic philosophy of this, justice is blind.

Justice pays no attention to the character of the person who is at bar, nor the character of the counsel. In theory, everybody is treated the same no matter who the counsel is that appears for him; that is one thing, that is one basic principle of the British system, the British system that we inherit.

The other basic principle is that not only must justice be done, but justice must appear to be done, and justice appears to be done if everybody is treated the same. That is an integral part of the appearance of justice being done.

So I just say this, and I do not care if Sedgwick likes it or dislikes it, that from now on, let us start the game over again and whoever it is that is down there opposing Sedgwick, whether it is Cormack or Powell or Hackborne or Arthur Wishart, whoever it is, that the attitude of the government lawyers—they really are lawyers—and the member for Downsview and I will not take too much credit if we suggest that we had a little bit to do with the hiring of more lawyers in this department and in urging this, that those lawyers who represent the

Attorney General in an indirect way represent us, the Legislature.

From now on, I suggest that those lawyers go down there and when Sedgwick wants some special privileges for his client, they just say "You are treated the same as everybody else, no special privileges for you, you were a former treasurer and you are a good lawyer and all that, but you just have to take the lumps like the rest of the troops".

Everything will work better. I would not say these things with such assurance had I not been to magistrates' court in Wikwemikong I would not say these things with such assurance had I not been to magistrate's court in Wikwemikong today—and the Attorney General will know where that is, a part of Canada occupied by Indians who do not yet agree they are part of Canada, they have not agreed that that land is ceded to Canada.

They are an independent nation, those Ottawas, and several of those Indians who had heard what I said here yesterday told me "You're right. Glad you said it". The Indians kind of have a little special horror of the courts. They are more terrified than the white man when they become enmeshed with the law and maybe that is because for five or six hundred years they have been dealt a little harshly by the white man, they have not had the same breaks. And I will tell the member for Algoma-Manitoulin (Mr. Farquhar) it was a little refreshing that somebody outside got the message about this.

Well, that is the message I am giving to the Attorney General, through you. Down where the benchers meet, of course, they will not like that. No doubt they will sit around, the fat cats in the legal profession down there, and tomorrow they will talk about Sopha and refer to his canine ancestry. That is all right.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, in vote 207 we are being asked to spend \$15,744,000 in the interests of justice. And this is all for nought if the rights of one individual go by the board. I most times agree with our loquacious member for Sudbury, but he does not speak for me when he says that the bail system is all roses in this province.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, this is where we were last year.

Mr. Sargent: The hon. Attorney General says we cannot hope to get to the point that Britain has in their system of justice and he goes on to agree with the member for Sudbury that summonses are the answer. I think the Attorney General will agree that any

studies made of the bail system will show that some of them are reasonably effective in compelling the accused's appearance in court. My point is, why is it not used more often?

The member for Sudbury starts off by saying summonses are the natural progression and I agree, but let us take a comparison, Mr. Chairman, in the case of criminal negligence in the operation of a motor vehicle: in England, 93 per cent of the people charged are summonsed; in this country with a total of 48 people charged, not a single person was summonsed.

Now there is no legal obligation on the police to use this system; it is a clear law that a justice should not issue a warrant for arrest when a summons would be sufficient. A quotation from Lord Devlin stated that a warrant will not be issued in a case where a summons to appear in court and answer the charge there would, in the opinion of the magistrate, be sufficient.

Now these legal rules might reasonably lead one to expect that the summons is widely used in practice. However, one can be misled by looking only at one part of that law. The fact that almost all police arrests are made without the police officer appearing before a justice of the peace to obtain a warrant makes this potential safeguard almost non-existent. And the glaring fact is, Mr. Chairman, that over 90 per cent of all the arrests made in Toronto are made without a warrant, 90 per cent. How can these legal beagles here go along and suggest that things are great in Ontario in our bail system?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I am indebted, I must say, to the hon. member for Sudbury for his remarks, some of his remarks, in which he supported my statement to the House that we had made great advances in the granting of bail. At least he did confirm that in the great areas outside of Metro Toronto this was so. I was glad to have him confirm that. As I listened to him talk about summonses for all indictable offences—

Mr. Sopha: By summary convictions.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Summary convictions, yes, but that is a generalization which I think has some difficulties in it because some of those offences which are summary may be elected to be tried in another way.

Then he gave the example of The Family and Child Welfare Act, that that man should only be brought in on a summons, not brought in at all, but summonsed to come in. I have not been recently before the courts as my friend from Sudbury has, but what

happens if that chap summonsed on behalf of his wife, or perhaps being neglectful of his family, goes home and beats up his wife or family or gets drunk, as perhaps he may have been at the beginning of the trouble?

I do not know, I think the police have to exercise discretion in these matters. As I sat here, I was thinking of bail. I was thinking of the Rabbiah case where the bail was set at \$30,000. The party has not yet returned and there seems some doubt as to whether he is likely to. The court in this case will be richer to the extent of \$30,000. Then we had the difference of opinion yesterday with my hon. friend where I submitted that the law under section, I think it is 607—

Mr. Sopha: 670.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: 670 or 671 of the code indicates clearly, I think, that the trial extends up to the point of sentence so that while I agree with many of his comments, we do not go all the way down the road together.

I would like to say with respect to the Downsview Amicus foundation, I did not think I had to defend myself for lack of interest in that. I did much to encourage it to get under way and it was not just—as my friend, the member for Downsview said—a matter of writing a letter. I had interviews with the group, interviews with the Crown attorney and other court officials and wrote a number of letters placing on record our interest and our encouragement of that project.

Now, that is a Rotary club project, and no report has been made in the sense of a full and complete report. It did not occur to me that I should have this before the House on this occasion when my estimates are being considered, but my interest is by no means lacking in the matter at all and I do know a good deal of how it is progressing. I am hopeful of encouraging it further and perhaps incorporating some of the things we learn there into our bail system.

And I would just mention in passing that I think the advent of legal aid will assist a great deal in providing bail for our people who have the misfortune to come before the courts.

I know that the member for Riverdale wants to pursue another matter and I want to get from him if I can, if he can state it, some sort of a question. If he wants my view, I would like to have him perhaps put a stated case, if I may put it that way, because I have the background of this whole matter. I have certain views and I would like to know just what it is he would like me to

say in response to whatever he has to propose.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, the point which is of concern to me, and I will attempt to state it in a question that will provide the opportunity for the Attorney General to exchange views on this question. The point which concerns me is that the Supreme Court of Canada has come to a conclusion in a case of great significance in criminal procedural protections for people under arrest which seems to me to be directly contrary to the actual words of the Canadian bill of rights on one hand and on the other, appears to confirm in our procedural system of police interrogation and arrest leading up to a trial—seems to confirm—a divergence which took place in the Boudreau case in the Supreme Court of Canada some time ago, from the line of the decisions in the United States Supreme Court.

I do not want to draw the question in black and white terms. It is not that. The decisions—particularly these last decisions—in the Supreme Court of the United States have been decided on very narrow judgment, five to four, I believe, was the decision in the quartet of cases known as the *Miranda* case.

In the Supreme Court of Canada, I think it has been fair to say that the decision in the Boudreau case represented a definitive statement by that court taking a different line on this whole question of self-incrimination and the cluster of procedural protections which could very well surround that principle. Having said that, I would like, as concisely as I can, to refer to the O'Connor case. The facts of it in the head note are perfectly simply stated:

The accused, who was represented by counsel at trial, was convicted of impaired driving—

and I make the parenthetic remark I made the other day, that the nature of the offence in this case is not of any significance in the judgment of four of the judges of the court.

The evidence included evidence of breathalyzer tests. The accused was not told that he was under arrest until after the tests had been taken. When he was so informed, he was allowed to place a telephone call to his solicitor. When this call proved abortive, he was refused permission to make a second call to obtain legal assistance. His appeal by way of a stated case was allowed on the ground that the breathalyzer evidence should not have been admitted. On appeal by the Crown to the

court of appeal, the conviction was restored. The accused was granted leave to appeal to the Supreme Court.

The appeal was dismissed, the result being that the conviction was upheld.

Now the question which the magistrate placed which finally ended up for a decision in the Supreme Court of Canada was in three parts, but there are only two of them bearing specifically on the point I have under consideration. The first question is one of the two that the Supreme Court of Canada answered:

Was I right in holding that the refusal by the police to allow the accused while under arrest to contact a lawyer did not amount to a denial of natural justice?

The second question of significance for my remarks is:

Was I right in convicting the accused under the circumstances when I found as a fact that he, while under arrest, had been denied the right to contact a lawyer?

The judges included Chief Justice Taschereau, and I comment on his name because in my view he had earlier held before the Boudreau case what I hold to be the proper view of the procedural safeguards which persons should be entitled to have. Mr. Justice Ritchie in giving the decision said:

In my opinion, the questions submitted by the learned magistrate are to be answered in accordance with the interpretation to be placed on the relevant provisions of the Canadian bill of rights which read as follows:

I skip a good part of his actual quotation simply for the purpose of being summary about what I want to say.

Every law of Canada shall, unless it is expressly declared by an Act of the Parliament of Canada that it shall operate notwithstanding the Canadian bill of rights. [and that clause does not apply]. Every law of Canada shall be so construed and applied as not to abrogate, abridge or infringe or to authorize the abrogation or abridgment or infringement of any of the rights or freedoms herein recognized and declared, and in particular no law of Canada shall be construed or applied so as to deprive a person who has been arrested or detained of the right to be informed promptly of the reason for his arrest or detention and of the right to retain and instruct counsel without delay.

In the light of those clearly expressed words of the Canadian bill of rights the court, adopting the decision of a previous case, simply said:

Nor in my opinion is there any general rule that if a person who has been arrested has been deprived by the police of the right to instruct counsel without delay, the charge against that person must be dismissed if he is brought to trial and the accused go forever free.

On reflection on the consequences of such a rule, if it were to exist in, for example, the case of capital murder will indicate, I think that the relevant provision of the Canadian bill of rights can mean that.

It is clear to me that it does mean exactly that. It does mean that a person is entitled to be free; that no laws "be construed so as to deprive a person who has been arrested or detained of the right, to be informed promptly of the reason for his arrest or detention, and of the right to retain and instruct counsel without delay".

In the O'Connor case, those two specific procedural protections set out in the Canadian bill of rights were, in fact, denied to the accused person, but nevertheless the Supreme Court of Canada upheld the decision.

Briefly, it would appear to me that Mr. Justice Taschereau—as he then was—when he made the decision in the Gach case, this was much closer to the kind of procedural safeguard that we require in Canada. In that case he said—and this was in 1949:

There is no doubt that when a person has been arrested all confessions made to a person in authority as a result of questioning are inadmissible in evidence unless proper caution has been given. This rule which is found in Canadian and British law is based on the sound principle that confessions must be free from fear and not inspired by hope of advantage which an accused person may expect from a person in authority.

That seemed to indicate one of the aspects of a procedural rule which was a clear protection to the individual. He was entitled to be warned in advance that anything he said or did, or any tests which he took were then inadmissible in evidence unless he had received that warning.

However, some while after that, the Boudreau case took the other branch of the road that the court was travelling and this is the

law as it now is in Canada. Mr. Justice Rand states:

It would be a serious error to place the ordinary modes of investigation of crime in a straitjacket of artificial rules. The true protection against improper interrogation or any kind of pressure or inducement is to leave the broad question to the court. Rigid formalities can be both meaningless and absurd to the sophisticated or hardened criminal, and to introduce new rules as an inflexible preliminary condition would serve no general interest of the accused, but add an unreal formalism to that vital branch of the administration of justice.

Mr. Chairman, I take it that Mr. Justice Rand in that case was saying that we must leave to the court—that the procedural protections to which a person is entitled are not matters of right to the person—that it may well be that he is deprived of all his procedural rights, and yet nevertheless the man could be convicted out of his own mouth or by tests which he had taken without any advance caution or warning or statement made to him of his rights from the moment when he is deprived of his freedom in the sense of being under some form of custodial interrogation.

If my interpretation is correct, that is what the law now is in Canada, and the O'Connor case confirmed that.

In the United States in the series of cases running from the Gideon case up through the Escobedo case and up to the quartet of cases known as the Miranda case, the Supreme Court of the United States, on a five to four decision, laid down a pretty elaborate code of procedural safeguards for persons who are before the court. I think this is a fair statement of the essential elements of that code:

As a general rule the prosecution may not use statements resulting from custodial interrogation unless it follows procedural safeguards which will protect the suspect's privilege against self-incrimination. Custodial interrogation goes beyond station house detention. It applies whenever the police deprive a suspect of his freedom of action in any way. The following are the minimum procedural safeguards required:

1. A warning that the suspect has a right to remain silent and that any statements made may be used as evidence against him;

2. Advice that he is entitled to consult a lawyer prior to interrogation, and that if he cannot afford a lawyer the state will make one available to him prior to interrogation;

3. If a suspect rests on his privilege or states he wants a lawyer, the police must discontinue questioning. This is true at any stage of the interrogation;

4. If the suspect wants and gets a lawyer, questioning may continue, but it must be in the presence of the lawyer;

5. The privilege against self-incrimination and the right to counsel may be waived if the waiver is made voluntarily and with knowledge of the consequences, but the heavy burden of proving there was a waiver is on the state.

That is an elaborate detailed code and it set off quite a discussion in the United States as to the whole question of the so-called police war against crime and the rights of the individual in civil liberties.

I am simply saying that I think it is useful here for us to have an exchange of ideas, because we have the same problem. We have the same problem in Canada, perhaps to some lesser degree than in the United States. In the case of the particular individual who is arrested, whether he is arrested here or whether he is arrested in the United States is not significant to the general atmosphere of the community. The same problem is involved.

I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that if I have to make a choice between the two lines of cases, *Gach* in Canada and this *Miranda* code of procedural safeguards in the United States or the tangent on which the court in Canada has gone in the *Boudreau* case and the *O'Connor* case and all that is involved in that, then I take the position that we have got to get to the position of insisting upon these procedural safeguards even at the expense of saying that a person will go free if the procedural safeguards are not adhered to by the police before trial.

I only have a couple of other brief comments which I think will point up the matter. We have the system that in a court itself at the time of the trial, an accused person does not have to give evidence against himself. It has always seemed to me to be a strange conundrum and a strange form of rationalization which permitted some sort of pre-trial confession taken in an atmosphere of a police station—which I think places a person at a very severe psychological disadvantage—yet under certain circumstances that admission could be used in a court of law.

The other aspect, and I simply adopt a portion of what the honourable J. C. McRuer had to say in what is rapidly becoming a most famous statement, which he made at the

American bar association a year ago—or in August of last year—and I think he says it much more adequately than I could possibly say it. In one part of his address he said:

But examining laws alone will not do. It is by procedure that the authority of the law is made known to the individual.

He refers to Professor Davis quoting:

Three distinguished judges of the Supreme Court of United States made clear a fundamental truth that is too often obscure, too often obscure to legislators, judges and administrators. The protection of the rights of the individual human being is not so much in the law but the procedure by which it is administered.

He quotes then from the administrative law treatise:

The essence of justice is largely procedural. Time and again thoughtful judges have emphasized this truth.

Mr. Justice Douglas: It is not without significance that most of the provisions of the bill of rights are procedural; it is procedure that spells much of the difference between rule by law and rule by whim and caprice, steadfast adherence to strict procedural safeguards is our main assurance that there will be equal justice under law.

Mr. Justice Jackson: Procedural fairness and regularity are of the indispensable essence of liberty.

Mr. Justice Frankfurter: The history of liberty has largely been the history of procedural safeguards.

The honourable J. C. McRuer then continues:

Like the acts of public men in their capacity as legislators, the procedure by which law is administered is under the glare of the searchlight. Public opinion is molded by what it sees. The public does not see or hear the scholarly learned arguments of counsel in the Supreme Court. It does see and hear what goes on in the lower procedural echelons conveyed to it through the newspapers, the radio and over the television, often in a lurid manner.

It is in that context, Mr. Chairman, that I would like to exchange views with the Attorney General as to what his views are on this question. I think it is of great significance to the citizens of the country and the protection of the individual when he in some way becomes involved with the police system—necessary as the police system is, when he becomes involved in it, what can he

expect, as has been said, in the way of minimal procedural decencies?

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, before the Attorney General gets up, I thought he might like to hear the views that were expressed by the president's commission on law enforcement administration of justice, which discussed this particular subject. I think it might be of assistance to the hon. Attorney General in answering some of the remarks made and some of the questions put by my hon. friend from Riverdale.

In dealing with this particular subject, they had this to say:

It is evident that every restriction that is placed on police procedure by the courts or anyone else makes deterring or solving crimes more difficult. However, it is also evident that police procedures must be controlled somehow. In 1931, the Wickersham commission reported that the extraction of confessions through physical brutality was widespread, almost universally practised. During the next several years the Supreme Court issued a number of rulings that excluded such confessions as admissible evidence in court. There can be no doubt that these rulings had much to do with the fact that today the third degree is almost non-existent. No one can say just how much the third degree helped law enforcement in deterring or solving crime but, even if it helped, considerably few Americans regret its virtual abandonment by police.

America's form of government, its laws and its constitution, all express the desire to maintain the maximum degree of individual liberty consistent with maintenance of social order. The process of striking this balance is complex and delicate. An example is the "probable cause" standard that governs arrests. Probable cause does not ensure that no innocent man ever will be arrested, but it does restrict police actions that are arbitrary or discriminatory or intuitive. At the same time, it is far less restricted than the standard that governs convictions in court, proof beyond a reasonable doubt. If the police had to abide by that standard before making an arrest, law enforcement would be an all but impossible job. In any case, although the courts can review police action and do review them more than they once did, most police actions are not so reviewed. Those that do not lead to arrest and prosecution almost never are reviewed for the simple reason that short of a civil suit against the police by a citizen, there is no court machinery

for reviewing them. Nevertheless, many police officers and citizens believe that recent judicial interpretations of the constitution and various statutes have unduly and inappropriately inhibited the work of the police and so have made it harder for the police to protect the public.

Part of this feeling stems no doubt from the sharp contrast between the tense, fast-moving situations in which policemen are called upon to make split-second decisions and the calm that prevails in the average court while lawyers and judges argue the merits of those decisions after having searched law books for precedents. Another part of the results is the fact that many of those court decisions were made without the need of law enforcement and the police policies that are designed to meet those needs being effectively presented to the court. If judges are to balance accurately law enforcement needs against human rights the former must be articulated. They seldom are.

Few legislators or police administrators have defined in detail how and under what conditions certain police practices are to be used. As a result the courts often must rely exclusively on intuition and common sense in judging what kinds of police action are reasonable or necessary, even though their decisions about the action of one police officer can restrict activity in the entire nation.

These problems are illustrated by the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision in the case of *Miranda versus Arizona* which prohibited, by a five to four decision, the questioning of a suspect in custody unless counsel is present or the suspect expressly waives his right to counsel. The majority of the court, after studying police manuals and textbooks that describe how confessions are best obtained, concluded that interrogation in the isolated setting of a police station constituted informal compulsion to confession. They concluded further that the need for confessions is over-estimated by the police, but a minority felt that a good many guilty defendants would never be convicted because of the court's decision voiding police practices which only eight years previously had been found constitutional by the court. Neither the majority nor the minority had much solid data to go on. Only recently has research commenced to assess the police need for confessions and a possibility of establishing rules under which station house questioning would be premissible.

This is what the commissioners say, that there are no rules laid down as to what is right or what is wrong. One has to go to the highest tribunal in the land and then decide whether the conduct complained of was right or wrong.

In Canada, our system varies to some degree from that in the United States. In the United States their highest court is the United States Supreme Court and the circuit appellate divisions have been inclined to acquit the accused if any of his fundamental rights as guaranteed by the constitution have been violated.

We do not follow the same practice here and our courts can decide whether or not the person was guilty of the facts presented, regardless of whether his so-called "constitutional rights" were violated.

In other words the courts can say "Yes, the police erred in doing this and this," or "Yes, the magistrate erred in finding so-and-so, but, nevertheless, on the evidence as adduced the accused was still guilty and we so find."

We made a big hullabaloo about the so-called "bill of rights" when it came down and it was supposed to set out in writing certain rights and privileges of those in this country. I think the hon. member for Riverdale has established that it is, in fact, a fraud; that regardless of what it says—and we all thought we understood it because it was supposed to be a layman's language—the court has held that it does not seem what it says or, at least, it does not mean what it said.

Surely it is about time that these so-called "rights" and "privileges," which we are supposed to have by common law, were clearly enunciated and set down in statutes for the guidance of police officers, for trial judges and for the appellate courts. Otherwise, we are going to continue to have the hon. member for Riverdale get up and point out to us the inconsistencies in the decisions made by very learned and highly respected judges in this land.

I have put this forward for the Attorney General's consideration when he is replying to the hon. member for Riverdale.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, it is interesting to have these views set forth. We can exchange our views. We start with the situation where the highest court in our land, in the O'Connor case, has interpreted certain areas of the law with respect to the rights of arrested persons—persons in custody. But the case is narrow to some extent in that it deals only with the three propositions put forward

in the stated case, which was stated by the magistrate who first dealt with the accused. The hon. member for Riverdale, in opening his remarks, said that he was only going to deal with two of the propositions set forth in the stated case.

There were three, and I realize why it is not necessary, perhaps, to discuss the first one, whether the refusal of the police to allow the accused to contact his lawyer was a denial of his right to make a full answer defence. I think perhaps we would agree that that was not a denial of that full answer defence because he did have a trial, he did have counsel and he did make a full defence, so that is out of the way.

Before I go to the other two, the thing that rather concerned me as I read the O'Connor case was what I thought might have been—I do not say that it could be considered by the court because the court felt itself confined to dealing with the proposals or the statements—the questions which were in the stated case. I thought the failure to inform O'Connor that he was under arrest and the failure to tell him with what he was being charged was a very fundamental denial of a right to which clearly, under the bill of rights, he is entitled.

However, that again, as I say, was not considered in this case at all. It was not really considered because it was not in the stated case. The second proposition which the magistrate set forth, and the one of the two that we are considering here:

Was I right in holding that the refusal by the police to allow the accused, while under arrest, to contact a lawyer did not amount to a denial of natural justice?

I think that simply comes down to this: Is a procedural defect to be considered as a denial of natural justice? The court—our highest court, five judges—unanimously said, "You were right," to the magistrate, "this man was not denied natural justice because of the procedural effect." They treated it as such in preventing him from contacting his lawyer.

I do not find so much difficulty with the next proposition. The magistrate said:

Was I right in convicting the accused under the circumstances when I found, as a fact, that he, while under arrest, had been denied the right to contact a lawyer?

I must say that I think I find myself at opposite ends of the pole from the hon. member for Riverdale. I follow the court and I must say that I find myself in line with the court's thinking. Perhaps that is an easy thing to

say, but they give the example of the person charged with murder or some very serious offence and because he is denied the right to contact a lawyer, he must go forever free. I think that—

Mr. Renwick: Let me comment: That is exactly the result, of course, of the procedural rules in the Miranda case. The fellow did go free because of that particular procedural defect.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I find myself—if I were living in that jurisdiction and even though I live in this one, I would like to say that I am glad I do—if I were living in the jurisdiction where that law prevails, I would have grave misgivings. I cannot find myself agreeing with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, either in the Escobedo case or in the Miranda case. I think they went beyond all that is right and reasonable in changing the law and changing it in the drastic way that they did and I think that events will perhaps one day cause the law to be changed again.

I was handed a note which—

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, is it not a fact that in one of those two cases the accused were retried and found guilty—either in the Escobedo case or the Miranda case, I am not certain? Were they not retried?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know, but they were both, I think, five to four decisions, and one of the judges in the minority group in the Escobedo case said that the court “had changed the law of the United States with no greater authority than its own rhetoric”—and I quote that with considerable approbation.

I think I might mention that last year—I believe it was in my estimates—the Escobedo decision was discussed and I placed on record then my view of the change which had been effected in the law of the United States in this situation, the rights of an accused in custody.

Now, the hon. member for Riverdale said something in his remarks which I was not able to follow at all because he seemed to me to confuse the matter of statement, the statement made by an accused in custody with the breathalyzer test which was taken here.

True, the accused was not told he was under arrest, he was not told with what he was being charged, he was not able to get in touch with his lawyer. But a breathalyzer test was taken, showing a high percentage of alcohol in his blood. And that evidence was admitted.

I do not see that this is the same thing as a statement at all. We have a very clear rule, and our law is still unchanged, that statements from accused must be obtained in a thoroughly voluntary way without inducement and without any threat or suggestion of a threat or any hope of reward or inducement. That law still stands in this country and I think always will stand. I do not think that the taking of a breathalyzer test in these circumstances in related to a statement at all. To me—perhaps I might illustrate it in my thinking that it is a part of the *res justis* of the case, the same as if some measurement of his body, some other physical condition which he evidenced, the colour of his skin, the dilation of the pupils of his eyes and so on, these would all be part of the evidence and how that was obtained, not by force, not by inducement, not by threat. I think that was something that is not to be confused with a statement at all.

And I think while discussing this matter I might say that we are familiar with, and our police are familiar with, the English judges' rules which are known to them and made known to them and I would like to refer to them. I am reading from the Tramier's annotated Criminal Code, the 1966 supplement, 6th edition, and these rules are known to our police and followed, I think, generally, by them. It is a very brief portion that I would like to read. I will not read the rules but the preface to the rules says:

These rules do not affect the principle that police officers, otherwise than by arrest, cannot compel any person against his will to come to or remain in any police station; that every person at any stage of an investigation should be able to communicate and to consult privately with a solicitor. This is so even if he is in custody, provided that in such a case no unreasonable delay or hindrance is caused to the processes of investigation or the administration of justice by his doing so.

I think I would just like to interpolate here that there has to be some reasonable limitation to the permission for an accused to use the telephone to call a lawyer. How many times may he call? How many efforts may he make? May he call all across the province? May he try to select some very eminent counsel? There must be some limitation.

Mr. Sargent: May I ask a question here?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Let me finish this first, then I will answer the question. I think they make this clear in the preface to the rules,

that it is a right that should be afforded, encouraged and permitted, but there must be some reasonable procedure followed even in that area.

Then the statement went on to say that when a police officer, who is making inquiries of any person about an offence, has enough evidence to prefer a charge against that person for the offence, he should without delay cause that person to be charged and informed that he may be prosecuted for the offence. These are things I say our police are told, are instructed in and are familiar with. Then finally, that it is a fundamental condition of the admissibility of evidence against any person equally of any oral statement or of any oral answer given by that person to a question put by a police officer and of any statement made by that person, that it shall have been voluntary in the sense that it has not been obtained from him by fear of prejudice or hope of advantage exercised or held out by a person in authority or by oppression.

These things I simply recite for the record in order to indicate that in the police work throughout the province the rules are known and the police are instructed to follow them.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, I only have three very brief comments in reply, because while it is a fascinating subject, we are not going to come to any conclusive decision about it tonight.

First of all, the Attorney General mentioned the fact that in the O'Connor case that he noted the person had not been given any warning that he was under arrest.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That bothers me, I must admit.

Mr. Renwick: Not only did it bother me, I am not prepared to take the view that the O'Connor case is all that restrictive in its meaning. Mr. Justice Spence, who was the one judge who gave a separate, independent judgment, carefully said, in giving that judgment, that he was limiting himself strictly to the basis upon which the case was decided by the learned magistrate. He carefully protected himself in that point of view.

The other four judges did not make such *caveat* although they did comment about the fact that they were answering just the three questions which, of course, was obvious.

But the decision could just as well have said: "reflection on the consequences of such a rule" and instead of the rule being the denial of his right to consult a lawyer, the

rule he was not warned or not told that he was under arrest would be just as applicable in the remarks which the Attorney General made on the comment of the court; "reflection on the consequences of such a rule"—that is, that he was not told that he was under arrest when he was placed in custody—"if it were to exist in, for example, the case of capital murder, indicates, I think, that the relevant provision of the Canadian bill of rights cannot mean that."

In other words, I think it is a fair inference that if that question were put to that court, it would say, if this was a capital murder case, that the mere fact that the person was not told he was under arrest would not permit us to let him go free even though the bill of rights specifically states that the person is entitled to be told, that he does have the right to be informed, promptly, of the reason for his arrest or detention.

The thing which confuses me about the Attorney General's reply is his reference to the English judges' rules because what we are really talking about is a more, shall we say, advanced or accurate statement of those rules by the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States in the *Miranda* case. They elaborated on those and made them into a more strict procedural code than the judges' rules; but the same ideas are inherent in the English judges' rules, namely that a person should be warned. We take this, as the Attorney General does, that our police are instructed that they are to adhere to the English judges' rules. For practical purposes, a lot of our problems would disappear if that were in fact so; what we are talking about is the situation where the English judges' rules are not adhered to by the police or elaboration of those rules are not adhered to by the police.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: But the English judges' rules do not go to the point of saying you cannot question an accused unless you have a lawyer standing there at his elbow.

Mr. Renwick: On the question of the warning; the fact of the matter is that we pride ourselves that our police are instructed to do this; but if the warning is not given, then you run into the same kind of question as in the O'Connor case. I am just going to leave it. It seems to me—and I would like to just put on the record for future reference should this question come up again—that what I concede to be some of the sort of vital social problems are inherent in this kind of a question. The first one is, what is the extent of crime in our society, and this

was one of the reasons why I was asking that kind of question this afternoon and on other occasions. Two—can we really deal adequately with the crime problem without sacrificing some of our liberties? This I think was at the nub of the police bill, the controversy that blew up; we were not prepared to discuss dispassionately that kind of a problem. It may be that we do have to make some sacrifice of the procedural safeguards because of the extent of the crime problem. I do not think so. We have no evidence to indicate that we do have to do so.

Three—what does such a procedural code such as that elaborated in the Miranda case do to the ability of the police to solve crimes? I think this is a very vexing problem. Do the police really have to depend on custodial interrogation or confessions or the leads which they get by questioning a person without him having the benefit of these procedural safeguards in building up a case against the accused person? It is not just a question of the use of the confession; it is the information which they get from an accused person by questioning him without having given him the warning, or without him being entitled to have these procedural safeguards.

Four—are confessions or statements or pre-trial tests—and I do not make as rigid a distinction as the Attorney General does between confessions and pre-trial tests of the nature of the tests which were involved in the O'Connor case—are these indispensable as a solution of police problems?

Five—would such rules, that is, a procedural code such as that elaborated on in the Miranda case, would such rules eliminate confessions?

Six—what is the burden which will be placed on the existing machinery of justice if we did have this kind of an elaborate code of procedural rules?

I leave it at that point, Mr. Chairman. I simply feel that we should adhere to a modern up-to-date version of the judges' rules in Canada, in the province of Ontario, in matters of police procedure. It should have the sanction of the court that those rules must be adhered to by the police and if it is necessary for us to elaborate them further and come to the more strict procedural code now set out by the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Miranda case, that may very well happen as these matters are decided in our courts. I say, Mr. Chairman, let us get across somehow or other that the judges' rules, or a modern version of the judges' rules, are an essential

procedural safeguard which the citizens of Ontario are entitled to. The consequences of disregard of such procedural safeguards will, in fact, mean that the charges will be dismissed against the persons against whom they are laid, should it go to the highest courts in the land. What I am really then saying in substance is that the words of the Canadian bill of rights should have the meaning which they convey to anybody who reads them. This is the point of my concern.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of very important items on this vote which I would like to discuss, but I would like to ask the Attorney General why people are not advised of their rights. Everyone in Maple Leaf Gardens—17,000 people—know the rules of the game and they can blow the referee off the rink if he does not give them a good decision. But not one person in a thousand knows the rules of the game of how to stay out of jail. I think it behooves someone, if we are sincere in giving justice that we tell the people of Ontario what their rights are—by a newspaper programme or promotion, or give them a rule book of how to fight these injustices. Has the Minister ever thought of that? That is number one.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are bringing in legal aid which I think will answer in large part that question he just asked.

Mr. Sargent: On this vote, I am not satisfied that that is the answer because I think we should have an awareness on behalf of every person what his rights are. We have been told tonight very clearly that a person does not have to move when told by a policeman to do so, unless he has a chance to speak to his lawyer first. We do not know those things; I did not know those things, and I think I am of normal intelligence.

On this vote on the probation services branch, I am concerned about at local level. The probation personnel are pretty sincere people but I think there should be advice to them, insofar as having entry to personnel managers of industry and not, as it is now, dealing directly with the manpower people. I feel that they should work with the big brother movement and take these probationers directly to industry and say, "They are special." In discussing these with probation officers there is no such format and no instructions to them along this line. I think there should be a direct entry into industry by the probation officers at every level in this province.

In this vote last year, we spent some \$1,700,000 and this year \$2,600,000 is

being asked for probation service work. The report of the national crime commission in the United States stated that youths under 18 accounted for half of the 1965 arrests for a series of offences. What are they doing about this? It says:

Historically, young people commit a disproportionate amount of crime and we have more young people today. The 15 to 17 year age group represents 5.4 per cent of the population but accounts for 12.8 per cent of the crime. Most young people are never involved with the police, still the youngsters of 15 and 16 have the highest arrest rate in the country.

Now if his is true in the United States, it is probably true here. If you consider that nearly one-quarter of our population is under 10, you can see that we face great trouble ahead. Those who get into trouble are both privileged and under-privileged, who have members of the family working and away all the time, or the child has dropped out of school and has no job. He is bumming around and he uses that time to get into trouble. The report suggests that there is one solution and that is to keep him occupied in a useful way and that the more direct thing would be to improve drastically our juvenile justice system.

It states that juvenile probation officers today must deal with an average of 80 young people at a time. Whether that ratio is true here, I do not know, but in summary it says:

This is impossible. The commission strongly recommends doubling the number of these officers in the United States.

I see that the vote here has been increased by \$900,000. Is this for personnel?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can only say that we are increasing to a very considerable extent the number of probation officers. We have, as you know, been training them in this work and increasing their numbers so that their case loads will be decreased. I was interested in the hon. member's remarks about the way in which juveniles are handled in the United States. No child here under 16 can be arrested.

I think now that perhaps the Minister of Reform Institutions could assist me. I do not think that they are even charged with an offence; they are charged with a delinquency, perhaps under The Juvenile Delinquents Act, but we have much concern for the treatment of the juvenile, particularly the first offender. By expanding our probation service to assist in counselling of the court and in the counselling of the young person, I think it is

recognized that here we have perhaps the most advanced system certainly in our own country in this field.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: In North America.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The Minister of Reform Institutions says in North America. I would not argue with him on that, but I certainly know that we lead the way here.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, on this same vote, I would like to ask the Minister—this commission in the United States recommended that each state enact laws requiring the registration of all hand guns, rifles and shotguns and that certain categories of persons such as convicted criminals and drunkards and dope addicts, would be prevented from buying or possessing them. What is the policy here as far as firearms are concerned?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Each hand gun must be registered and a permit obtained to carry it.

Mr. Sargent: So if I go down to Yonge Street tomorrow, I must have a permit to carry a gun?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Absolutely.

Mr. Ben: You need a permit to buy one, too.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think you do, but you must certainly have a permit to carry it and it must be registered.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is only a recommendation in the United States; we already have it.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: I want to raise perhaps another matter. My friend—

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): It is 10.30; I wonder if this would be a good time to adjourn.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves that the committee of supply rise, report that it has come to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report that it has come to certain resolutions and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will resume the Budget Debate and the private members' hour.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.30 o'clock, p.m.

ERRATA

Thursday, March 9, 1967

<i>Page</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Line</i>	<i>Correction</i>
1214	2	31	Change to read: be some \$15 million to apply against their

Friday, March 10, 1967

1284	2	27	Change to read: also Mr. Charles T. Girdwood who is general
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ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Wednesday, March 15, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have as visitors to the Legislature today students from the following schools; in the east gallery, Winston Churchill collegiate institute, Scarborough, Northwood public school, Windsor; in the west gallery, Lescon public school, Willowdale, and John G. Althouse public school, Islington.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East) from the standing committee on agriculture and food, presented the committee's first report which was read as follows and adopted:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill 2, An Act to amend The Milk Act.

Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE ACT

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to bring the Act into line with the requirements of the Canada assistance plan.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: No, there are no questions allowed on first reading.

Mr. S. Lewis: You have permitted questions on other occasions.

Mr. Speaker: I do not believe it is necessary on this occasion.

THE RETAIL SALES TAX ACT, 1960-1961

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I made a rather comprehensive statement to the House with respect to certain regulatory and ruling changes regarding the implementation of sales tax and exemptions thereto. These statutory amendments are required to give effect to these regulatory changes.

THE LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS ACT

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Livestock and Livestock Products Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, this is a simple amendment providing for the regulation for the production and sale of poultry, and eggs for the production of poultry and hatching flocks.

THE LIVESTOCK COMMUNITY SALES ACT

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Livestock Community Sales Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, this amendment provides that the Act is extended to include goats sold by public auction.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): No wonder the Minister did not give notice of that one.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: We did not need notice for that one. I would say that it is a very important amendment.

I would say, Mr. Speaker, that there are other amendments as well. The present Act excludes the sale of feeder cattle from the application of the Act. The amendment provides for the inclusion of feeder cattle sold in community sales to come under the statutes providing for veterinary inspection and bonding.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Could I ask my hon. friend—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. On normal occasions, sir, I would defer to the dean of the House, but I ask you to be consistent in your ruling.

Mr. Speaker: There has developed lately, a practice of too many questions being asked on first readings. After the Minister introduces a bill and he makes an explanation of its purpose, I am of the opinion that should be the end of the first reading. Occasionally, I do allow a question on first reading if I think it helps to elaborate the meaning of the bill.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): How can you permit it one time and deny it another?

Mr. Speaker: I have to know some of the contents of the bill. Some of the bills are amendments; they do not require any further questions. I think perhaps we will try to keep to the regular practice.

Mr. Oliver: My question, Mr. Speaker, was purely a procedural question. It has not got anything to do with the contents of the bill. That was amply explained by the Minister. I wanted to ask him if this smelly subject matter was going to the agriculture committee.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is going before the agriculture committee, after second reading, not its first reading.

I should have mentioned, Mr. Speaker, in connection with the amendments to The Community Sales Act that the feeder cattle sales that are operated as cooperatives throughout parts of northern Ontario are excluded.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): And Warton?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Warton is excluded.

PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS OF FARM PRODUCTS

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to insure payments to producers of farm products.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on another procedural matter. I think that since the Minister of Agriculture and Food is introducing a series of bills, it is procedure that we be given notice of his intention. I do not see this on the order paper, nor on yesterday's paper.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: As a matter of fact I think you will realize; there is some necessity of getting this in now. I would like to get this in, if my hon. friend will permit this to be done, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Leave it a day or two.

Mr. MacDonald: Is the election going to be called tomorrow?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I have not decided.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would say, Mr. Speaker—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): You nearly did not get nominated last night.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The lights went out and the bells rang.

Mr. MacDonald: Some news story missed the point.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Was it an accident?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

An hon. member: The collection of the money—

Mr. Speaker: I asked for order!

Mr. MacDonald: The candidate is not in yet.

Mr. Speaker: Will the Minister please proceed with the explanation of his bill?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, as the title indicates, this bill provides for the establishment of a fund which will be administered by the Ontario milk commission under which distributors, producers and processors and creamery operators will make contributions out of which payments may be made to

producers in case of default of the milk receiver. The bill will have the effect of insuring payment to the producer for his product.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I beg leave to present to the House the report of the Ottawa River engineering board.

This report is the result of an agreement made in 1961 between the governments of Canada, Ontario and Quebec, to unite in a study of the hydrology and water resources utilization of the Ottawa River basin. To carry out this study, an Ottawa River engineering board was established, with one member and one alternate member from each of the three governments. The need for the study was based on the recognition of the increasing importance of these waters for domestic, power generation, industrial and recreational uses.

The report consists of a main report and two appendices which contain comprehensive and detailed information on the water resources of the Ottawa River. The main findings indicate that existing regulation of the waters has been generally satisfactory and has been efficient in production of power. Continuance of hydrologic and forecasting studies by joint committees of the three jurisdictions is recommended.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, just before the orders of the day, I wonder if the hon. Prime Minister would tell the House when we might have an opportunity to discuss his resolution on the Confederation of tomorrow conference. There has been considerable comment and I am wondering what his intention is.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, it will be dealt with in the normal conduct of the business of the House. I have not as yet fixed any particular date for that debate, but I will give you ample notice.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to ask the hon. Provincial Treasurer if he would elaborate on his statement of Monday last by (a) indicating, as to the 2,901 units stated to have been constructed or purchased in Metropolitan Toronto how many were constructed and how many purchased, and (b) providing for the whole province figures broken down in the same way as those given on Monday for Metropolitan Toronto, including the breakdown asked for in clause (a) of this question.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, I am obliged to take the hon. member's question as notice for two reasons; because of a rather delayed Treasury board meeting I did not receive it in time to get the information, and secondly, I would suggest to the hon. member that the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) is expected to make a comprehensive statement on this matter upon returning to the House—I believe it will be in a day or two. The alternative then will be that either the information will be provided by the Minister or I will get the information for the hon. member.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the genial hon. Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope). It is in seven parts:

1. Do the machines monitoring carbon monoxide in the Inco iron ore plant register the CO content in the air during all the time men are working in the plant?
2. How often does Inco check these readings?
3. Does the government spot check or examine the records of such readings?
4. If so, how often?
5. What are the highest readings recorded during the past 12 months?
6. When were these readings taken?
7. Do these readings constitute a health hazard in the iron ore plant?

Hon. G. C. Wardrope (Minister of Mines): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the hon. member for Yorkview said the "genial" Minister of Mines. Anybody who gets a question of that length all at once has to be genial.

I want to thank the member for this question and, if he will allow me, to go through the whole seven sections:

Do the machines monitoring carbon monoxide in the Inco iron ore plant register the CO content in the air during all the time men are working in the plant?—The answer is yes.

How often does Inco check these readings? Any readings over 40 parts per million registers immediately to the operator in the control room.

Does the government spot check or examine the records of such readings?—Yes.

If so, how often?—On inspection trips and investigations.

What are the highest readings recorded during the past 12 months?—The monitoring alarm system is set at 40 parts per million

and when this concentration is reached, the alarm system is activated. The operator immediately investigates the area for the protection of the workmen.

When were these readings taken?—Continuously.

Do these readings constitute a health hazard in the iron ore plant?—No, provided the procedure that has been approved is followed.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was asked a question by the hon. member for York South. I have part of the answer but I require some clarification on the question. The answer to the first question which refers to section 27 of The Milk Act, 1965, is "yes", unless an order or a regulation or agreement which was in force under The Milk Industry Act has been superseded by an order or regulation or an agreement made under authority of The Milk Act of 1965.

Section 27 relates generally to three types of agreement, namely, price, transportation and quotas. The Ontario milk marketing board has been delegated authority on each.

Mr. Speaker, I would like verification from the hon. member with respect to the situation in the Aurora market as to which one of these three matters is of concern.

Mr. MacDonald: My recollection is, Mr. Speaker—but I would have to examine the Minister's statement—price, transportation and—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: And quotas.

Mr. MacDonald: It really relates to all three, because in some instances milk that used to be used in that area is now being transferred to Oakville when other plants in the area cannot get it. The result is that the producer is getting some 20 cents less from the Oakville plant, which I understand is affiliated with the Aurora plant.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I have some further clarification on this, but I was not sure what part of it. I could continue and I am not sure whether this is really what is required or not. The regulations are in force under The Milk Act, 1965, respecting price. The quota policy of the Ontario milk marketing board has been discussed before the agriculture committee of the Legislature, and was discussed earlier this week. The quota committee of the marketing board has proposals which are going before county and district milk committees and the full membership of the board, following which the quota policies of the Ontario milk marketing board will be established.

The authority to administer terms, conditions and rates for transportation has been delegated to the Ontario milk marketing board. This authority is in operation in the northern Ontario pool. The board has not implemented its powers respecting transportation in southern Ontario and is awaiting the initiating of milk pooling before doing so. Meanwhile, transportation agreements in force under The Milk Industry Act are in force. However, regulation 160 of 66 made under The Milk Act, 1965, provides for negotiation and arbitration of transport charges.

Any agreement or award on transportation made under this regulation supersedes that made for the respective market or plant under the old Milk Industry Act. Section 16 of regulation 160, 66, clearly sets out the purpose and intent. This section reads as follows:

No charges, costs or expenses relating to the transportation of milk shall be made other than such charges, costs or expenses as are provided for in the agreement or award or renegotiated agreement or award in force for the transportation of milk in any market or to any plant as the case may be.

I think one would understand, Mr. Speaker, that it is very evident that the scope of section 27 is very, very broad. I am not sure whether this explanation provides the answer or not, but the scope of the section is so broad that practically any item or any coordination of the three items that I have mentioned might be taken into consideration. All of this authority rests with the milk marketing board.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might ask the Minister for a copy of the statement that he has. I would like to peruse it.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Yes of course. I will send it out to the member.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, an item came up yesterday that might be clarified before the orders of the day, with your permission. There are certain questions on the order paper addressed to the Attorney General. He had indicated written answers were available and had been available for some days. They have not yet been tabled. I wonder if the Prime Minister could indicate if the log jam could be cleared away and the information referring to the cost of Royal commissions could be made available?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, these questions are in my office. I think I was half way

through the answer to the first one before the telephone rang this morning and I never got back to it. I will have them in here as quickly as possible, probably this week. I have not got them all, but I have a few of them.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Labour. What progress, if any, have officials of The Department of Labour made in bringing about a settlement in the five-month-old strike at Canadian Coleman Company on north Queen Street, Etobicoke?

Hon. D. A. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, a number of attempts have been made by the conciliation branch of the department to assist the parties to find a solution to the problem. Currently, a further effort is being made with the representatives of the parties to find a satisfactory basis for resolving the strike.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The first order, resuming the adjourned debate on the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into the committee on ways and means.

ON THE BUDGET

Mr. R. J. Harris (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, during the past five years it has been my privilege to be a member of this Legislature, I have observed, as I am sure all hon. members have, that your duties each year become more and more onerous. As the volume of business grows and as the demands of your office have grown, you have been called upon to render far more decisions than any of your predecessors and in each and every case, your decisions have been—with the odd exception—fair and just and because of this you have earned the respect of members on all sides of the House.

Last year in this debate I pointed out that I agreed in part with some of the remarks of the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald). I might also say that this year I agreed almost entirely with the remarks of my friend, the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon), in regard to the question of a permanent Speaker. Bearing in mind the number of times that this topic has been brought up, I am sure that ways and means could be found to bring this about if our colleagues in the executive council could just move this topic a little closer to the many recommenda-

tions that they have in front of them for consideration.

Mr. Speaker, you are doing an excellent job and I am pleased to have this opportunity to commend you. At the same time I would like to congratulate my friend, the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly) for the outstanding work he is doing as Deputy Speaker.

Just a few days ago in this Legislature the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha) touched on a topic that has created a great deal of discussion throughout the province, namely, the words that we listen to day in and day out in this chamber in the prayers that you are called upon to read. I was extremely interested in part of his remarks because as he was making them it occurred to me that just some six months ago I sat down with an Anglican clergyman friend of mine, and I told him that I had listened daily to these words for some five years and that I was certain that as many people listened to these words, they had very little meaning. I asked him if he would be good enough to take this prayer and see if I had any point in what I was saying. He took the prayers and he condensed the 115 words that are found in the first paragraph to something less than 40 words.

I was so impressed by what he had done that I feel it is worth taking a moment and reading this condensed version of the first paragraph. It is as follows:

Almighty God, guide the Queen to do Your will; grant her spiritual strength, a long life, health and happiness that she may overcome evil with good and in the end receive eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now Mr. Speaker, while I am talking about this, I want to keep the record absolutely straight that my interest as far as the prayers are concerned is solely in the choice of words. I am not one of those who wants to show any disrespect for the Queen, or for the Royal family, or for the office of Governor-General of this country, or for the office of Lieutenant-Governor of this province.

I believe that each of these offices and the traditions that go with them are well worth maintaining, and I am not going to take the time of the House now to go any further into my thoughts on the revisions of these prayers. But I do think the time has come, sir, when consideration should be given to having these prayers rewritten, possibly by a committee composed of several members of this Legislature in conjunction with yourself,

sir, and nominees from every religious denomination throughout the province.

Mr. Speaker, some two years ago in this chamber, again last year during the estimates of the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) and also on one occasion when we were debating during private members' hour Bill 34, An Act to amend The Assessment Act, I pointed out to the House a suggestion that I thought should be employed to ease the burden of rising municipal taxes, particularly as far as our elderly citizens and homeowners are concerned.

As an aside, I might just say that we are all aware that in private bills committee last year, we granted the city of Hamilton the right to ease the municipal tax burden on our senior citizens in that community. Similarly this year, in several other municipalities throughout the province, we have passed similar legislation.

The remarks I made last March I am going to repeat almost verbatim because I feel very strongly that they are worthy of the closest scrutiny by the executive council of this government, so that in this area of tax relief, particularly for our senior citizens, a solution can be found and, in my opinion, must be forthcoming before this current session of this Legislature is finished.

My suggestion—and as I say, I put it forward in other years—is this: That persons over 65 residing in their own homes be permitted to apply for and receive a deferment of their municipal taxes until termination of their ownership by sale or by death of the owner or in the case of joint or common ownership, by the death of both owners, and that these taxes which would otherwise be payable be collected by the municipality or the province following termination of ownership in much the same way as tax arrears are collected.

I say "or the province" because it may well be that the burden of financing the deferred payments should be lifted from a municipality to the province. Indeed, sir, I feel that it should be carried out by the province.

Now I am repeating again that this suggestion involves no sweeping act of public largesse. The province will receive payment of its tax loans. It will cost the municipality nothing. There is obviously no means or needs test involved; it is simply a mechanism for helping a particular group of our older people who might find it of value.

Possibly as a first step the hon. Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko)—or should I say Minister of social and family services?—

and his research people will have to assess whether it would affect enough of our older people to warrant its execution. Certainly in the area of Beaches, which it is my privilege to represent, there are a very large number of married senior citizens or widows or widowers owning their own homes, who all of their lives have been extremely thrifty, hardworking citizens.

However, today their small income plus old age pension—and many of them have no other pension apart from the old age pension—cannot maintain a home and pay taxes and the necessary maintenance and all the other living expenses with which they are faced.

We have all read in the press of those cases where older people like this have lost their homes and we must put a stop to this kind of thing happening.

I might say that in the final recommendations of the select committee on aging, on page 10, under section 18, it is recommended:

that the province enact legislation amending The Assessment Act so that local municipal councils who wish to do so may, by by-law, authorize and direct credits, rebates and reductions in residential real property taxes up to \$150 per annum for persons 60 years of age and over.

Now that, Mr. Speaker, is a very commendable recommendation, but there is a flaw there, as I see the other taxpayers in the community are going to have an additional burden thrust on them and I feel, sir, that if my recommendation was carried through—that is the deferment of these taxes—it would be a simpler method and it would bring relief to our senior citizens without the additional burden on the other taxpayers.

Now, Mr. Speaker, last week we all listened intently to the Prime Minister's remarks and the extremely logical explanation he presented to us in regard to his thinking on the overall problem of municipal taxation, and certainly, I agree.

As he pointed out, we must wait for the Smith committee recommendations. This body has been sitting for many years with eminently qualified men seeking a solution to this problem and it is only commonsense to wait until this report is brought in. But I want to say, just as adamantly as I know how, Mr. Speaker, that as an interim measure I would implore the Prime Minister and his executive council to give very serious consideration to my suggestion, so that relief can be brought in immediately for these people and give our senior citizens the relief in the

area of municipal taxation that they must have without any further delay.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my remarks today in this Budget speech to the focal point. I think this should be the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts), because he is the man responsible to the people of Ontario for the Ontario government, or lack of it. I think he is the man who should bear the brunt, insofar as we stand here in the Opposition.

The motivation I think, Mr. Speaker, should be that my remarks should be to show the people of Ontario why we should clean house in 1967, and motivation is—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: In describing motivation, one time I was at a banquet and a lady was holding a cigar and I asked her if that was for me. She said no, I think I will burn it myself. I asked her how long she had been smoking cigars and she said ever since her husband had found a cigar in the ash tray at home.

Now I think the motivation here is to show the people—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sargent: It will get there shortly.

An hon. member: Yes wait a while. Give them time.

Mr. Sargent: If the Prime Minister objects to it, if he cannot stand the heat, he should get out of the kitchen.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: The Prime Minister has been talking a great deal about Confederation, fixing up the national picture. I say, very kindly, I think he has a great job to do at home here in Ontario. From my very small seat here in the back row, I think they could do more if he would try and change the televising of hockey night in Canada, not to hog-town Toronto all the time, but to make it alternate nights and televise Montreal games and give us a Confederation that way. We are getting fed up with seeing Toronto every Saturday night. He could do more on that one thing than he can talking about bringing—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. S. Apps (Kingston): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am rather surprised at the member for Grey North taking that attitude. I understood that he was a very

fine Maple Leaf hockey fan and I do not quite understand why he wants to look at the Montreal Canadiens all the time.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I never was a Maple Leaf hockey fan since the hon. member quit playing for the Leafs. I am never at any time for the Leafs. But when he was with them, I was a Leaf hockey fan. I have always been a great admirer of the member for Kingston.

I think, Mr. Speaker, getting back to the subject of the Budget, that we have this large document here which is labelled "The Budget Statement of the Hon. Charles MacNaughton"—not the Budget statement of the Provincial Treasurer, but they are selling—the old PR game—they are selling the hon. Provincial Treasurer here today.

Here we have many areas of concern in this great province. We have problems in education, taxes on real estate, the great bed shortage in our hospitals, our doctor shortages, the lack of housing, pockets of poverty in the farm areas. We have all these things across the province. If the Prime Minister showed up at Malton to catch his plane on a trouble shooting mission, and if the pilot said to him, where to, sir, he could say anywhere in Ontario because we are in trouble all over the place.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before we get into the Budget I want to suggest there is a great contempt of Parliament here, in that many of us have put questions on the order paper—and I have had them on now for some three or four weeks—and every time we ask the Minister the question, he says, "I will get the answer and I will table that tomorrow." I am glad to see the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) come in. I have got something to direct to him in this regard.

I will not deal with the question I had put to the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall) because he is not here, but insofar as the rest of the province is concerned, Mr. Speaker, I asked about a month ago, how much has the province of Ontario paid to the city of Toronto over the past five years in subsidies on (1) subway construction and (2) highway construction. To date we have not had the courtesy of an answer.

Two days later, I asked the Minister, to what cities of Ontario had the province loaned money and what is the rate of interest and the amount of money of each loan and its duration? This government has not the manpower or the authority to answer that question.

Two days later, I asked the Ministry how much money has been paid out for the GO-transit system from Burlington to Toronto? How much money has been paid to other cities in the province for transportation? If the Minister of Highways would like to answer that question here, I will give him the floor. Would he like to answer that question now?

An hon. member: He does not know.

Mr. Sargent: I do not not think he does know, and I do not say that he should know, because he has had the department a short time. But in essence we have the democratic process negated by a government which refuses to answer the people's business.

I would like to suggest to the House today that when the Minister of Highways was covering his estimates I requested from him the number of trucks that The Department of Highways had purchased in the past five years, the number of vehicles, the number of cars. He said he would table that information immediately, the next day.

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, that is not the way it is recorded in *Hansard* and that is not what I said.

Mr. Sargent: All right. Further, I asked the Minister how the commissions were paid and the Minister said that he never heard of such things as commissions being paid.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): You have not got a lot of support from your Liberal colleagues today.

Mr. Sargent: We do not need them. We are all right.

I further asked the Provincial Treasurer if he knew anything about this and he gave the same answer to the House, that he did not know anything about it. Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I have contacted General Motors and the Ford people and either the Provincial Treasurer or the Minister of Highways is falsifying statements to the House on the policy of General Motors and Ford. They are selling an interest—

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): What is your policy?

Mr. Sargent: The policy is this, Mr. Speaker, as the Minister stated, they bought the cars, the trucks, the vehicles, directly from the manufacturer.

Hon. Simonett: Right.

Mr. Sargent: That was the statement of the Minister, and GM and Ford concur with this. I asked the Minister who the commissions were paid to. The Minister of Highways, Mr. Speaker, I do not think this is his policy. He inherited the policy, and I have a great respect for him, but I do not respect him saying to me or to this House that he never heard of such things as commissions being paid. The fact of the matter is—and the Provincial Treasurer was part of the act, he was the Minister of Highways for some four or five years and was party to the same statement—the fact of the matter is that General Motors, Ford and Chrysler are told by The Department of Highways what dealers to pay the commissions to.

This is a matter of fact. And the fact that this Minister and the Provincial Treasurer can falsify these things to the House is just an example of one small thing that is going on.

So I would ask the Minister of Highways if he has an answer to these things.

Hon. Mr. Gomme: Mr. Speaker, I just want to inform the member that the Minister of Highways and The Department of Highways to my knowledge do not tell them anything about commissions at all.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, this is very interesting.

Some hon. members: Withdraw.

Mr. Sargent: I certainly will not withdraw. The top personnel of these companies say you do. Either the Minister is in trouble or they are in trouble, because the commissions go to some place and they go to people the Minister designates. The same policy I understand is in effect in the Ontario Hydro. Does the representative of the Hydro notice that?

Mr. Speaker: Order! This is a Budget debate.

Mr. Sargent: This is Budget; I am talking money, I am talking public money. If I may, I would like to have the member for Windsor-Walkerville introduce his group.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, may I draw the attention of the House to the fine, outstanding group of young men and women in the east gallery from the city of Windsor and the fine riding of Windsor-Walkerville. We have grade 12 students from Patterson collegiate, which is the oldest secondary school in the city, well over

100 years old. They have been accompanied by their three teachers, Mr. Doug Williamson, Mr. Dan Stecher and Mr. Gilbert Percy. I know, Mr. Speaker, you would like to extend greetings to them from each and every member in this House.

Mr. White: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the member for Grey North has already spoken on the Budget debate, as has the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville. I suggest the next speaker should be on this side of the House.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I have not as yet spoken on the Budget debate, so the member for London South is in error.

Mr. White: The member spoke just a moment ago.

Mr. Sargent: I understand that if a member of the House gives a false statement then he should be made to account for it.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: The member should account for his statement.

Mr. Sargent: I have given my statement.

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): It is wrong.

Mr. Sargent: The hon. member for Oshawa is the last man who should speak on this point.

Mr. Walker: Why?

Mr. Sargent: Because—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will the member please take his seat? I would like to put this debate in order at this time so that the decorum of the House is upheld. The member, in speaking on the Budget, should address the chair at all times, through me to the House, and not be directing questions directly to various members which prompts them to get up and want to answer. This is a Budget Debate and only the person who is speaking on the debate should be doing the talking. Will the hon. member make his speech through the chair?

Mr. Sargent: I will do so. If they feel that the shoe is pinching a bit, they have the right to get up and defend themselves. But at this time I charge that they have falsified their statements to this House and if they were any kind of men at all they would get up and defend themselves.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): The Speaker just ruled against it.

Mr. Sargent: The fact of the matter is that The Department of Highways and the Ontario Hydro tell General Motors, Ford and Chrysler to which dealers the commissions will be paid, and they are paid to Tory dealers in these areas. About \$150 per unit is the commission.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What has Hydro got to do with it?

Mr. Sargent: Well, what has Hydro got to do with it?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I wonder if I could ask the hon. member a question. I would like to clear this up in my own mind. He stated that the government bought direct from General Motors, Ford or Chrysler—

Mr. Sargent: The Minister said that.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: All right then; how would this government have commissions to pay to anyone if we were dealing directly with the companies?

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That is the question.

Mr. Newman: That is the whole idea.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: I cannot understand it.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, he is in the act now, he asked this question. The government does not pay these commissions but the government directs the manufacturers to whom to pay it.

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What has the government to do with Ford and General Motors, what they do—

Mr. Sargent: I do not know, I am trying to find out about it. What right have you to divert public funds into your own friends' groups? This Minister says to me that he never heard of such a thing. How naive can a man get?

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): The member is not getting very far ahead.

Mr. Sargent: The Ministers will not get any place if they cannot stand and back up their words.

Mr. R. J. Boyer (Muskoka): On a point of order, I would like to say to the hon. member for Grey North that, with respect to Ontario Hydro, I have never heard of anything of

the sort he has been mentioning this afternoon; never heard of it.

Mr. Sargent: That is par for the course, the same as the Minister said.

Mr. Boyer: I ask the hon. member to accept that statement.

Mr. Sargent: The member had better get closer to the shop and see what is going on.

Mr. Boyer: Mr. Speaker, I am sure there is nothing of the sort in connection with Ontario Hydro. I am positive of that, and I ask the member to accept that statement.

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest that the hon. member check with Ford and Chrysler and GM to see how your commissions are distributed because they are on your direction, from the Ontario Hydro and from—

Mr. Boyer: Mr. Speaker, I completely deny that allegation.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister did, too, before. I am saying these gentlemen are wrong.

Mr. Boyer: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, will the hon. member accept the statement or will he not? Is he going to say that everything that is said in this House by another member is wrong because he has something in his mind?

Mr. Sargent: I will accept the statement if he can qualify the thing and say that he does not personally look after the patronage, and who does.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: The Minister of Reform Institutions is getting into the act. I just had a young chap in my riding graduate from Guelph reformatory and he spent, I think it was 10 to 12 hours a day. When he left there his rate was six cents per day. This is an example of the great Guelph reformatory.

There are matters of concern to all of us here, the great areas of injustice. The hon. member for Sudbury has stated that there is a law for the rich and a law for the poor. See how the great areas of business are run in this province. I would like to illustrate three cases in point showing how the great financial concerns are run with justice in this province.

There is a story about a fellow going into a lawyer at noon and saying to the lawyer, "I have stolen \$50,000 from the bank," and

the lawyer says: "That is interesting, can you get another \$50,000?"

Then, the fellow says, "Oh, yes, I think I could", and he says, "Okay, you bring back another \$50,000 tomorrow noon." So the next day at noon the teller brings another \$50,000 and the lawyer picks up the phone, phones the president of the bank and says: "Say, one of your tellers has stolen \$100,000. Are you willing to settle for \$25,000 cash, no questions asked?" The president of the bank says, "I will have to check back and let you know." The next day he phones back and says, "Yes, we can make a deal." And so the lawyer made himself \$25,000 at noon, and everybody was happy. One case.

In Brockville, a few years ago, federal government bonds to the value of \$3 million were stolen. To date, the \$3 million in bonds has been recovered, nobody has gone to jail and everybody is happy. We talked yesterday in the estimates of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) about justice in this province.

Getting back to this Budget, we have a document approaching \$3 billion that we are talking about. In the United States every Republican candidate for governor campaigned on the premise that he would give to the people a complete outside audit of public funds. In every case, the candidates who campaigned on that basis were elected by overwhelming majorities.

Here we have in this great province of Ontario, Mr. Speaker, a firmly entrenched government which, we showed yesterday in the Attorney General's estimates, controlled the Crown attorney at local level—they appoint him; and they control the sheriff at local level—they appoint him; they control the bailiff at local level—they appoint him. They are all Tory appointees. Right down the line we have a built-in machine at every local level in 117 municipalities, a Tory machine built in. Now we have a \$3 billion fund to look at with hundreds of thousands of items and there has never been, to this date, an outside public audit of how this money is spent.

With all regard to the provincial auditor, if he in his survey of the books finds some skulduggery in any of these departments I cannot imagine him going to see Bob Nixon and saying: "Bob, there is something wrong here," or to Elmer Sopha, or Donald MacDonald, or Sargent—he will not come to us and say that there is skulduggery going on. No, he does not do that. He goes to the Cabinet Minister, I would suspect, and says: "Buddy, there is some hanky-panky going on here. Let us get this thing cleaned up because those

Grits across there and the NDP will get hold of it and they are going to blow the roof off." I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that there is a great need for public disclosure by an outside public audit.

Getting into this book with all its great statements, I would like to suggest through you, Mr. Speaker, to the House leader and to the government that the main purpose of government is the allocation of resources for all people. In this document we have, I would submit to you, allocation of moneys and where they help the Tory government in the main.

On page 2 the hon. Provincial Treasurer says this Budget is:

A panoramic view of the economic background and economic conditions upon which our budgetary policy has been based.

Then he says further on:

Our net capital debt at March 31, 1967, is estimated at \$1,429 million—

This represents a debt picture of \$204 for every man, woman and child in this province before we even start to pay the great bills for education and welfare across the board in this province.

On page 12 we have the great bill for education, \$1,063 million. Based on the average per capita cost in the United States, running at about \$532 per child, we are running about \$530 here, which is a saving of \$2. The Provincial Treasurer does not say in this amount that he is spending on education that he gets a portion of this from the federal government. He said that he was lending \$150 million to municipalities. When a municipality builds a school, if the cost of the school is \$1 million, by debenturing this over 20 years, the cost doubles to \$2 million. The government has never yet come up with a plan to advance the moneys to municipalities to pay out the capital cost and save education costing double which it is today.

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): How would you do that?

Mr. Sargent: You give us a chance and we will do it properly.

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Is that a statement of Liberal policy—

Mr. Sargent: The boy soprano! On page 19 is an example of how they have submitted the con job on this Budget. He said:

A highlight of our plans for next year is the extension of our capital grants programme to cover wells, drainage, and cer-

tain types of buildings. Over the next 12 years we will make available \$129 million for these grants to farmers.

Why is he such a piker? Why does he not say over the next 100 years? He multiplies everything by 12, so he is spending \$10 million this year, but he does not say that. He says that he is going to spend \$129 million in the next 12 years. These are a few of the—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: What is wrong with that?

Mr. Sargent: There is nothing wrong with it; it is just stupidity, that is all. On page 20 he says, in talking about the new Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs:

Our sound fiscal and development policies will continue to ensure that investment is attracted to this province.

How ridiculous can you get? When Dr. Shulman goes on television he says that the only safe way to buy is in New York, and all the money is being diverted to the New York stock exchange.

An hon. member: That is right; a lot of it is.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): That just goes to show how much Shulman and you know about the whole thing!

Mr. Sargent: We would like to hear—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs has never written a book on how to make a million either.

An hon. member: He is going to write one on how to lose a million!

Mr. Sargent: The summation of this—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I want to suggest that if we had a pipeline to the people of Ontario to tell them what goes on in this House, you fellows would not be there five minutes.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: There are some pretty intelligent people in the fourth estate and the Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs should agree with that, and so everything that this man says will be wrong. Like Jack McArthur, the financial man of the *Daily Star*.

He goes on to tell the real story on Prudential Finance and British Mortgage, Atlantic Acceptance, Racan Photocopy, Windfall, the take-over of Canadian Oil, and many other wild episodes in Ontario's recent history. This is the real story about the impetus for investigation. Remedial measures have always come from a handful of investment and securities commission people and the Toronto newspapers. Without them the provincial government would have presided in paralytic inactivity over an era of financial collapse and standards rarely equalled in the history of North America.

Mr. R. N. Whicher (Bruce): What do you say about that?

Mr. Sargent: The cold cruel fact is that the government has constantly given the impression of wanting to do nothing, not even investigate much less reform. Meanwhile, the people of Ontario and those foolish enough to invest without great care and scepticism in the securities business administered in this province have lost literally tens of millions of dollars. Discouraged they have turned in increasing numbers to investment in American stocks. This trend is already established in the statistics.

The hon. Minister of Commercial and Financial Affairs says this is wrong. The government is apparently heartened by its ability to survive one scandal after another in a variety of areas. It seems to feel it knows what it is doing, which is as little as possible, because he "gets elected, does he not?" That indeed is a depressing thing. If the people of Ontario will not kick out the government for setting them all up as suckers, what reason do they require?

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Are you calling the people of Ontario "suckers"?

Mr. Sargent: No, he is.

It would be better, Mr. Speaker, if the Queen's Park problem was ignorance of the matter, but the government concedes that it knew of the troubles of British Mortgage before the public knew. It knew of the troubles of Prudential Finance before the public knew. It did little or nothing, it hoped these companies would pull out of their troubles. It was wrong, not just a little wrong. Unbelievably, spectacularly, almost certainly because it did not investigate quickly enough and fairly enough. Meanwhile, these companies continue in business and presumably the likely losses continue to rise.

So we say, how do you feel, sucker? You hold a note from Prudential, have loaned it

money. The government knew there was trouble but it would not tell you. Now you can worry about how much you will get back, for all but the fall guy had shares in British Mortgage at \$30 and that is the equivalent of \$2.50. A shock, was it not?

Of course the government was right hoping everything would turn out all right. It was a trifle over-optimistic. British Mortgage could have been more than \$10 million in the red when the roof fell in.

Okay, maybe the province could not have prevented it, but it could have tried a lot harder. That is the problem, it does not try, it just does not want—I am still quoting from this authority, you can draw your own conclusions about why it never wants to try.

I will get to the last paragraph just to save time. It says:

The creaking old government suffers from the conviction that it must always appear to be running an outwardly calm, tight ship, well managed. This causes it to shuffle out of sight all the nasty problems calling for rough measures. Of course it cannot take timely action since action acknowledges the magnitude of the problem.

Unfortunately, the investment chaos it has been trying to keep quiet keeps boiling in view every few months. Each time the government sets up a Royal commission or just wags its head seriously and hopes the trouble will disappear. Queen's Park has been pressured into adopting some good new laws in this field which it may even get around to putting it into force. It has now.

As you might expect, there is a big fat loophole. In spite of all recommendations to the contrary, the staff policing the Ontario securities commission is to be left directly under a Cabinet Minister. That will just make sure that the government can, if it wishes, prevent investigation and enforcement from getting out of hand and embarrassing the wrong people that have done a superb job of that all along.

This is from a highly respected member of the fourth estate who resigned from the *Toronto Daily Star*.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): 350,000 copies daily.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): That is more than the *Sarnia Observer*.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, my leader has brought the very important subject of taking

the education costs off real estate. This is far reaching and itself a vehicle that will carry us into power in this forthcoming election. Many people have questioned the ability of this party to pay for these great costs. Where is the money coming from?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: You tell us.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Well Mr. Speaker, I do not know how many of you have been in municipal life. One of the people like the "boy soprano" are Johnny-come-latelys who are farmer boys who are there on lack of ability or something, I do not know what it amounts to—

Hon. Mr. Simonett: Who told the member farmer boys lacked ability?

Mr. Sargent: I am being as kindly to him as I can, but in life you find out that a thing is either right or it is wrong. The fact that you levy education costs, as the hon. member for Beaches stated today, you levy these iniquitous and unequal taxes on real estate, on people on fixed incomes, where there is no real reason, there is no relation to the cost of education on real estate tax. We all know that, this is wrong. But the government does nothing about it.

Mr. L. C. Henderson (Lambton East): How would you do it?

Hon. Mr. McKeough: Tell us.

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest that in this area we have been operating since 1906, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, one of the soundest men in municipal politics, knows what we should do, but he cannot get the top brass to move. He has been mayor of Timmins and has been through the whole bit. He knows the whole thing is rotten but he will not move because they will not let him. We have been using the same old formula, Mr. Speaker, since 1906 and we have not changed.

Here we are, trying to put a man on the moon and we cannot even solve this one thing of changing our tax structure.

Mr. Sopha: Put the Minister of Municipal Affairs on the moon.

An hon. member: He will not move.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. Sargent: Where is the money coming from? I—

Mr. MacDonald: That is the question. Now what is the answer?

Mr. Sargent: I would suggest therefore a good area for consideration, a need for a tax of 20 per cent on the unearned increment in land value other than agriculture. Fortunes have been made, are being made every day in this great golden horseshoe on this area alone.

We have a case in point where four men recently got a tract of land in north Toronto, they deposited not one cent of their money, they just signed for it. Eighteen months later, Mr. Speaker, they each split \$3 million four ways, \$750,000 each. This is the type of fortune that is being made by this lack of legislation on the part of the government. In Europe and the city of London, they have laws against this type of speculation. They protect the people.

Mr. Henderson: Real prosperity in Ontario.

Mr. Sargent: And getting back to the theme, the purpose of government is the allocation of our resources and the only true wealth we have in our economy is land. It is the only true worth and we are letting this thing go up because of manipulators and speculators and the government stands by and does nothing about it. There is a great area for revenue, Mr. Speaker, on this tax, and there is a great area for revenue if you had read the Carter commission report. Capital gain is a great field for revenue to take the load off the homeowners.

Mr. Speaker, I would suggest there is a great need for consideration. What we need in this province today is a war budget against poverty and middle and low incomes. The difference between rich and poor, sir, in this province, is becoming more distinct every day and the gap is widening because of the Robarts government. Mr. Speaker, we are breeding communism in this government because on the one hand we have the wealthy Forest Hill areas and right next door we have a slum area.

Mr. MacDonald: In the borough of York.

Mr. Sargent: I am talking about slums right next to affluence. And if there ever was a time when we had to think about our economy, about our way of life, it is now, because of the people who cannot get housing, who go into these slums. The bomb is going to go off one day, because they can see next door all this affluence. The farmer can get by, he can live from hand to mouth. He can get by, he has the basic funds to live by,

but the people in these slums have not. This government has neglected this great area for need and I say the difference between the rich and the poor is becoming very distinct and this gap is widening. Great fortunes, I have said, have been made by parasitic landowners living on the unearned increment in land values.

Now, who created these land values? Was it the landowner? Was it his energy, his brain? It is rather the fact that the average citizen you and I are supposed to represent goes through life not knowing what exactly is going on, what happens even in this House. What the government is doing in their area is to help big business. What it is saying in effect is, "To blaze with the rest of the people." By a tax of this kind, we can raise money to pay for a new road, a wide road, so that all citizens of this province can form in a march on equal rights.

We do not have them. Take the unfair taxes off the homeowner and put the charges for education where they belong, in the area of big business, by a capital gains tax.

The Canadian manufacturers association have admitted that education is their responsibility. But just as important, is the absolute control that the Prime Minister has over all our lives.

We are not to have a 100 per cent education tax taken off real estate, because the Prime Minister says so; we are not to have sufficient doctors to go around, because the Prime Minister says so; we are not to have equal spending of \$3.50 per head for transportation in the outlying parts of this province, the same as Toronto received in the GO-GO deal.

What gives him the right, or you the right, to spend public funds for one area and not the rest of the province? What does this government think it is? This is public money and the government cannot use it to help its own interests.

Mr. Sopha: The big city government.

Mr. Sargent: We are condemned to the fact that thousands upon thousands cannot get hospital beds because the Prime Minister says so. We cannot get a government subsidized meat packing plant for this province, like other provinces, because the Prime Minister says so.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: We are not to give farmers equal rights with the banker friends of the

Prime Minister, because the Prime Minister says so. The bankers have special treatment but not the farmers.

We have not had a new change in the tax structure since 1906, because the Prime Minister says so. You must not have a tax on undeveloped land because the Prime Minister says so. And, Mr. Speaker, you must not ask about a lawyer friend of the Prime Minister, Mr. Ab. Sheppard of London, who received a fee of \$155,000 because the Prime Minister says so.

You must not ask those questions. But this is public money, he can do it. You must not ask questions in this House that will embarrass the government, because the Prime Minister says so.

We must not tax the insurance companies on the same basis as other companies, because the Prime Minister says so. We must not put through our insurance coverage other than through private carriers, we cannot handle it like workmen's compensation, we have to give it to the insurance companies to make the first big buck on it. We must give liquor favours to the friends of the Prime Minister because he says so.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to prevent people from owning their own homes. One cannot buy a home today because the Prime Minister says so. He is doing nothing to solve the problem. This story in the paper of building 1,000 homes or 2,000 homes, that is like a flea bite on an elephant.

Mr. Speaker, are we really to have all the ways of reform, financial and social, blocked by a notice board that says: "No Thoroughfare by Order of John Roberts"?

Mr. Speaker, how are the people of Ontario to know that lawyers get paid \$500 a day if the press does not print it? Or that the friend of the Prime Minister in London, a lawyer, can receive \$155,000, how are they to know if the press does not print it?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: How are the people in Owen Sound to know—

Mr. Sopha: Well, how do you justify that \$155,000?

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, it is this type of tyranny and arrogance, that men have fought and lost their lives for and this government thinks it is all right.

Mr. Sopha: From the London hunt club.

Mr. Speaker: We do not need two debates going on at the same time. The member for Grey North has the floor.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, in essence, a farmer in my riding works 365 days a year to make an income of \$3,000, if he is lucky. But the lawyer friends of the government can work six days and make the same amount of money.

An hon. member: Plus expenses.

Mr. Sargent: A factory worker in Owen Sound works 365 days a year to make a gross of \$4,000 but his take-home pay is much less. But a lawyer doing business with the government can make that in eight days.

Mr. Whicher: Plus expenses.

Mr. Sargent: Plus expenses. Mr. Speaker, I think, in the last 25 years, that we have gotten off the track, that we have forgotten that people are important. The average person will not go for this nonsense and you know it.

Mr. Speaker, I said before, if we had a pipeline, like the government, to the people of Ontario, to show what is going on—that lawyers make \$500 a day, that the friend of the Prime Minister in London can make a \$155,000 fee—people would turn this government out overnight.

The only answer I can see is that to have an informed public, we must change our line of communication.

So, I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that if we had \$1 million per session or one-third of one per cent spent in mailing a copy of *Hansard* to every home in this province, then the Prime Minister of this province, or the House leader, would not sit back when we question him and embarrass him and say, "What are you going to do about it?"

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I never said that!

Mr. Sargent: That is what the Prime Minister said to me a number of times, "What are you going to do about it?" Yes, sir, he said, "What are you going to do about it?"

In closing, I want to say this, that maybe Joe Citizen in the cities and towns across the province of Ontario will start to think a bit. Maybe this smiling, honest John is a bit of a rake. Let us have a look at this. He looked after his old buddy, Alex Graydon, in getting him a booze licence in the Talisman; he put a \$3 million road there.

When you think of it, Joe Citizen is going to say that, after this Windfall mess, British

Mortgage and Prudential, after all of these things happen when thousands of people lost millions of dollars, that not one person in all the government list of employees who were responsible for not revoking the charters of these firms by law—because the government broke the law by not revoking the charters—not one person was criticized and not one person lost his job, and the government broke every law in the book by allowing these things to go on.

So Joe Citizen is going to wonder about how Mr. Roberts' former partner, as head of Prudential, made a killing. This Joe Citizen is going to think about the fact that London Life Insurance Company did not suffer too much through the private carriers handling the insurance deal—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sargent: The former law partner of the Prime Minister was in Prudential—he was the secretary of Prudential.

An hon. member: What did you say about him?

Mr. Sargent: I guess he is a pretty smart cookie to make all that dough—I do not know.

An hon. member: He has smart friends.

Mr. Sargent: He has connections!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is a question of motives.

Mr. Sargent: I can give you lots of motives, I can tell you! The people are going to start wondering why their Prime Minister can look after the bankers' friends and not look after the farmers. He made a credit of \$3 million available to the bankers, but not to the farmers!

When you think that only one person in ten in this province of Ontario can build a home, and when you think that the taxes have doubled in the past five years, then this Joe Citizen is going to start thinking, as a lot of us are, that things are in a terrible mess.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Sargent: I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, with friends like John Roberts, who needs enemies?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You will eat those words some day!

Mr. Sargent: I do not worry about it too much.

I wish I was as cocksure about just one thing as he is about everything.

Mr. Speaker, I think that there is a need, in this Budget Debate, to think that the most important thing is interdependency of rural and city, that no man in this province will suffer because of geography insofar as education or jobs are concerned. We must have a diversification of our resources and this government is loading it on in areas that are of benefit to them.

Thank you.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. N. L. Olde (Middlesex South): Mr. Speaker, in rising to participate briefly in this Budget Debate, I want to bring to this House some important matters.

A number of my constituents in Middlesex South are members of the Ontario Alliance of Christian schools. Recently they submitted a brief to the provincial committee on aims and objectives of education in the schools of Ontario.

This organization was founded in 1957. One of the basic principles of the alliance is to secure, where possible and when necessary, provincial legislation establishing or recognizing for parents, the right and freedom to establish free parent-controlled Christian schools.

According to their brief, the alliance has grown rapidly. In 1962 there were 31 schools, employing 134 teachers, with a pupil enrolment of 4,277. By 1965, these figures had become 42 schools, 221 teachers and pupil enrolment of 6,606.

They point out that the average educational cost per pupil, per year, is around \$300. Thus their private school system costs them some \$2 million to operate on a yearly basis. Now, in addition to this \$2 million, which must be raised by parents whose children attend these Christian schools, the homeowners are assisting in taxes which go to support the public school system.

Therefore, they must fall within the area of double taxation to educate their children.

I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that many of these ratepayers, faced with this double school taxation, are farmers and businessmen in the area which I have the honour to represent.

It should also be pointed out that last March, the province of Alberta amended its

legislation to recognize the rights of private schools. This legislation is to be worked out by the Cabinet. It is my feeling that similar action could possibly be incorporated here in Ontario.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) will look into this and make some recommendations in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, at the last session during the Budget Debate, I discussed, at some length, whether or not chiropractors should be included in the Ontario medical health insurance plan. Personally, at that time I could see no reason why they should not.

Today, I am more firmly convinced that chiropractors should be included. I am not, at this time, again going to make a long speech on this point, but I would urge the hon. Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond) to once again review his position and I strongly recommend to him that chiropractors come under the OMSIP programme.

I want to turn now, Mr. Speaker, to agriculture for a few minutes, and particularly to the government's announcement on its capital grants programme. The hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) in his estimate for the fiscal year, advised that some \$10 million will be used for this new capital grants plan.

Let me say here, Mr. Speaker, that the farmers of Ontario are very pleased with this plan and also with the Minister of Agriculture and Food. I am sure that many farmers in Middlesex South will take advantage of this aid to agriculture.

Also, the Ontario Progressive Conservative government is providing this new capital grants programme, which means an expenditure of \$129 million over the next 12 years. As the Minister has pointed out, with the introduction of this programme, there will now be available to all farmers in this province a total of \$2,500 in capital grants. The farmers of Ontario appreciate this programme, as well as needing it very much.

This is typical of the constructive approach this government has taken in dealing with the farm communities across Ontario.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is conspicuously different than the empty policy that the Liberal Party enunciated in Ontario.

I was interested to note, when the hon. leader of the Opposition spoke in reply to the Speech from the Throne, that not one programme for the farmers of Ontario was read out in his speech.

When the occasion does arise that the Liberal Party of Ontario is placed on the spot as to what their agricultural policies are, they time and time again revert back to the 1956 Royal commission on Canada's economic affairs and use that document, by Walter Gordon, as to their plans for agriculture policies in this province, and in this country.

What the Liberals say is that the farmers want a handout. I would say to you, Mr. Speaker, that there is not a farmer in this province looking for a handout—but only a chance to operate his farm in an efficient and profitable manner.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Hear, hear, that will do the trick in Middlesex.

Mr. Olde: The Progressive Conservative Party does not suggest that farmers leave the land and go to the cities, such as is implied by the prophet of liberalism, Mr. Gordon. So I give some advice to my friend, the leader of the Opposition, that the sooner he puts in moth balls Mr. Gordon's agricultural philosophy, the better he and his own party will be, as well as the province of Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words on conservation. Conservation is very dear to my heart and I have had the privilege of being one of the members on the select committee on conservation authorities, which I enjoyed very much and found most interesting. The report of this committee is about to be tabled in the House and it is my wish that it be given serious consideration and the recommendations contained therein put into practice.

Awareness of our dependence on natural resources and the wise use and preservation of soil, water, woods and wildlife, is a part of being a good citizen. Our natural resources just did not happen to be here and, therefore, should not be taken for granted. Flood and erosion control are all important to our very existence and recreation, the most necessary part of conservation in the world today. I feel very strongly that this should be expanded.

I am also concerned over the fact that conservation of our natural resources should be a part of our school curriculum as this is the very foundation of our existence.

While visiting the conservation authorities throughout the province of Ontario with the committee, I was impressed with the dedication and earnestness on the part of the conservation authority people over those projects going on in their conservation areas. There is a great deal of local interest as well and

it is up to us to give them all the support we possibly can, both financial and technical, in order to make this a country in which one is proud to live.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the lower Thames conservation authority have announced the construction of the Sharon Creek dam and reservoir will proceed immediately. This picturesque site is located between concessions one and two of Delaware township, one mile southeast of the village of Delaware.

Control of flood waters in this reservoir of approximately 75 acres, will assist in the alleviation of flood damage to downstream areas of the Thames River. As well, it will aid in maintenance of the ground water-table in surrounding areas and enhance the Thames River by promoting more regular flow at all seasons.

It is my fondest hope that a recreational area may be developed near this valley at some future date as the natural beauty of the wooded countryside lends itself ideally to this concept.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, after an afternoon like this, I can only take off my hat, if I had a hat, to you for your patience and your forbearance. I would also wonder whether the donnybrook we had earlier this afternoon does represent, by and large, the point of view of the party of the member speaking? This perhaps is a matter for information for the future, and the leader might enlighten us in this regard.

I also am very interested to notice that I am following this afternoon my good friend from Middlesex South and I do not know whether there is any significance in the names. We have always bantered with each other about this Olde and Young business, but here we have the Olde and the Young. Now we both have grey hair, but it is significant perhaps, that the Olde is on the Tory benches and the Young is on the New Democratic benches. This perhaps augurs well for events that are coming before too many months have passed. We will look for the change that will take place as the old is discarded and the younger point of view is adopted by the people of Ontario. I say that with all respect to my friend from Middlesex South.

I am also very interested, Mr. Speaker, to hear the number of members from the government benches, most of them back-benchers, who are making very progressive noises these days. They are talking to us about what ought to be done and they are giving forth

with policy statements which are extremely interesting and fascinating.

This afternoon we had the member for Beaches (Mr. Harris) telling us, if I have his words correctly, that he is repeating his speech of last March in, almost, detail. The reason is that this government has not yet seen fit to implement what he talked about last March.

If this speaker and other members who have been speaking in this vein over the past few months would level with their ridings, he would say, and they would say, that the reason we have to make these speeches over and over again is that the government we are asking you to vote for just will not do these things. Then, if they are levelling again, they would say the only way to get action is to vote against the government which refuses action and vote for the New Democrats who will produce it.

This is just common sense. This is logic and I think all of us in this House would agree in other circumstances, except in politics, that this makes sense. Since we are political animals here, and since much of this is being geared to votes this spring, I suppose it is inevitable.

Another thing we were very interested in this afternoon, I just wondered whether my friend from Middlesex South was in fact enunciating government policy—new government policy—is the field of education. Or is this just something to tantalize certain blocks of voters in his riding, to be pulled back as soon as those votes are delivered?

I think, Mr. Speaker, that this House should have an explanation as to whether he was talking government policy this afternoon, because a great many people in this province would be very, very interested to know that there is a change coming in the field of education and educational grants. This we should be told about before we ask the people of this province to vote.

In turning to the Budget, Mr. Speaker, I was very disappointed, as were many others in this House, including some on the back benches of the government, that more stress was not placed upon the whole field of housing. Yesterday, or the day before, we had an announcement from the hon. Provincial Treasurer (Mr. MacNaughton) in respect to housing programmes that are underway. But the interesting thing to me was that some years ago when I was still sitting on the council of the municipality of North York, we initiated a programme there to get publicly-owned land into the housing construction

field. We met with committees month after month, trying to get a public housing programme initiated and underway. We were not too successful and York University took part of that land. Some was left, and still while I was on the North York planning board we worked over a programme and over the last few months it has been finalized. That programme was announced last year as one of the great programmes of this government. I was startled the other day to find the Provincial Treasurer blandly announcing the development at Jane and Finch once more as part and parcel of a new programme that was being put forward.

This is the kind of thing that this government does time after time. The housing programme as we ought to have it in Ontario has not yet been tackled in any realistic fashion.

One of the things that disturbs me a great deal in connection with the housing that is now projected is that accompanying it are certain attacks that are being made by certain vested interests. Those of you who have been on municipal councils know, particularly those who have served on larger councils, that for years we have been working hard to get standards raised, subdivision standards within our municipalities. Gradually over the years we have been able to get those standards up, sort of line upon line and precept upon precept, a new clause here and a new clause there, until over the years many municipalities have achieved fair standards of municipal development. These are not yet perfect, many things need yet to be done. But some of the leading municipalities do have fairly high standards.

There is a desperate need for housing and a desperate need for housing very, very quickly. I had a letter the other day from a constituent of mine, G. Kinnon, 3330 Weston Road, and part of the letter says this:

My prime reason for writing this letter concerns the scandalous housing situation. In a country like Canada there is no valid reason why we are so poorly housed. The situation we find ourselves in is one mainly due to incompetence at the federal level.

And I stress that.

The Liberal government in Ottawa has proven that it has little consideration for the vast majority of Canadians. I believe that recent developments will bear me out. The housing crisis strikes most cruelly those who need decent lodging the most, namely those attempting to raise families in the \$5,000 a year and under bracket. It was

not long ago when \$5,000 a year was considered a living wage, but I think you will agree that this is no longer true.

My point, and the object of this letter, is to emphasize the importance of public opinion and I might add public wrath at the forces which have placed two-thirds of our population out of the housing market. I do not believe that I am exaggerating when I make this statement. I believe that within a year the housing crisis could turn to disaster for many, many Canadians. It seems to me that this would be an ironic way to celebrate Centennial year in Canada. I feel, as I am sure many hundreds of thousands of people must across this huge country, that the methods of housing and real estate must change to meet changing needs.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are some things that should be emphasized in passing. One is that the present crisis is primarily due to the tight money policy of the federal government in Ottawa. And I think all the noise that our Liberal friends here in this House make against this government, they have to go back and realize that fact even though this government is very, very culpable in this respect.

Another matter is the desperation that is expressed here and that desperation we all know about. That desperation today is being made the occasion for some of our people to attack the standards that have been painfully built up over the years in respect to subdivisions and in respect to building.

On February 14, the hon. member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) indicated that he felt housing lots ought to be smaller in order to get houses built. And in the *Telegram* of March 14 we have this:

The retiring president of the Ontario association of real estate boards yesterday called for certain things. E. A. Mitchell of Brampton said that by doing these things we could speed up the building of housing: Using smaller lots, as narrow as 30 feet, and eliminating some luxuries such as underground wiring, paved roads, curbs and storm sewers. He told the association's annual conference that prefabrication of houses also would go a long way to easing the shortage, with aluminum or plastic replacing wood and brick, as major building materials.

Now as far as experimentation in these new building materials, I think we ought to be doing it. Prefabrication is something that other nations are doing very successfully and

we ought to be working at it. But we should at all costs hold the line at the standards which we have established through long hard struggles over the years.

If we are going to put our people back on gravel roads in our cities without curbs, without storm sewers, the old flooding problems, then we ought to take a long, careful second look in this direction, because, Mr. Speaker, this is not going to get us housing any faster. But the occasion is being used today by unscrupulous people who have a vested interest in getting standards down, to attack those standards. Because if they can lower those standards it simply means they can make more money out of the crisis.

Then the people who move into the subdivisions will be left with the burden of later installing the storm sewers, the pavement and all the services that ought to be put there by the subdivider himself.

There is another matter, Mr. Speaker, which I want to raise and that is an attack from a different direction. It is an attack on the standards which the working man has painfully built up over the years. In the *Globe and Mail* of March 15, we have a headline:

INFUX OF UNSKILLED WORKERS URGED BY ITALIAN CONTRACTOR

Ottawa, C.P.: A selective immigration policy that would keep out professional construction men from Italy was advocated Tuesday by Toronto contractor Nick Di Lorenzo.

In an appearance before the special Senate-Commons committee on immigration, he described Italian professionals—

by which I presume he means skilled people—excepting those outside the construction industry, as tile-counters and street-walkers who spent their time discussing communism and stirring up the workers.

I wonder how the skilled Italian workers in our communities like that kind of description.

Mr. Di Lorenzo, an immigrant himself, said the best newcomers—

and this takes us right back to the last century—

—the best newcomers are from the farms of southern Italy, where manual skill is inbred and an 18-hour day is necessary to make a living.

These immigrants have an elementary education "if they're lucky" and perhaps a general trades training course.

The Di Lorenzo Construction Co. gave its employees three years of training, he

said and this provided them with a base for any Canadian construction trade.

His firm employs up to 1,400 men at peak summer periods, about 80 per cent of them Italian immigrants.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I cannot help this afternoon standing in my place here and denouncing this kind of attitude in Ontario in 1967. When Mr. Di Lorenzo talks about the skilled Italian workers spending their time talking about communism, I presume he means that they are talking about the formation of trade unions and organizing to get decent wages and decent working conditions in his industry. And when he says "stirring up the workers" he means exactly the same thing because so far evidently he has been successful in keeping unions out and so what he wants to do is to bring in large groups of immigrants who cannot speak the language and who know nothing about trade unions and who are used to working 18 hours a day—and then exploit them for as long as he may find it profitable.

Then, perhaps, doing as they are doing today everywhere—beginning to form their unions, to understand the language and to know what the Canadian way of life can be, then he no longer has use for them.

Mr. Speaker, the Italian people I know—and I know a lot of them—are industrious people. That is true, but the Italian workers in this province have the same right as any other worker to protection by our labour code, to decent working hours and working conditions. They have a right to live as Canadian citizens and a right to organize in the unions of their own choice and to bargain collectively with their employers. Words like this, I resent, and words like this should not be uttered in a province like Ontario.

This kind of attack is being made today and may well intensify as unscrupulous employers try to take advantage of the desperate housing shortage to push construction faster than they otherwise might. I have no objection to construction going on 24 hours a day, but let it be on a basis of decent working hours and let it be on a basis of dignity for the workers, whether they are Italian or native-born.

Mr. Speaker, another matter is emerging from our problem of housing. It is this whole matter which I am not going to raise in detail today because that will come later in our discussions, the problem presented by the apartment. As we all know, because of the tremendous influx of people into the metropolitan areas, because of the very high birth

rate following the war, because of the tight money policy which Ottawa saw fit to institute and because of the lack of policy and the lack of positive action on the part of this government, we are getting a housing situation which is incredible; a housing situation where landlords are able to take full advantage of their tenants in ways in which this House has already heard and will hear again, where the landlord is able to say to the tenant, "If you have children, we do not want them. Get out!"

Or he can say, "Unless you are willing to pay more when your lease expires—" and in many cases there are no leases and he simply says to the tenant, "Pay more," and if they cannot then, "Get out!"

The tenant is caught because he has a family and he cannot find other accommodation, or, if he is the average working man, he has not the money to pay for the increased rent—but he must pay because there are no other places to go.

So he is stuck and must pay. So he goes without food or clothing, or other necessities of life, in order to keep a roof over his head. The day must come, Mr. Speaker, when, in this province and in this nation, we do what other nations are doing and regard housing as essential as water or sewage or other services in a community, because people just cannot exist in this country without housing.

Now, we face the fact that the landlord has the power and the tenant must sign the lease or he does not go in; and, in many of those places, as we saw before in this House, have clauses which are incredible—to say the least.

Another thing is happening; as the tenant becomes more and more a captive of the landlord, many of his rights are being chipped away—the right to trade as he wishes, the right to move about and to do many of the things that other people can do—and the hon. member for Riverdale recited some of these the other day.

There is another right which I want to throw into this discussion this afternoon, and bring before the members of this House, and that is the right of communication with the democratic process, the right of understanding what the candidates in an election want to say to him.

I realize that many tenants go into apartments so that they are not bothered by tradesmen, canvassers of various kinds, peddlers and solicitors—of course, this does not mean lawyers in this case, I suppose—but there comes a time when many building

superintendents allow certain things to happen and will not permit others.

Last evening, an event took place in the borough of Etobicoke, which I want to bring before this House. A candidate for public office—a candidate for provincial office, as a matter of fact—a candidate for the New Democratic Party, visited a certain apartment. The man's name is Mr. Mort Warling, he is the candidate for the riding of Etobicoke.

He is a mild mannered gentleman, the principal of a public school, and yet a chap that I have seen stirred up a bit and who is not going to be trifled with.

Last evening, he knocked at the superintendent's door and the superintendent also happened to be the owner of the building. He spoke to Mrs. Kutynec, the wife of the owner, told her who he was, gave her a copy of a leaflet and said that he would like to canvass the people in the building. Mrs. Kutynec looked the leaflet over and said that she was not too much impressed but he could go forward and do his survey.

Now the reason, perhaps, that she was not too much impressed, is that part of that leaflet dealt with the fair code suggested by this party for apartment tenants.

May I just quickly run over them and put on the record what these are:

1. The abolition of security deposits.
2. The establishment of a rental and tenancy review board.
3. The enactment of standard forms of lease to be used by all landlords.
4. The prohibition to landlords for charging tenants a fee for tenants subletting an apartment.
5. Outlawing of all clauses in leases restricting tenants' rights to purchasing milk, bread and other foodstuffs and personal services from a merchant of his choice.
6. Prohibiting a landlord charging for extra occupants.
7. Requiring landlords to provide adequate standards of maintenance, safety and health for their tenants.
8. Requiring all landlords to carry liability insurance.
9. Abolishment of the landlords' right of distress—that is the right of a landlord to seize the tenants' furniture and personal goods—a thing we do not allow in any other circumstances.
10. The authorization of the court to delete any clause in a lease which, in the court's opinion, is unreasonable.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as I said before, the wife of the owner said that she was not enthusiastic about the leaflet, but it represented a political party's point of view and that the candidate, Mr. Warling, could canvass the building.

So he proceeded to do so. He did the first floor and the second floor and then, as he was starting on the third floor, speaking to a couple outside the door, the landlord approached him and in no uncertain terms ordered him out.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Is the landlord a Tory candidate?

Mr. Young: Well, we are not sure of that yet—we will find out.

Mr. Warling remonstrated that he had sought permission and had obtained it from the landlord's wife.

The landlord said that she had no right to give that permission.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He must be the Tory candidate—he must be!

Mr. Young: Mr. Kotynec told him to “get rid of those dirty leaflets”, and he had some other words to say which I will not repeat in this House, this afternoon, about the point of view expressed in those leaflets.

Now perhaps the leaflet was a bit rough on the landlord, but many landlords are not quite that violent in their objections.

Mr. Kotynec grabbed **Mr. Warling** by the coat and without more ado, he unceremoniously pulled him down the hall while **Mr. Warling** tried to talk reasonably to him, not wanting to start a battle royal right there.

He was slammed into the elevator, hit the back with some force and tore his coat. The landlord went with him, all the time abusing him, down to the lobby floor, grabbed him by the coat again, dragged him across the lobby and hit him against the door. The door opened under the force of the slam and **Mr. Warling** was out into the outside lobby.

Mr. Sopha: A breach of the Queen's peace if I have ever heard one.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): A good case for you.

Mr. Young: **Mr. Warling** then asked permission to ring one of his friends in the building and this was denied. In the meantime, the wife of the owner had called the police. The police arrived in due course, as was their duty to do. And the question was

asked of Mr. Warling if he was trespassing, if he had had permission to enter the building.

He said that he had.

"You did not break into the building?"

"No," said Mr. Warling, "I rang the superintendent and his wife answered. I asked permission and I was allowed in."

He got some other advice from the police officer, which I am not going to put before the House this afternoon, but he also got advice from legal counsel and he was told he had plenty of grounds to lay an assault charge—which Mr. Warling does not intend, I understand, to do.

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Why not, the case is lost.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I bring this before the House this afternoon, because here is an incident that focuses attention on a problem that all of us face in a democracy. First of all, here you have an owner of a building setting himself up as a censor of material that is going to be handed to the people inside. You also have him a guardian of the political faith of the people in his building.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, whether or not the people in that building have a right to meet their candidate for public office, regardless of party. I would hope that when the sitting member for Etobicoke visits that building he will have every right to go in there, present himself and his point of view and meet the voters in there. I would hope that the Conservative candidate has the same right when he goes to that building. This is a democracy and yet the member for Scarborough West had the distinction of being tossed out of a building not too long ago.

Mr. S. Lewis: The indignity.

Mr. Young: The indignity of being tossed out. The candidate in Forest Hill—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): It also hurts.

Mr. Young:—had on two occasions this problem when he was told, in this case rather politely, to get out and take his leaflets with him. They did not want him in there and he went quietly, as Mr. Warling would have gone if force had not been so promptly and so vigorously applied.

Mr. Sopha: We should have a bill of rights—

Mr. Young: We should have a bill of rights perhaps for Liberal candidates, too.

Mr. Sopha: We never run up—

Mr. Young: I see. Perhaps, if you never run up against those problems you know the owners or the superintendents of the buildings better than we do. I do not know.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Perhaps they consider you their friends.

Mr. Sopha: We are friends of all the people.

Mr. Young: Perhaps you do not call on the people and so you do not have these problems. Mr. Speaker, I bring this before you because in a democracy any candidate for public office should have the right to visit an apartment building, he should have the right to meet the people there as the representative of this democracy and the people within that building have the right to look at, to meet, and to assess the candidates or their representatives.

I am not saying, Mr. Speaker, that this should be a matter where a candidate can simply walk into any building at any time. That is not right. I am saying that a candidate should be able to call the owner or the superintendent of a building and say, "I plan to visit your building on a certain date, or one of my workers, whom I will designate, will visit your building. We would appreciate the opportunity of affording your tenants a chance to hear our message." I think this is a simple matter of right, and The Election Act ought to be amended to give all tenants in apartment buildings the right that should be theirs in a democracy of a kind of which we boast here in the province of Ontario.

For the time that is left, I want to bring before this House a point of view in respect of one of the events on which the Prime Minister spoke last week. He announced certain developments in the Niagara peninsula and the Bruce trail, a driveway which is going to be built along the escarpment, the preservation of certain land, to build parks and recreation facilities along that escarpment and the Bruce trail which is eventually going to link up right to the tip of the Bruce peninsula. I think this is good.

Along with this came the announcement that there had been trouble within the Niagara parks commission, with the resignation of some of the members. What will happen in this respect we are not yet told. Evidently that commission is under the process of some reorganization and perhaps, high time. But two weeks ago, March 2 and 3 to be precise, it was my privilege to be invited to

a hearing of two of the joint committees of the state of New York. I have had some rather good relationships with some of these people. We have discussed various things in addition to car safety and the whole problem of regional development, from time to time. I was invited to meet with them, or at least to make a presentation before that hearing.

These were two joint legislative committees of the state meeting in Niagara Falls, New York—the committee on housing and urban development, chaired by Senator Thomas Leverne and the joint legislative committee on metropolitan regional studies chaired by Senator Douglas Barclay. The hearing was arranged to give the city of Niagara Falls and the area extending south to Buffalo a chance to present to the state a concept of development which they had. It is a regional development idea which is now in the planning stage, and in some respects well beyond the planning stage and ready for implementation.

The job facing the Niagara Falls area is a big one. Under the present mayor of that city they have suddenly come to realize that they have one of the greatest natural assets, one of the greatest tourist attractions in the world, in their own backyard. Until this time they admit they have not done too much to make the most of these assets. They have laid out plans and I have not time this afternoon to give those plans in complete detail, but I do want to place before this House something of what they are hoping to do because primarily it affects the province of Ontario in a real way.

I was rather surprised to find that the airport of Niagara Falls, that tourist centre of the world, did not have a regular airline servicing it. No scheduled airline stopped there. It is simply a standby airport and an airport from which charter flights emanate. The mayor has ideas about that and he says that in the days to come, if the proper facilities are built, the Niagara Falls area can become the focal point for tremendous development of the tourism industry, and he is right.

Now with the coming of the jumbo jets, bearing 500 passengers at a time, Niagara Falls can be a magnet which can draw people from right around the world. But they should be drawn into Niagara Falls, with direct service in there. The first proposal which was made by the mayor was that the present Niagara Falls airport be developed and this would take state and federal funds. Three main jet ports now serve the New York area and a fourth one must be built because the jet pilots are now fuming as they are stacked

above Kennedy and La Guardia trying to get down. Some talk has been under way aimed at developing an airport out on Long Island in Suffolk, but this would create a major traffic headache and so that gives the planners some pause.

The New York people say, let us transfer, or translate, the present Niagara Falls airport into an international airport, the fourth one serving this area. Then people who are coming to Niagara Falls, Rochester, Buffalo and the whole area there, including Canada, can land there and can then move to where they want to go. They hope first of all these people will have a look at the Falls itself, as people likely will if they drop down that close to this scenic wonder of the world.

Air traffic at the present time is growing by leaps and bounds. Passenger travel is now doubling every four and a half years and air freight is doubling every four years. Transoceanic passenger traffic is doubling every three and a half years and transoceanic freight is doubling every three years. The Niagara Falls people feel that with this tremendous upsurge of passenger and freight that they are in a very strategic position to take advantage of it. More than that, expert witnesses, jet pilots and others who are in the field, testified that the natural advantage of a Niagara Falls site outweighed many others, certainly away ahead of New York and Buffalo and even Toronto.

This rather surprised me because I thought this location would be right in the snow belt, the same as Buffalo, but it is not. They get a much lower snowfall where the present airport in Niagara Falls is than they do in Buffalo, New York or even Toronto. There is another advantage—there are about 8,000 acres of land available including the 2,200 acres now there at the airport. That land can now be bought before building takes place and this is a tremendous advantage in thinking of the jumbo jet age and the approaches to the new airport.

Their proposal is that eventually, as this airport is developed, it will be laid out on the basis of two 17,000-foot runways, each capable of handling two planes at a time, one landing and one taking off, and the kind of facility there as an international airport that will employ about 18,000 people per shift. They are not thinking in any small terms.

And the thing that was very interesting was that the committee members from Albany who were at the hearing were very impressed by this presentation. At the banquet that

night the chairman committed himself to this project. He promised that it would be given very careful scrutiny and that his committee would recommend that state funds be made available and that they were going to Washington for whatever funds they felt should come from there to put this airport in the Niagara Falls area, just to the east of the present city.

The feeling was that when this airport is developed, it will become a magnet for tourism par excellence and that it will spur the speedy development of the whole Niagara frontier.

Coupled with this would be rapid transit from the airport to Buffalo and to Niagara Falls. They saw that rapid transit coming across the border to the Niagara escarpment, Hamilton, linking up with Toronto and Malton. This is their concept and this is where the thing hits this province.

I had said to them when I was invited over that I was not a member of the government. The Minister who is concerned most with this will be back in the House in a day or two, and it will be placed before him in due course. They said they simply wanted to get a point of view on this whole matter of regional government in which they knew I was interested, but that they would be making an official presentation and an official approach to the Ontario government within a reasonable time when some of the details were ironed out. I simply put that on the record so that this House knows what their plans are.

But they are thinking in new concepts of rapid transit. We had specialists before that committee, men who have been working with the new urbmobil concept, the small electric cars, cars that will take two, three, four people. They will leave the garage in the morning and go to a transit line where the cars will be coupled into line and either singly or in train formation speed downtown at 60 miles an hour. This is the kind of thinking that is being done at Cornell and we had Morton Wineberg there, the head of a research department on transportation, we had William Alden, the president of Alden Self-Transit Systems of Westborough, Massachusetts, who made us presentations and showed us what their thinking is and what they are trying to do.

And then of course in the Massachusetts institute of technology, this same kind of research work is going on with other types of urbmobils and the hope is that before too long these new kinds of vehicles, this new concept in transportation, will not only help

us to purify the air of our cities but will cut down on the need for expressways as we now know them and will make the whole transportation system in our cities far more viable.

Not only in our cities but in interurban travel, these smaller, lighter cars on tracks or with particular runways into which they fit, will be able to cut down on the large car traffic and provide speedy transportation within the city and throughout the region.

The people over there told us certainly that they are making prototypes and many prototypes have already run, but the batteries are still crude, the bugs have to be worked out. The concept is clear and prototype cars are built and will be in operation within a few years in certain areas. The Orville Wright stage of these transport systems will pass and development, the experts believe, will be very rapid. In any case, some form of rapid transit will serve the new airport complex and will revolutionize the northwest section of New York state. Mr. Speaker, I have still quite a bit of material—

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I could suggest that the member proceed for another few minutes until the House leader returns to his seat.

Mr. Young: All right. Along with the airport and the rapid transit, will go new ring roads around the whole Buffalo-Niagara Falls area, new expressways, linking northward and across into Canada. One thing that might be very interesting for the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme)—he likely has this information now—we were told that the capacity across the Niagara River is good for a great many years to come.

The Lewiston bridge, for example, the new one, has a capacity for 600 per cent more traffic than it now carries. The Whirlpool bridge is good for 50 per cent more traffic and the Rainbow bridge for 300 per cent more traffic than at present. The Minister of Highways then can link up with the state of New York in any way he wishes and know there is capacity there for traffic across those links.

Mr. Young moves the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Clerk of the House: Notice of motion No. 4, by Mr. M. Hamilton.

RESOLUTION: That the government should cooperate with the federal government to

initiate and develop a national agricultural policy for Canada.

Mr. M. Hamilton (Renfrew North): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by Mr. J. C. G. Demers (Nickel Belt), resolution No. 4 standing in my name, which has just been read.

Mr. Speaker, in this Centennial year it is essential for us to examine very carefully the situation of our most important primary producers, our farmers, for their efforts will continue to be the foundation stone of our development throughout the second century as they were in the first.

It is therefore vital for us to maintain and strengthen our agricultural industry and to ensure that the standard of living and the amenities available to our farmers and their families are second to none.

This is the constant aim of our Department of Agriculture and Food, under the dedicated leadership of the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart). In fact, as I was preparing this speech, the Minister announced the launching of a major study of farm incomes in the province of Ontario. This study will be carried out by a firm of consulting economists under the direction of the farm income committee, a committee formed by the Minister of Agriculture and Food at the conclusion of the Ontario conference on agriculture, held at Vineland in October of last year.

This farm income committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Everett Biggs, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food, has been meeting regularly since its formation, and has already received briefs from a number of farm and business organizations within the province.

In addition, Dr. H. L. Patterson, director of the farm economics and statistics branch of the Ontario government, has presented two reports on short term measures designed to alleviate low farm incomes, including a suggested programme for capital grants.

In November, a research sub-committee, consisting of Dr. M. A. MacGregor of the University of Guelph, and Professor L. Campbell, associate dean of arts and sciences, University of Toronto, was formed. It soon became evident to the farm income committee that a major research project was required to determine the extent of unsatisfactory incomes on Ontario farms. The firm of Hedlin, Menzies and Associates Limited, was selected for this task and their report is expected by about June 15 next.

This report will outline policies designed to ensure the sound growth of the Ontario

food and agricultural industries, an efficiently produced supply of good food for consumers and a more satisfactory level of income for all of Ontario's farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I have made mention of this study to illustrate once again, the deep and sincere concern of the hon. member for Middlesex North in our agricultural industry, and of his determination to arrive at long term policies, based upon comprehensive, thorough research and study by the most competent authorities that are available.

I would like to quote from the final paragraph of the press release from the Minister of Agriculture and Food of February 20, when he said:

It is recognized that the development and inauguration of sound, long term policies for agriculture will involve much greater interprovincial and national considerations than have existed up until now.

My resolution recognizes this fact, Mr. Speaker, and calls upon the federal government to develop a national agricultural policy which will serve as the basis upon which the individual provinces will construct their own long term programmes.

In spite of the most determined efforts of the Minister and his department, and of the various farm organizations within the province and the farmers themselves, it is quite clear that the agricultural industry as a whole, has not kept pace with the development of the rest of our economy.

This fact can be substantiated in an excellent and timely pamphlet produced by The Department of Agriculture and Food late last year which was entitled, "Your Food Costs". This pamphlet illustrates that while the cost of food to the consumer has risen steadily since 1939, it has not kept pace with most other items in the weekly household budget and more important, it shows that retail food prices have increased much more rapidly than the prices paid to our producers.

In fact, since 1949 while prices to the consumer have risen by some 35 per cent, prices to our farmers increased by only 14 per cent. In addition, agriculture in this province has been declining by comparison with other sectors of our economy, although it is still the most important industry in the primary sector.

Between 1951 and 1961, farm cash receipts rose from \$801 million to \$891 million. However, because of an increase in expenditures on machinery and equipment, the net

value of this product actually decreased by some \$30 million.

Throughout this period, there were substantial decreases in the number of farms, in farm acreage and in agricultural labour forces. Great credit is due to our farmers who have been forced to rapidly readjust to the rising production costs for fertilizer, feed, machinery and repairs.

Farmers have increased their productivity at an average of 5.4 per cent per year since the last war, as opposed to about 2 per cent for the industrial sector of our economy.

In fact, this increased productivity, on a per man basis, has surpassed any era in history and has been a major contributing factor in the industrial expansion of our economy.

Nevertheless, it remains a fact that our farmers have not shared as fully as they should, in the prosperity and growth of the economy in recent years.

In this regard, they are in a similar situation to farmers in the other provinces as well. There are, of course, many complex reasons for this situation. Time will not permit me to deal adequately with all of them, but one of the most important reasons, and the one with which my resolution is concerned, is the absence of a long term national agricultural policy.

In his closing remarks to the conference on international trade and Canadian agriculture, held at Banff on January 10 and 12 of 1966, Mr. David L. Kirk of the Canadian federation of agriculture expressed the situation in these terms, and I quote:

I have a personal feeling, difficult to substantiate for obvious reasons, that the Canadian government, in its trade negotiations and policy formation, is excessively expedient in its approach; that it is not looking hard enough for possible new negotiations and concepts of our own, but rather, to too great an extent, reacting *ad hoc* to the pressures and initiatives of others.

The situation was expressed more clearly and concisely by the hon. Maurice Sauvé, Minister of Forestry and Rural Development for the federal government who stated here in Toronto, on December 7 last:

It has been suggested that the establishment of a Canadian livestock feed board might have been set aside to await the creation of a national agricultural policy. The seriousness of the current situation, and the future demands to be placed

on transport and storage facilities in eastern Canada, certainly require immediate action and cannot await the time necessary to formulate such a policy.

I certainly agree and will urge that work begin soon to analyze and interpret the background of Canada's agricultural problems.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, we have in Canada today, 11 different agricultural policies, one federal and 10 provincial. Many of the programmes, quite naturally, are operating at cross purposes with one another.

Until these policies are effectively coordinated and integrated at the federal level, Ontario's agricultural industry will be unable to achieve its full potential and our farmers will be denied the maximum return possible for their produce.

Section 95 of The British North America Act granted concurrent powers in relation to agriculture and immigration to the provincial Legislatures, and to the Parliament of Canada. That agriculture and immigration should be grouped together under the same section, is indicative of the primitive state of the agricultural industry in 1867. In the stores which existed in those days, there were no Prince Edward Island potatoes, New Zealand lamb or United States fruits and vegetables.

Each small community was completely self-sufficient and self-contained, with its own mill, tannery, blacksmith's shop, wagon works and so on, while the food market was largely supplied by local farmers, after meeting their own requirements.

Over the years since those early days, there have been tremendous changes. The position of agriculture has been greatly affected by its role in national policy as a generator of commerce in peace time, and its defence role as a supply of needed food in a strategic area, in war time.

For example, Canada accepted her assigned role as a food provider, particularly wheat, in the first world war. As a consequence of policies such as the revival of The Homestead Act, loans for equipment in new areas and \$3 wheat, there was an expansion of crop land in western Canada of about 15 million acres in five years. With Europe back in production by 1921, we found ourselves with a production of nearly 15 million acres more than we had known and established markets for. We had no alternative but to adjust our production as best we could and to wait the expansion of population in Canada, and in

those markets which Canada normally supplies.

Our efforts to adjust were characterized by attempts to develop livestock export markets for swine and beef to provide an outlet for surplus grain. We were back in approximate adjustment with our known markets by 1937 and agriculture was beginning to improve in outlook when the second world war came along.

Again a policy of expansion was induced by a programme of some rise in price with other prices strictly controlled. In the latter years, subsidies were introduced to keep rising agricultural or food prices from pressing against wage freezes. It was a policy in western Canada to facilitate the clearing and breaking of new land, which, coupled with the price increase, enabled an expansion of eight and a half million acres of crop land between 1941 and 1951.

After the Korean war, we again found ourselves with a production of about 15 million acres of crop land for which we had no known or assured market. Again we adjusted by boosting livestock products and selling these products in exports.

Ontario has abandoned about 3.5 million acres of crop land since the end of the last war and Quebec plus the Maritimes, a similar amount. By 1957, the United States had become a deficit area for all the red meats, while we in Canada and the world at large have experienced an unprecedented growth in population.

By 1965, therefore, we were back where we could see a known market for every pound of agricultural product which we might produce. This is a new situation in the lives of most people now farming. It will call for many new adjustments of policy and thinking in the years ahead. In recent years Canada has become a major importer of food. The imports are mainly the type of product we grow in Ontario.

For example, in 1961 we imported fruits and vegetables of types grown in Ontario to the value of about \$140 million. In 1963, the total agricultural imports into Canada were valued at just over \$1 billion. In the same year our agricultural exports totalled over \$1.25 billion. Of this figure, almost \$850 million consisted of western wheat and wheat flour.

Of the type of agricultural products we can grow in eastern Canada, our imports in 1963 exceeded our exports by about \$500 million. Some of these are seasonal in nature, but even that is not necessarily a reason for im-

porting. Peas used to be imported fresh in winter, but thanks to quick freezing we are now an exporter of this commodity.

Research and technology may help to reduce the serious adverse balance in agricultural products but this whole area of international trade is primarily of concern to the federal government. It would be sensible for the federal government to give leadership in developing appropriate policies in this field.

In this connection it is relevant to note that Canadian agriculture has made remarkable adjustments in response to technological and market developments. In so doing, it has contributed to the growth of the entire economy and to making Canadian agriculture competitive in international markets. For that reason, it appears that our best interests would be served by a world-wide return to freer markets.

On the national scene, perhaps the most significant factor is the revolutionary change in the retail marketing of food products, brought about by the growth of chain stores, improved methods of packaging and storing and transporting these products. Today approximately 70 per cent of retail sales are now handled through chain outlets of one type or another. One of these chain stores may handle 3,500 or more products. These stores are not concerned with the profit margin on a single product, but rather on their total margin. Loss-leaders are often used to attract buyers and this practice may result in serious loss to the producers of that commodity in the area that might be concerned.

Buying is centralized and quantity and quality must be guaranteed well ahead of delivery dates. In the face of this highly centralized, well-organized and powerful retail organization, the small producer is at a very, very serious disadvantage. If he is to exercise any influence at all over prices, he must organize other producers and they must act together in marketing their product.

Ontario provides marketing legislation designed to ensure that producers can exert an influence over the marketing of their products and will thereby receive the best possible price for it. Of course this legislation is provincial in scope. It cannot and does not prevent the same commodity flowing in from another province to take advantage of the higher price available as a result of the marketing board's authority. If producers in one province are not to destroy their neighbours in the next, then there must either be co-ordinated provincial marketing arrangements,

or a national marketing commission to deal with the problem.

This subject, Mr. Speaker, will be dealt with more fully later in the resolution that has been presented on farm marketing and which has been tabled by the hon. member for Northumberland.

I would like to mention briefly a few of the characteristics of agriculture which set it apart from other industries and which explain the need for special consideration for those involved in producing our food.

There is a greater uncertainty in this business than in any other. The farmer must contend not only with the weather, disease and other uncertainties of nature, but with rapid changes in prices. If he is lucky, he may harvest a bumper crop but without price stabilizing arrangements his increase in output may be more than offset by the lower prices that he receives.

Increases in income do not always lead to a proportionate increase in demand for farm products. You cannot, in other words, add useful gadgetry or chrome to his products and thereby demand a higher price. As the economists say, we have an inelastic supply and demand curve. As the demand increases, prices rise sharply; or, as more often happens, as supply increases prices drop sharply to offset the increased quantities.

Rapid technological change has led to very heavy capital expenditures for expensive machinery and equipment. Not all farmers have been able to afford these expenditures and this in turn has led to the farm exodus and indirectly to the ARDA programme.

At the same time, of course, the new methods have increased farm productivity and have been a factor in keeping prices lower than they actually should be.

The fourth characteristic is the comparative immobility of the farmer. Individual workers are reluctant to move from one industry to another, even if it means a pay increase. For the farmer however, to leave his farm and take a job in the city is a much more difficult adjustment involving the type of work, his independence, hours of work, residence, and so on. This factor is one which, I feel, is overlooked by those who willy-nilly complain about delays in the ARDA programme.

The final characteristic I would like to mention is that farming without special arrangements is what economists would call a purely competitive industry. It consists of such a large number of individual producers that unless they combine or receive govern-

ment assistance they are unable, in view of the marketing organization which faces them today, to exercise any influence over prices.

It is not my intention today to suggest what our national agricultural policies should be. The federal government has an elaborate organization in Ottawa, headed up by Hon. J. J. Greene, to formulate such a policy. This situation is not unlike that raised by my colleague in the House recently on the subject of air pollution. In this matter, as in agriculture, each province is going ahead with its own research into the problem and its own corrective measures, without effective guidance and coordination at the federal level. The same situation applies to agriculture in this province.

Farmers of Ontario are not now receiving and will not in the future receive, their full share of the national prosperity and growth until their efforts are properly integrated at the federal level into a national policy embracing all aspects of the agriculture and food industry. For example, research, education, production, marketing, interprovincial and international trade.

To accomplish this it seems imperative that there be regular and frequent federal-provincial conferences on agriculture similar to that which was held at Vineland last fall. Once again in the absence of any federal initiative in this field it would seem very appropriate for the government of Ontario to invite the other jurisdictions to an exploratory conference on agricultural problems in this Centennial year. If this conference did nothing more than establish the major problem areas and how these should be tackled, it would be most worthwhile as the first step in the initiation of a national agricultural policy.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Speaker, this resolution is that the government should cooperate with the federal government to initiate and develop a national agricultural policy for Canada.

I must say that I listened with great interest to the hon. member for Renfrew North, who brought forth the problems facing agriculture, the prices that the farmers receive for their products, and the difference in what the consumers pay for their food. I was glad to hear him mention or bring forth that the Minister of Agriculture and Food of this province is going to make a survey of farm income throughout this province and the report could be available in June. I think that is a step in the right direction.

I must say, too, Mr. Speaker, I am very glad the hon. member for Renfrew North saw fit to move this resolution, bring it forth here. I have attended many meetings and I have heard many speakers say we should have a national agriculture policy for Canada, but I never heard the subject debated. This afternoon will give us an opportunity to hear the views of all parties in this House on this very important subject.

I believe this resolution is one of the most important resolutions to come before this Legislature this year. There is no doubt that Canada needs a national policy in the food industry. The lack of such a policy has had some unfortunate results. We have not been able to tackle some of the agricultural industry's most pressing problems because we lack a long-term policy. In some cases we have been forced to adopt almost day-to-day solutions.

An industry which is as important to Canada as agriculture just cannot be operated on this basis. A national agricultural policy is necessary for many reasons, Mr. Speaker.

First, it is quite obvious that the farmers in different parts of Canada have similar basic problems. These problems in many cases can only be tackled effectively on a national scale.

Second, Mr. Speaker, any agriculture policy must face the question of imports and exports, of course, are a matter for national government. It is pointless to set up an agricultural policy without considering the question of import.

Third, a good many of our agricultural products cross provincial boundaries. Without some clear-cut policy and the federal-provincial cooperation, we could get into real trouble.

Fourth, in some cases the federal government has a great deal to say about exports or farm produce and clearly we have to consider exports in any farm programme.

Fifth, there is the question of mobility, of farm labour and capital. I do not think we can force farmers to stay in one area or in one province and our policies must be designed to make it as easy as possible for farmers to move from one area to another or to new jobs where it is in their interest to do so.

Sixth, any long-term farm policies must take into account the ARDA programme and this is, as we all know, a federal-provincial scheme. In short, Mr. Speaker, I am arguing that agriculture is a national industry and as

such it requires national policies. It is not in the long-term interest of the farmers of this nation to have 10 different policies; 10 different policies which differ basically from each other. This kind of approach can only lead to squabbles, poorly administered programmes and chaos in the end. And surely this is not in the best interest of our farmers as a whole.

At a time, Mr. Speaker, when the common market countries are trying to hammer out a coordinated approach to agriculture, we cannot consider any policies which would divide and separate our food industry.

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, one of the real problems in Canadian agriculture has been the lack of coordination at the federal-provincial level. Our farmers are growing tired of arguments between Ottawa and Queen's Park, and as to who should do what, and they want action. They want to see the job done. For too many years some urgent problem in agriculture has not been solved because politicians argue about the fine print.

Both Ottawa and any of the provinces have a real stake in agriculture, they must get together and work out a coordinated approach to the basic problems affecting this very important industry.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, I think this country needs a basic national agriculture policy. But this does not mean that the details of agriculture policies in the 10 provinces have to be the same. Obviously while the provinces have many problems in common, they are different as well.

I think what we must have is a basic national policy, a policy on which the provinces can build their own policies, to meet their own particular needs. A national agriculture policy has been talked about for many, many years but so far little has been accomplished. What can we do to get this ball rolling, Mr. Speaker?

First, I think we can have a meeting, a full-dress federal-provincial conference on the problems of agriculture in the sixties. I think each of the provinces should send its Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture. The groundwork for such meeting should be well laid out in advance, well thought out by prepared and properly presented papers.

I do not think we will solve all the problems at one meeting, Mr. Speaker, quite likely a series of meetings will be required. But we must make a start if we are going to deal with this problem.

Secondly, I think the provinces and Ottawa should set up a committee of civil servants

to coordinate policy and exchange information. In the past we have had meetings of officials of the federal government and the Ontario government but in most cases these were meetings to discuss particular crises.

At times, these meetings have become quite heated, they have brought home to me that we are trying to solve our farm problems, piece by piece.

We cannot expect to get a clearcut farm policy at a time when politicians are under pressure and farmers are demonstrating on tractors, are threatening to strike, we have to have more meetings conducted in quiet and sane atmospheres where we can talk about the real underlying problems sensibly.

A national farm policy will not come overnight but we must take steps to formulate such a policy right now. Unfortunately, in some cases the problem of agriculture has been made a political football and in this game it is the farmers who always seem to lose. The provinces must get behind the national policy. We cannot afford to repeat the mistakes this province made in the first years of the ARDA programme, as has been said many times.

This province did not make use of the ARDA programme as much as it might have been used, even though the federal funds were available. This year it would appear that Ontario will use ARDA to a much greater extent and that gives me a great deal of hope that in other questions involving our farmers we will get the necessary federal and provincial cooperation.

There is no question, Mr. Speaker, that the real needs of the farmers can only be solved by throwing the total resources of our nation behind these programmes.

We have had part answers and short term solutions, Mr. Speaker, but when 25 cents a hundredweight subsidy on manufactured milk can cost a government \$800,000 a month, it is time for us to use our resources in a reasonable and coordinated fashion. Unless we do, the interest of the farmers will be submerged and all of us will be losers.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, I listened with interest to the hon. gentleman from Kent East lamenting the fact that we have talked about a national agricultural policy in Ottawa for years, but what can we do to get it started? For the last 22 years, you have had 16 years of Liberals and six years of Tories, so implied in his statement was a criticism of the Liberal Party for not

having come to grips with this, and of course, he is correct. Ottawa has not come to grips with the issue.

However, I want to get back to the basic resolution itself, because quite frankly, it puzzles me a little. It states that the government should cooperate with the federal government to initiate and develop a national agricultural policy for Canada. Well, obviously the answer is "yes", Mr. Speaker. Agriculture falls in the jurisdiction of the federal and provincial governments. The proposition of saying that the provincial government should share with the federal government and cooperate with them in getting a national agricultural policy is about as revolutionary as saying that you are against sin, in favour of motherhood, God and the Queen.

The question is, how are you going to do it and upon what principles are you going to do it? I listened with great interest to the hon. member for Renfrew North, as I have listened with great interest to the Minister for years, and we still have not got an enunciation of the principles upon which that national agricultural policy might be developed. We had a far-ranging explanation as to the problems facing agriculture, the nature of Canadian agriculture, the problem of imports and things of that nature. But if this government and the hon. member for Renfrew North are interested in a national agricultural policy, while I am not going to say to him that he should be able to spell it out at the moment—this is being studied; the government has set up a committee—but at least, Mr. Speaker, I would think that it would be time for this government to accept or reject the principles upon which that policy could be built. We have had no word, I repeat, from either the hon. member or from the Minister with regard to the principles.

If nobody had enunciated any principle so that it was a complete vacuum and we were wandering around in the dark, so to speak, not knowing in what direction we wanted to go, there might be some excuse for it but, Mr. Speaker, I am beginning to grow a little suspicious. Is the government opposed, since they have for so long failed to indicate any support for the principles that were enunciated, for example, at the Vineland conference, as the basis for an agricultural policy? Is the government opposed to them? I think the time has come for somebody on these government benches to speak up; instead, by your silence you begin to create the impression that you were opposed.

I said during the agricultural estimates that the Minister had evaded coming to grips with this basic issue in agriculture—the issue of income—last year and he evaded it again this year. The hon. member has once again evaded it, in terms of at least a discussion of the principles.

What were the principles that were spelled out at Vineland, sir? At Vineland there was a gathering of some 300 to 400 people who were invited guests of the Minister of Agriculture and Food from farm organizations, from allied industries, from government departments and from the Canadian association of consumers and consumer bodies. The remarkable achievement of the Vineland conference, Mr. Speaker, was that there emerged in the two major farm groups some common ground, in terms of the principles, for an agricultural policy.

I think I can make my point best by recalling, for those who happened to attend that conference, that when the spokesman for the Ontario federation of agriculture rose and presented the proposals, they said that a year ago they would not have been saying what he was saying then. The federation had become persuaded by events in the last year that this was the only way in which they could come to grips with the shaping of an agricultural policy. I will come to the details of it in one moment.

The encouraging thing, Mr. Speaker, was that in indicating they had changed their minds, they had moved away from some of the important principles in their approach to agricultural policy in the past, and taken a position which was very close to the one that the farmers union had been enunciating down through the years. In other words, instead of a wide gulf in the basic approach of the federation of agriculture and the farmers union, you had a fair overlapping, a fair amount of common ground. To my mind this was a major step forward, because I think it raises the prospect that you will have unity on the farm front, at least in this area of seeking a basic farm policy.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, once you begin to enunciate that policy, it is going to involve provincial and federal governments. May I just quote two paragraphs in the appropriate goals that were spelled out by the Ontario federation of agriculture. One is:

A national system of annual production payments based on the gross value of production of each farmer as indicated by bills of sale.

Clearly, there they envisage joint action by provincial and federal governments. Then later there was another goal:

Financial support for the proposed programme to come jointly from provincial and federal government sources.

In other words, instead of having two separate policies, we are going to have one policy and the policy will be, in effect, worked out by both governments. It will be supported jointly by both governments.

What are the principles of this policy, Mr. Speaker—these principles, on which the government has been so silent for so long that I am beginning to wonder if they are in favour of them or not. The basic principle is this, that the spokesmen for organized agriculture in the province of Ontario—some of them saying that for the first time they were enunciating this—were willing to accept, not only willing, but felt maybe it was wise to accept, the proposition of a so-called “cheap” food policy. It is not cheap to the consumer, but it is certainly cheap as far as the returns that are coming in to the farmer are concerned.

They said that they were content to accept the proposition of a so-called “cheap” food policy, because it was anti-inflationary and if you tried to force the consumer to pay everything that the farmer needed, you would put the price of food even higher than it is at the present time. This would be a politically suicidal kind of policy so that no government is going to advocate. Certainly it would be an anti-social policy because it would put the cost of food beyond those whose budgets are a pretty tight kind of affair at the present time.

In short, they were accepting, for a variety of reasons, that a cheap food policy was not only an inevitable but perhaps a desirable thing.

Secondly—and almost as an accompaniment of this—was recognition of the fact that the farmer cannot, through his own collective strength in the market place, get enough out of that market place to meet his needs in terms of capital, income and everything else. Even with marketing schemes, the farmer improves his position but he cannot improve his position to the point where he makes enough to cover his capitalization requirements as well as a decent income. Therefore, what you should content yourself with is the inevitability that the farmers are going to do their best through their marketing schemes to—if I may use my own terminology again—“slug it out in the marketing place” to

get as much as they possibly can. That will not be enough for their needs and therefore there will have to be added to it an income incentive from the federal and provincial treasuries.

Dr. Kristjanson was a bit more explicit on the mechanics of it than anybody else. The mechanics would be to establish a unit for measuring the amount of production on the farm. You would need a minimum amount to make it justifiable to say that this was really a serious, viable farm unit, so that you would cut out the person who is just playing at farming and not a serious, full-time farmer. Finally, you would have a ceiling on the amount of production on which you would pay this income incentive, so that you would make the contribution in the income incentive to the family farm, rather than to the corporate farm, which has tended to get the lion's share of subsidies up until now.

In short, we have spelled out the principles of a food policy which are going to be implemented federally and provincially, jointly by these two governments.

Now what this government has done is to set up a committee. It is a Minister's advisory committee, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food, having on it some four or five people, the majority of whom were the most bitter and vigorous critics of the government during the course of the Vineland conference.

The interesting thing is that when this committee got down to work, they discovered that it simply did not have the basic material with which they could come to any conclusions.

In other words, both this government and in Ottawa, the Departments of Agriculture have been so preoccupied down through the years with the problem of production—to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before—that they had not given any real attention to the problem of marketing and more important, to the problem upon which agriculture is going to survive, namely income, with the result that the information simply was not available.

Now it is all very well for the hon. member for Renfrew North to say that the government has established a study now. What happened was that this committee established a study because they recognized that their personnel, and even the people on whom they could draw on a part-time basis, could not come up with the basic information required here.

So they have hired Hedlin, Menzies and Associates, who are regarded in the field as

being an authoritative group of agricultural economists, and they are doing the study for the Minister's committee.

The hon. member for Renfrew North now says we may hear from them by June 15. I am a little disappointed. The last time I checked, I was told it was going to be May. It is like the horizon that recedes the closer you get to it.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Like the Smith report.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, it is like the Smith report.

However, Mr. Speaker, if I may say finally, in terms of principles of an agricultural policy, that the attractive thing about the proposition that has been put forward and that we are now trying to work out, is that instead of having an agricultural policy which is piecemeal, which is stop-gap and emergency in nature, is that when a problem arises in the income of agriculture, one or another government, the federal or the provincial, rushes in with some sort of bailing-out process—a little subsidy here, a little subsidy there.

The net result is that the public is given the impression that there are hundreds of millions of dollars going into agriculture and that agriculture is the recipient of almost endless numbers of handouts. A false impression, because even with the "handouts" the economic security of agriculture simply is not assured.

What we are seeking to do now is to put all of this on a regularized, rational systematic basis. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, I think what we are attempting to do in the field of agriculture is comparable to the kind of thing that is now being proposed in the area of social security and welfare.

Instead of having the whole range of social legislation to meet this, that or the next social need, perhaps the best thing to do is to wipe it all out, and say that any human being requires a basic income, \$3,000 as an individual, or \$4,000 as a family, and by the "reverse income tax" procedures, at the end of the year, you say if you have made more than that, you pay an income tax. If you have not made that much, you are paid money to bring your income up to that decent level.

Essentially the same principle is going to be applied, as I understand the proposition, in terms of an income incentive policy that, instead of having stop-gaps here and stop-gaps there, you will have a definition of agricultural production; you will have a mini-

mum production need to qualify as a farm; you will have a maximum beyond which you are not going to get any incentive; so that you are not going to bolster and strengthen the corporate farm to drive the family farm out of the picture. These income incentives will, therefore, in a sense, guarantee that that farmer is producing enough of these units of production to enable him to have an income to meet not only his family and his own income needs, but to meet his capital needs.

In short, Mr. Speaker, obviously nobody could avoid supporting the motion. The motion is a plea for this government to sit down with the federal government and to work out a policy that we have—and the hon. member for Kent East is correct—that we have been dragging our feet down through the years, indeed down through the generations.

But I would like to believe, since we have at least a bit more time, that somebody on the government side is going to indicate the principles of the agricultural policy that this government has.

At least let them indicate whether they agree or disagree with the principles that were enunciated at Vineland, and presumably upon which the Minister's advisory committee is now operating.

Mr. J. C. G. Demers (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, as the seconder of the resolution made by the hon. member for Renfrew North, I am very pleased to participate in this debate and to lend my support to his appeal for the development in Canada of a national agricultural policy.

I also would like, as the hon. member has done, to commend the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food, for his efforts on behalf of the agricultural industry of Ontario. His record, like that of the other departments of this government, is one of steady progress, based upon sound research and the advice of the best experts available in this field.

I realize, of course, that our friends in the Opposition must criticize but I feel that the necessity for criticism blinds their eyes to the solid progress which has been achieved in the field of agriculture.

I would just like to offer them this bit of advice. I think they should endeavour to be patient of the faults or imperfections of others, for they have many faults and imperfections of their own that require forbearance.

If they are not able to make of themselves what they would like, how can they expect

to mould another in conformity with their own wishes?

Now since agriculture is one of the very basic industries in this province, it behooves every member, I feel, to take a very close interest in this industry, in view of its unique situation as explained earlier by my colleague, the member for Renfrew North.

In addition, in my remarks this afternoon, I would like to concentrate on one particular aspect which should play an important part in our national agricultural policy. I refer to the role that our agricultural products are paying in relieving the shortage of food which exists in the world today.

Two-thirds of the world's population, as we are aware, are starving. The deficit food areas include all of Asia except Japan and Israel. All of Africa, except the southern tip, the northern portion of South America, all of Central America and the Caribbean.

This, the third world food survey, estimated that on the basis of the U.N. population projection, world food supplies would need to be increased by more than one-third by 1975 to simply maintain the present low standard.

If the nutritional content is to be improved, world food supplies would have to be increased by 50 per cent. For less developed areas, supplies would have to rise by 80 per cent and animal foods and meat, by 120 per cent. To provide adequate nutritional levels in the year 2000, forecasts indicate that food supplies must be tripled.

It is clear from the above figures, Mr. Speaker, that there is a very urgent need for agricultural and food commodities throughout the world.

Agriculture can, and must, play an increasingly important role in the maintenance of peace and stability and as a means of improving, and speeding up, the development of our new nation. Agriculture has a very important role to perform in this struggle with communism, which we know is a cold war.

The food and agricultural organization of the United Nations, known as FAO, pointed out, in a basic study of nutrition and working efficiency, that inadequate food reduces working efficiency by decreasing the worker's resistance to disease, increasing the rate of absenteeism, causing lethargy, lack of initiative and drive, and increasing accident rates.

In other words, food is a basic commodity in the industrial development of any nation. Education, technology, schools or new equipment are of little value in these countries if the inhabitants are starving.

And while we cannot ignore these other forms of assistance, it is clear that unless the people are reasonably well fed, they will not derive maximum value from the other forms of assistance we provide to them.

Studies have been carried out by a number of different authorities of India, Colombia, Japan, Pakistan, Greece, Brazil, Israel and Tunisia and assessments made of the world's food programme.

These studies show that concessional sales, and grants of food, help to prevent inflation while local industrialization projects were carried out, and that these sales and grants of food helped to raise the productivity of the worker.

The studies indicated positive gain in terms of investment, growth, stability and the general welfare of the people. And certainly most important, is the contribution they made in a humanitarian way.

Contributions assist the conduct of specific development projects and reduce the needs for scarce foreign exchange which could be released for other important capital goods. The studies, of course, also disclose that there are weaknesses in this type of programme and that it has not been as efficient as direct cash equivalent aid to the countries concerned.

Non-commercial bilateral food aid programmes, that is, outright gifts of food, tended to be market-expended. The U.S. indicates that countries that were the recipients of food aid have subsequently expanded commercial purposes from the United States.

For example, commercial sales to Spain from the U.S. increased at an average of \$11 million a year during the period 1955-1957 and to \$112 million in 1963. Increases were larger in products which were received as aid prior to 1962. It, therefore, seems clear that concessional sales and grants of agricultural commodities, surplus or otherwise, help to raise the health of the people and contribute to their economic development.

Our internal surpluses of food, if used properly, can perform the dual role of providing aid and assisting in the development of future markets for us.

And what about our Canadian programme? Our aid to developing countries may be divided into three categories, bilateral, multilateral and emergency programmes. The bilateral assistance is extended to the Colombo plan of south and southeast Asia, Commonwealth and French-speaking African states, Commonwealth countries in the Caribbean and countries in Latin America.

During the fiscal year 1955-1956, the food aid programme reached a level of \$20 million, with an additional \$50 million for special development loans. In 15 years we have contributed over half a billion dollars to the Colombo plan, mostly to the Commonwealth countries of Ceylon, India, Malaysia and Pakistan. This has taken the form of capital aid for the construction of dams, technical experts, education and training facilities and grants of commodity aid and equipment.

Our aid to Africa has been directed primarily to the development of educational facilities and the same applies of course to the French-speaking African and to the Caribbean countries.

Further, in the category of multilateral assistance, Canada's contribution to the United Nations food and agricultural organization world programme on July 24, 1963, Mr. Sharp announced that beginning with the 1964-65 aid budget Canada would give food stuffs under a new special programme distinct from development aid, and the new programme was to consolidate all Canadian food assistance including contributions to the United Nations FAO world food programme and the UN relief and work agency. The total fund for food will begin with \$15 million and over the next years reach an annual expenditure of about \$40 million per year. The value of this new programme will not be known for several years, but the circumstances of its launching suggest that it was conceived essentially to stabilize our own surplus disposal rather than as a long term programme to aid the under-developed countries.

It seems clear from this brief description of our efforts to date that there is considerable scope for the development of an aid programme which will involve substantially larger amounts of agricultural and food commodities.

Now, the emergency relief assistance programme operates on the bilateral basis and it is designed mainly to offer quick response to disasters abroad.

I think Mr. Speaker, that it is clear that expedience is playing a very large part in Canada's food aid programme. Furthermore, in comparison with the United States, we have operated on a very small scale indeed.

What about the United States programme? Early in 1966 the United States shifted the philosophy of its food for peace programme from the negative one of surplus disposal, to a positive programme of producing to fill the need.

Tied to this programme were measures to produce greater agricultural self-help in the recipient countries and to make food aids a more integrated element of general programmes of economic cooperation. A total of \$500 million in aid was proposed; one-third to finance import of fertilizer from the United States, and the remainder to finance transfer of American farming techniques, improvements of roads, marketing and irrigation facilities, extension services, cooperatives and credit facilities, purchases of American farm equipment and pesticides and research on soil and seed improvement.

As the President stated in his message to Congress in February, 1966, "These programmes will have long range benefits for our own farmers. Higher incomes abroad mean greater exports for our highly efficient food products."

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, our farmers have been fortunate that Russia and China are pure socialist countries. There we have had ample evidence of the ruin which results from a nationalized agricultural industry, and in view of this it is small wonder that our farmers regard all socialists with deep suspicion. This ruin has resulted in exceptionally heavy demands for our wheat over the last few years, demands which are unlikely to be sustained at their present levels forever.

Any "food for peace" programme requires public support to succeed. I believe that public acceptance of such programmes in this country can only be described as overwhelming, but the several groups of dedicated people now involved in such programmes need leadership and encouragement from the public sector.

The existing programmes sponsored by CARE have been successful to the cooperation of several service groups such as Lions' clubs. Most programmes have not been limited to food, but cover every imaginable facet of human need. The OXFAM food and

self-help programme has been one of the most successful, and I was proud to learn over the weekend that a branch of OXFAM has just been established in Sudbury. A Mr. William Glennie, one of the constituents of the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha), promoted the establishment of the Sudbury branch.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I discovered during a conversation with one of the dedicated OXFAM officials here in Toronto today, that our chairman, the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Reilly), is one of the great humanitarians working under the OXFAM banner here in Toronto.

The federal government rather than simply reacting to good fortune should, I suggest, as the hon. member for Renfrew North has suggested, be developing positive long-term policies which will ensure the stability as well as the high level of income for our farmers in the years ahead. It should, Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member said, be developing a long-range national agricultural policy for this country, and one of the key programmes I suggest in this national policy should be a greatly expanded "food for peace" programme along the lines of that adopted by the United States in 1966.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, we will continue with the estimates of the Attorney General and thereafter, the estimates of The Departments of Tourism and Information and Energy and Resources Management. There will be no night sitting tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock p.m.



Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Thursday, March 16, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1967

The House met at 2:30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, in the east gallery, students from Glenwood public school, Windsor; and in the west gallery students from Holy Cross separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE INSURANCE ACT

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Insurance Act.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, the amendments proposed will make the statutory conditions with respect to the termination of fire insurance policies similar to those involved with the termination of automobile insurance policies. And further, these amendments are designed to help establish uniformity across Canada.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to make a statement with reference to the classification of provincial parks in Ontario.

Outdoor recreation has become increasingly important in today's complex and changing society. More leisure time, increased disposal income, rapid urbanization and improved mobility all have contributed to the tremendous acceleration in outdoor recreation demands.

The Ontario provincial park programme plays a significant part in meeting this demand. The 96 provincial parks recorded almost ten million visits, including a total of just under one million campers during the 1966 park season. In order that the provincial

parks programme may better serve the needs of the people of our great province, I am pleased to inform the House that I propose to initiate a system of park classification under which all provincial parks will be classified and all land within the parks will be zoned in accordance with the major purpose for the establishment and management of park lands.

This classification, Mr. Speaker, will entail not only the allocation of existing parks to the appropriate park classes, but will also include the establishment of two new types of parks to meet new and changing recreation needs. It is the primary purpose of this new programme to achieve a complete and balanced park system and to establish a policy framework for its positive and effective development and management.

Among the parks classification system will be the following park classes:

The first type will be the primitive park. The major purpose of the primitive park class is to set aside representative areas of natural landscapes for posterity and to provide for present day wilderness recreation activities and for educational and scientific use. This class of park is reserved from all natural resource exploitation, the use of mechanized equipment and vehicles is restricted to area protection and emergency demands, and only primitive recreational facilities are provided, such as portages, primitive campsites and trails.

As an example of the primitive park, Cape Henrietta Maria at the northwest corner of James Bay will be established. For the hon. members who may not be too familiar with this interesting area in northeastern Ontario, it is that point of land at the northwestern extremity of James Bay where it adjoins Hudson Bay. It is on the 55th parallel of latitude and in area it comprises 144,000 acres of land.

Here, Mr. Speaker, are flora and fauna with an arctic element found nowhere else in Ontario. Arctic mammals, such as the walrus, polar bear and bearded seal occur here; as well as at least 11 species of arctic birds, including snow geese that nest nowhere else in the province.

The second class is the wild river park, which I know the hon. members are interested in. The purpose of parks in this class is to preserve the natural aesthetic and historic quality and the natural flow of significant rivers and sections of rivers for present recreational use and enjoyment for posterity.

Renewable resource management and utilization will be permitted on a controlled basis and developed facilities will be minimal, for example, portages, access points and primitive camp sites.

Examples of these wild river parks will be sections of the Winisk, the Attawapiskat and Severn Rivers, flowing into Hudson or James Bays, and part of the Mattawa immediately west of the Ottawa River. The latter named is a section of that great canoe route that has played such a significant role in the exploration of western Ontario and western Canada, and in the fur trade that formed the first industry of our land.

The third class will be the natural environment parks, also known as heritage parks. The purpose of this class is to set aside for the primary purposes of recreation and education areas of outstanding scenic, natural or historic significance for the use and benefit of present and future generations. This park class includes facility and service provisions for a range of recreational uses in a natural environment.

The park interpretive programmes is an essential element of this class. These areas are managed under the multiple-use principle, recognizing recreation as the dominant use in all areas. Examples are Algonquin park, Quetico park, Pinery park, Kilbear park, and Bon Echo park.

The fourth class are recreation parks, probably the class that is best known to us. This class of parks is dominantly user-oriented and while every attempt is made to retain the natural environment, the environment may be substantially modified to accommodate intensive campground and day visitor recreational use. There are two sub-classes, namely recreation areas, which are predominantly day use areas; for example, beaches and picnic areas, and campgrounds, which are oriented towards camper use.

Examples of the area park are Wasaga Beach and Holiday Beach and of the campground type, Black Lake and Rushing River park.

The last class are nature reserves. This final class in the classification system is established to preserve unique natural areas for scientific and educational uses and for the

enjoyment and interest of the public, where this use will not be detrimental to the natural values to be protected. These areas will be large enough to fully protect the natural feature and will commonly be not more than 640 acres. Protection might be afforded to unique stands of trees, rare species of birds and flowers, the particular habitat of some variety of bird, some geological or mineral formations, and so forth.

As an example, Agate Island, in the Thunder Bay district. The purpose is to preserve a source of agates of 148 acres.

Turkey Point bog, in Norfolk county; the purpose, the preservation of orchids, about 53 acres.

In Matawachan, in Renfrew county; the purpose, the preservation of hardwood stand of trees, approximately 160 acres.

In addition, as previously noted, lands within parks will be zoned for planning, development and management purposes, under a system of five zones which are (a) the primitive zone, similar to the primitive park concept; (b) natural zone, which is similar in purpose to the nature reserve; (c) historic zone, to protect areas of historic significance; (d) multiple-use zone, within which other renewal resources may be managed and utilized, and (e) recreation zone which incorporates lands required for present and future recreational use with attendant facility development.

This park classification and zoning, Mr. Speaker, will facilitate rational planning for a complete and balanced provincial park system within which outstanding areas of aesthetic, natural, cultural, historic and scientific significance will be protected for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

It is intended that a long range master plan be prepared for each park which will guide its development and management in harmony with the purpose of the park class to which it belongs.

I am confident, Mr. Speaker, that the proposals I have placed before you today will usher in a new era in growth and management of our well known provincial park system.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Tourism and Information): I beg leave to present the annual report of the Centennial centre of science and technology for the year 1966.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That should be good.

Hon. R. Welch (Provincial Secretary): I beg leave to present to the House the following:

1. The annual report of the office of the registrar general for the year ending December 31, 1966.

2. The report of the Provincial Secretary of Ontario with respect to the administration of part IX of The Corporations Act for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1966.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of personal privilege.

My point of privilege refers to certain statements made in the comments by the member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent) in the Budget Debate yesterday. In the first instance, he said either the Provincial Treasurer or the Minister of Highways are falsifying their statements to the House. Later on in the same speech, he commented that the Provincial Treasurer was part of the act:

He was the Minister of Highways for some four or five years and party to the same statement. This is a matter of fact, and the fact that this Minister and the Provincial Treasurer are falsifying these things to the House, is just an example of one small thing that is going on.

May I make reference, Mr. Speaker, to an item in the *Globe and Mail*, the early edition, which comments on the statement to which I have made reference as follows:

He charged in the Legislature, Provincial Treasurer Charles MacNaughton had made false statements when he denied the government directed payment of commissions. The Department of Highways and the Hydro tell General Motors and Ford to which dealers the commission should be paid and these are Tory dealers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to put some facts on the record, if I may, and I have reference to a news item in the *Globe and Mail* of March 2, 1965, reporting on statements made by myself to the public accounts committee when The Department of Highways was being examined by that committee:

A member of the committee asked whether the commission is divided among all company dealers or to a few nominated by someone in the government. Highways Minister Charles MacNaughton replied that he did not know anyone in the government who nominated dealers for commissions. "Let me be frank" Mr. MacNaughton added, "I have never felt it was

my job to intrude in the internal policies of the automobile companies."

If I may pursue it a little further and make reference to an editorial in the *Globe and Mail* of March 16, 1965, by Mr. Scott Young, entitled:

DOUBLE O SEVEN AND DOUBLE O EIGHT
AT WORK

A question by the member for Downsview:

Does the company ask you where the commission for the sale should go?

Then hon. member for Sudbury (Operator 008) quickly: Shouldn't the Minister answer this one?

Mr. MacNaughton: We feel that that is a private matter.

Hon. member for Downsview: Does anybody in The Department of Highways have any say in where that pay-back goes?

Mr. MacNaughton: Not in The Department of Highways.

Hon. member for Sudbury: Any one you know then?

Answer: No.

Mr. Speaker, I say categorically to this House, and deny categorically, that I have ever made a false statement to this House in this instance or in any instance that I am aware of, nor have I ever made a false statement to a committee of this House.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Prime Minister. The press this morning stated:

Leonard Reilly, PC, Eglinton, said yesterday Premier John Robarts plans review of a policy whereby appeals from the Ontario municipal board decisions are considered in private by Cabinet. Mr. Reilly said later that most members and Ministers agreed that the member whose constituency is affected should be told about the petition and the decision.

In this consideration, will the "member whose constituency is affected" include Opposition members?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the answer is yes.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): That will be a change.

Mr. Young: I have another question, Mr. Speaker, of the hon. Minister of Education.

Does the Minister intend to amend subsection 2 of section 41 of The Schools Administration Act to enable school boards to contribute two-thirds towards the cost of their employees' welfare plan so that school board employees will be in a position to receive the same benefits now available to municipal employees?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education): Mr. Speaker, this matter has not been determined. If it is decided it will be introduced in the appropriate legislation forthcoming under The Department of Education.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, are you aware of this camera in the gallery here? Is there some significance to that, might I ask; or does it pose an interference with the conduct of the business of the House?

Hon. W. D. McKeough (Minister without Portfolio): They wanted to put us all on television.

Mr. Sopha: May I inquire who is the owner of the camera and what purpose it is here?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Sopha: Is this an employee of the Tory party?

Mr. Speaker: There are not supposed to be any cameras in the gallery. Permission was given to have a picture taken of the House in session, but I understood that was to be done last week. Whether it was done or not, I do not know. If this is a different case—

Mr. Sopha: Well we understand there was great activity this morning in the Tory party to get pictures taken of all the members, and I wondered.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That is why they are all here today.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I understood the picture was to be taken from the Speaker's gallery. Perhaps the Minister can tell us about it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Speaker, if I might illuminate on the subject, the photographs that are being taken are being taken by the staff of my department. They are the photographs that were to be taken last week and I understood that the permission that was granted then was still in effect.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I gave permission last week, but I was not aware that it had not been done.

Hon. A. Crossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): There were not enough Liberals here then.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: They did not appear last week.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, if I may then continue with the questions before the orders of the day, I would like to ask the Minister of Education if he has held discussions recently with the presidents of the provincially assisted universities with respect to the University of Western Ontario bill which was amended in the private bills committee a few days ago; and if so what conclusions if any were reached at this meeting?

Hon. Mr. Davis: Yes, Mr. Speaker, there have been some discussions with the Minister of University Affairs with respect to The University of Western Ontario Act, and there have been no conclusions.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.

Is the Minister aware that a list of names and addresses are compiled from information supplied by the registrar of motor vehicles and used for commercial purposes? If so, what action does the government intend to take?

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, for more than 35 years every jurisdiction in the United States and Canada has provided vehicle registrations to an agency which collects and disseminates information on motor vehicle registrations.

Registrations of motor vehicles are maintained as a public record and they have never been classified as confidential.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I have a number of questions I would like to ask. Before I do so, sir, I would like to state that in my opinion it is childish in the extreme for the government to notify its own members that a picture is to be taken but not to notify the Opposition parties. I am quite proud of our turn-out at all times—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! The member is out of order.

Mr. Bryden: Well Mr. Speaker, I would suggest—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: As a matter of privilege, if some members of this House, Mr. Speaker, are to be notified a picture is to be taken, then all should be notified.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I will not permit this discussion to continue. The Minister's department called and asked if they could have a picture taken of the House, in session.

Mr. MacDonald: For what purpose?

Mr. Speaker: I did not ask what the purpose was.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: I thought perhaps it might be for an Expo booklet or something like that.

Mr. MacDonald: All right!

Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege with regard to this. If this was to be a picture taken of the House, for whatever purpose other than the purposes of the Tory party, then I think everybody in the House was entitled to be informed there was going to be a picture taken, not just the Tory party. We are part of the House, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: My office did not have anything to do with notifying any party.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to rule this discussion out of order. I am not going to allow any further debate on it. I gave permission for the picture to be taken and I am going to leave it at that for now, and I would ask the member to proceed with his questions.

Mr. Bryden: Well, Mr. Speaker, I would ask—

Mr. Speaker: We are now on the question period.

Mr. Bryden: I would suggest that members on the Opposition have the right to the same privileges as members on the other side of the House, and I object to the office of the Speaker being used for political purposes in this way.

As I say, it is a matter of no account to us—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Would the member proceed with the question period?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): On a point of order, a number of Opposition members have commented on this and I feel entitled to do so also. I was not informed by any member of the government about this photograph today nor by any member of our party. I did learn about it casually in the corridor. And as Whip I felt obliged to inform our members. I suggest, sir, if the other parties were on the job they would all be here too.

Mr. Speaker: Let us get back to the business of the House.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. When will he refer to a standing committee the research material which he said on January 26, 1967, he had accumulated with regard to the review in other jurisdictions of orders-in-council and similar instruments?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I will refer it to the legal bills committee. I have looked over the various committees of the Legislature and I think perhaps it probably fits there.

I have the material organized. I asked the Minister of Transport a year ago to do the research necessary. I would suggest that he appear before that committee to give the result of his investigation plus the secretary of the Cabinet, plus Mr. Stone, the registrar of regulations. This will be brought before the legal bills committee as soon as it conveniently may be in accordance with the sittings of that committee.

Now, I do not know when the committee is sitting so I do not know what other legislation may be referred to it. But certainly I am ready to carry out my commitment as soon as the committee is ready to undertake the examination.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I now have a question for the Minister of Labour.

What steps have been taken to establish on-the-job training programmes in General Motors in Oshawa? To what extent has the company been willing to cooperate?

Hon. D. Bales (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in a general way the on-the-job training services of The Department of Labour have been made known to General Motors, as well as to companies throughout Ontario, through a vigorous promotional

campaign involving direct contact, correspondence, distribution of brochures, newspapers and television advertising.

Specifically, I can advise the House of several of the steps that have been taken with this particular company. Last September, for example, at the time of the announced layoff, a meeting was held between senior officials of the department and of the company, when our training services were outlined. About three weeks ago, one of my senior officials was in touch with a senior official of the company concerning a particular training proposal. To date, General Motors has not required our training services to supplement their own.

Mr. Bryden: Would the Minister entertain a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Bryden: It was with regard to the very last phrase of the Minister's answer; something to the effect the General Motors did not require any assistance the department could provide to supplement their own on-the-job training programmes. What sort of on-the-job training programmes are they carrying on there now that relate to possible layoffs arising out of the auto trade pact?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer specifically as to the type of programme, but they are carrying on certain programmes. It depends on their schedule for the future, which is known only to them at this present time.

Mr. Bryden: I have another question for the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker.

Has an on-the-job training programme or programmes been established in cooperation with The Department of Labour in Sklar Furniture Company of Whitby? If so, how many employees have been trained, how many of them are still in the employ of the employer and how many were laid off upon completion of their training?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, a training programme has been under way at this company for a little more than a year, and will end when those currently in the project finish their training. Some 250 persons have completed their specific training programmes to date. The department records do not indicate whether all the graduates have remained in the company after concluding their training.

A follow-up of the graduates has been maintained in a small cross-section of the

284 companies where on-the-job training programmes have been, or are being operated, in order to make a cost-benefit analysis of the programme. But this company was not one of those selected for this purpose.

Close supervision is maintained over the actual training projects and over the welfare of the trainees. The department's on-the-job training programmes are designed to provide for a very substantial financial investment in the training programme by the company involved. This, coupled with other requirements of the training agreement, makes it most unlikely that persons will be laid off after training for any other reason than a decline in business.

Mr. Bryden: I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister would be willing to have his department make some further inquiries of this company about this particular point?

Hon. Mr. Bales: Mr. Speaker, we would be glad to make inquiries and I will advise the member.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I would like to table answers to questions 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. (See Appendix pages 1484-1488.)

Mr. Speaker: Before the orders of the day, I might inform the members that for me the mystery has been cleared. The picture is being taken by The Department of Tourism and Information for one of their booklets.

Mr. Sopha: Well, he did not have the camera focused this way.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The twelfth order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

(Continued)

On vote 207:

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Chairman, I have a transcript of a proceeding in the magistrate's court for the district of Nipissing; a trial held at Sturgeon Falls, on June 15, 1966, in the case of The Queen against Josepha Maletti, on a charge of careless driving. At that time the trial was conducted by his worship Magistrate N. J. Nadeau and there appeared for the accused, George Wallace, Q.C. It does not state who appeared for the

Crown. I am unable to say who appeared on behalf of the Attorney General.

But briefly, the facts appeared to be this: two persons, a boy and a girl—a boy by the name of De Chapelle and the girl whose name does not matter—were walking side by side in a southerly direction on a street in Sturgeon Falls. The accused struck the boy, the young man, and hurled him some 100 feet; and he died almost instantly. The accused came on for trial on a charge of careless driving.

Now a part of the finding by his worship on page 39 of the transcript is as follows:

He is driving—
that is the accused

—on the wrong side of the road and I think he should have expected, certainly near this intersection, that pedestrians might be on the road. But he was unable or did not see the pedestrians on the road at all. I have come to the conclusion that that is operating a motor vehicle without reasonable consideration for other persons using the highway and that the accused is therefore guilty of careless driving.

Now I want to draw the Attorney General's attention to these remarks of his worship, which I shall now read:

As regards penalty, it is often very difficult to separate the consequences of carelessness with the actual carelessness when a fatality is the result. Penalty here is not one which in my view should be imposed because a person died as the result of the accident.

I cannot disregard that completely, but I think it should play a very minor part in the penalty.

I think this is simply a case of common carelessness which is not what I would consider a high degree of carelessness. Simply not keeping a proper lookout is something that occurs fairly frequently with less drastic results than in this case, and there is no doubt the fact that a person has lost his life in this accident will remain with the accused for the rest of his life.

Under the circumstances I am imposing a fine of \$100. There is no previous driving record and I do not consider it as a case for suspension of licence. Fine \$100; costs \$29.50 or 30 days.

Now I should like the Attorney General, having heard those remarks by his worship, and especially so the Attorney General will not be under any doubt as to what he said,

the material part is having referred to the fact a person died as a result of this accident he said this:

I cannot disregard that completely, but I think it should play a very minor part in the penalty.

Now I would like to ask the Attorney General whether he agrees with those comments by that magistrate.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, the question of penalty in all these types of cases, traffic cases where the charge is careless driving, is a very difficult one for any court to decide. It is a very difficult one for any person to make a hard and fast statement about.

The circumstances which are present in each individual case have always to be weighed. The degree of carelessness which started the train of events, or circumstances which resulted in death may have been simply a very minor degree of carelessness, forgetfulness or inattention at the moment. Because that is the only basis on which the charge is laid, the fact that the car then perhaps went out of control or went far afield, and resulted in a death, is something that each court has to weigh in the circumstances.

In this case, the magistrate said, "I have to bear in mind, as one of the circumstances of the situation, that a person lost his life, but it is not a matter which goes particularly to the matter of sentence." Our books, our records, are replete with this type of thing; where the negligence, the carelessness, was not grave or serious as it began. One cannot simply say that because a life was lost, the sentence should be severe.

I am sure the hon. member, who is a lawyer, has probably argued this more than once in court before a magistrate. I am sure he is aware that in certain cases where death occurs charges are not even laid because the circumstances were not such that they would justify the laying of a charge. The fact that a charge is laid, then leaves it to the court to weigh how serious was the carelessness involved.

I think I can only say the fact that a death results is not a matter that goes particularly to sentence. It is a factor perhaps to be considered as one of the circumstances of the case, but the negligence could have been such that the car avoided that person. It just happened that a person lost his life having been in the way of that vehicle. The carelessness would not, as my hon. friend will realize, the carelessness would not have been greater

or lighter if one extracted and took out of consideration the fact that a person was injured or hurt in that situation.

Mr. Sopha: The Attorney General makes a very good point, and that is one side of the argument; and it is a very respectable one.

But the thing that startled me about this disposition was that his worship did not even suspend the driving licence of this accused. The Attorney General is well aware that in many instances where there is less serious harm and damage and personal injury that results from careless driving, magistrates throughout the province suspend the licence for a period of time. It just seemed to me that having said that it plays a minor part, it set the tone of what he was going to do.

I share with my hon. friend from Downsview (Mr. Singer) and indeed with my hon. friend from Nipissing (Mr. Smith) my distaste at George Wallace appearing in that court.

Now, that is all I am going to say, sir, because if I said any more George Wallace would be the first one to say that I was being personally vindictive. I just do not think the juvenile accused under the appropriate statute has any business appearing in the magistrate's court at all, and the Attorney General should put an end to that. All right, I leave that there.

But I certainly think the magistrate was wrong in not making the penalty most severe and indeed suspending his licence. After all, the other side of the argument is, Mr. Chairman, that the Legislature passes laws to eliminate vice and evils and to try to dissuade people from engaging in conduct that is harmful. One of the incidents of careless driving is that it might cause harm, in fact the risk of causing harm, personal injury and property damage to individuals is very high and that is why we passed the law to prohibit it. I would think that magistrates should be mindful of that when they are assessing penalty.

For myself, in the philosophy of jurisprudence, if a work-a-day lawyer may be permitted to venture into that very hallowed field, I come down on the other side. I say that where the consequences of the conduct are very serious that the court ought not to hesitate to take them into account in assessing penalty.

This magistrate could sit on the bench and just as respectfully say: Now, Mr. Maletti, you and I are aware when we come to the imposition of penalty upon you of the very drastic results that flowed from your lapse in the operation of that motor vehicle and I

must not, as the magistrate here, be vindictive to you. I must think about your rehabilitation, but then again I must have in mind that I must deter others from this type of conduct.

He might very well, having delivered himself of those observations, said to Mr. Maletti: I sentence you to three months' imprisonment.

If Mr. Maletti had appealed to the court of appeal I venture to say that the learned judges *in banco* would have said: We cannot be of assistance to you; the penalty was not inappropriate and we cannot say that it was harsh or oppressive upon you.

They would sustain that and, indeed I have seen that happen on a charge of careless driving where there was a fatality. I think some suggestion ought to be made to this magistrate by the authorities for the Crown, and I am not suggesting that the Attorney General sit down and write him a letter. The less the Attorney General writes to magistrates, the more I will like it. I do not like to contemplate the Attorney General writing to magistrates every time he gets the urge to do so, but he can use other channels to effect the same result. He can tell his Crown attorney in North Bay that perhaps he ought to make some representations to the magistrate in a similar case at a future time, and he could tell his Crown attorney that he could say that he was talking for him, that the boss had called him.

Certainly the matter of damage and death to people on our highways is becoming one of great concern. And even though I find myself often in the role of defence counsel, let me hastily say that I never exercise myself too greatly on the side of leniency where the offence has been committed and is one that indeed involves a moral lapse in conduct against society that is crassly negligent. And in that connection, people often ask a defence counsel what they are going to get from the court.

There are two or three answers that are very apt. I can say to them very properly that it is not for me to guess or to judge what they will get; they get that for nothing from the fellow on the bench—he gives that for nothing. But they have to pay me to put their case in their defence and I suggest that we take that for nothing without interfering with that function.

The other thing is, sir, that you can often say to them that they are going to jail, if they are convicted, and I am going back to my office, because—

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if I could interject for a moment and ask the member's opinion in dealing with vote 207, whether he thinks we should deal with the magistrates, the registrars and the facilities and so on; but should we under this vote go into the various decisions of magistrates?

Mr. Sopha: We are voting their salaries, sir, so we in this Legislature are entitled—and I will borrow the words of the hon. member for Downsview—to look at their conduct to see if they are worth the money.

On that score, there is another thing that bothered me for quite a while—and I hope the Attorney General will correct me if I am wrong. It just seems to me there is some violation of principle here, that the Attorney General has the discretion over the increases to the magistrates, that the salaries are discretionary to some extent. Some get "X" dollars and some get "X + 1" dollars.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Some are magistrates and some are deputies.

Mr. Sopha: The Attorney General holding the power of the purse over them in that connection, I have often felt, is a very unsalutary situation, and the power of the purse often gives the power to control. I would prefer to see a system of magistrates' courts whereby the emoluments they get would be fixed by statute, and perhaps based upon the number of years that they occupied the position, and they would know how much they might expect. But I think that there is still a bargaining element in the system when they go to the bench and some get a certain number of dollars.

It would be interesting to know, for example, how much the former member for Prescott (Mr. Cecile) is getting, and whether he bargained with the Attorney General for his stipend when he left, and I suspect that there is a difference in the emolument which is based upon whether the person is a lawyer, or whether he is a member of the laity, and the lawyer gets more than—

Mr. Singer: Some do—for some unknown reason.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, some. The lawyer gets more than the unwashed who does not have the sheepskin to throw on the Attorney General's desk and bargain with him for his return.

Now that is all I have to say. I just wish, Mr. Chairman, that you could arrange to get the cameras in here now and take a picture—

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Now that would be a typical scene right there.

Mr. Sopha: There are 20 instead of 77.

Mr. Bryden: It is just about average right now.

Mr. Sopha: The Minister of Tourism and Information (Mr. Auld) is gone now too, you will note.

Mr. Singer: All the models are gone!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, one or two things that the hon. member has said should have comment. I would like to reassure him and hon. members of the House that the Attorney General does not write letters to magistrates, and certainly not about their court decisions. There may be occasion for correspondence on some matter or other, but the Attorney General does not direct the magistrates as to how they shall sentence or how they conduct their courts, by correspondence or by direct intervention at all.

There is, as the hon. member knows, an official, a senior magistrate known as the chief magistrate. And through him the attitudes of the department can be made known. He is charged with the function of observing and noting the conduct of the courts and, of course, we do observe sentences which are given. And, as I have mentioned in this House before, we have conferences with the magistrates on sentencing and on the principles of sentencing, as well as with our Crown attorneys, and attempt in that way to get some conformity in sentencing.

As to the salaries of magistrates, I think I have to say this: there is a distinction, as the hon. member has pointed out, in the early appointments or in the beginning salaries between those who are lay persons—those without legal training—and those who are members of the legal profession and have legal training. Increments are usually annual ones, or on some periodic basis, and they move up with experience on the bench.

I wish to make this very clear, though, that the ranges of magistrates' salaries from minimum to maximum, are fixed by order in council, and it is true that the Attorney General within those ranges may make increases from time to time.

On the suggestion that they should be uniform across the board, I wish that the hon. member could make his views felt at the federal level with respect to judges, because we have just had a very recent example of a very different treatment of the

judges throughout this whole country in a recent bill.

Mr. Singer: What does the Attorney General mean by that? I thought it would be uniform.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, it is not.

Mr. Singer: That is not the way it read in the paper; could the Attorney General explain that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I will do so briefly. All the supreme court judges in Ontario and county court judges, along with the judges in the other provinces, were given increases. The increase in the case of county court judges was from \$16,000 to \$19,000, and in the case of the Supreme Court judges, from \$21,000 to \$26,000.

Mr. Singer: Yes, but all Supreme Court judges are still on the same pay scale, are they not?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Then the Act went on in the next section to say, that the judges shall get an additional \$2,000. But in those provinces where payment for extra services is made to them, they shall not get the \$2,000.

The result is that a judge in, let us say, Prince Edward Island or Newfoundland or New Brunswick, would get the \$5,000 increase, from \$16,000 to \$21,000, whereas a county court judge in Ontario would get \$19,000. I just point out that they did not seem to put them on an even keel at all. I wish they had myself. It leaves it to the province to make some correction in the situation.

Returning to the original point on which the hon. member for Sudbury rose. I would point out that in weighing in that particular case that he mentioned, the charge was careless driving; that is the way it appeared and came before the magistrate, that is the way it was assessed when the charge was laid. Had the negligence been such, had it been regarded as such and the death involved taken into account there, I would have thought that the charge would then have been criminal negligence causing the death.

Mr. Sopha: Or dangerous driving!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, but this was a careless driving charge that came before the magistrate.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, my colleague, hon. member for Sudbury has opened up two

or three important points that I want to dwell on for a bit.

Insofar as Mr. Wallace is concerned, I brought this matter to the Attorney General's attention two or three times, and I gather he has listened to the comments but he has given us no answer. Does the Attorney General think it proper that a man who sits in a judicial capacity should be allowed to come into court in a capacity as defence counsel? It does not seem reasonable to me, and this year let us try to get an answer from the Attorney General or an opinion on it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am quite prepared to answer. I agree, frankly, with the hon. member for Downsview that this is a situation that we should move to correct as soon as we conveniently and reasonably can.

I would like to see the juvenile and family court a court of its own status, distinct from the magistrates' courts; and all judges of that court would have status and standing distinct and clear and one of a very high nature, a full-time job.

We are moving to that, I may tell the House. I have not been able to accomplish everything we would like in this area yet, but some of the proposals we have in mind, I may say, are that the juvenile and family court should be a distinct and separate court, that the judges of the court should be full-time judges selected for their qualities of knowledge, sympathy, and their knowledge of the law. Not that they have to be, I think, always persons trained in the law.

I find myself with these situations which have endured over a time. We are correcting them gradually and I hope that I can say to the House that we will be able to correct the rest of these situations fairly quickly.

Mr. Singer: We are making a little progress on that one, Mr. Chairman, but I would point out to the Attorney General, as I am sure he appreciates full well, North Bay is a large and important centre in this province and there are a lot of people who could be turned to if the Attorney General is puzzling about a selection.

Mr. Sopha: There is nothing full time in Nipissing, the magistrates are not full time, the Crown is not full time.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would just say this further on that point: It is not quite as simple as it might appear to be to the hon. member. North Bay is the capital town or county town

of a district, and in all the districts, that is the northern part of Ontario, the juvenile and family court situation is on a shared basis between city or municipality and the provincial government.

Now let us take North Bay—and I am not downgrading in any sense the quality and ability of the gentleman who acts there on a part-time basis as a juvenile and family court judge; the member says it would be easy to get someone in North Bay, but I want to get, as I say, someone who will act full time to whom I can offer a salary or remuneration which will get a person of standing, which will pay him for his full time services.

The situation we face at the moment is that I must go to the city of North Bay, which pays I believe on a 60-40 basis with the province. I think Sudbury pays 50-50. I believe Sault Ste. Marie is a half and half, or 50-50 situation. And the Lakehead, I believe, is similar, Port Arthur and Fort William.

I have to go to those municipalities and say: I would like to pay the judge \$16,000 or \$18,000 or \$20,000 or whatever I must pay the type of person I want. I say to them, "Instead of paying \$3,000, which is your share now of the \$6,000 that is paid, will you pay \$10,000?"

Now I think this perhaps may need to get to the point of the government accepting perhaps the whole responsibility for juvenile and family courts work, because I think it is a very important field.

I just throw this out to the hon. member and I tell the House very frankly this is in our thinking, we are striving to achieve this end.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General has perhaps made my argument for me. The method of paying for the costs of administration of justice in various parts of the province is inconsistent, it is illogical, and when the burden or parts of it are attempted to be put over on the municipalities we run into trouble and the administration of justice suffers. What the Attorney General has just said could not be a better illustration of what is happening.

In North Bay, for instance, Mr. Chairman, all the officials connected with the administration of justice are part time; Crown attorneys, magistrates, juvenile and family court. In some of the districts the government pays the full cost. In some of the cities in the districts they pay portions of it but it just does not make sense, Mr. Chairman, that the administration of justice in sections of the province

of Ontario suffer because the province is unable to work out a method of paying for it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If the hon. member will permit me just to correct one thing he said, not all of the officials are part time. The Crown attorney is a full-time employee.

Mr. Sopha: That is very recent if it is Mr. Tilley. He just very recently became full time.

Mr. Singer: May I add, Mr. Chairman, it is only since we drew this matter, somewhat dramatically or attempted to draw this matter somewhat dramatically, to the attention of the Attorney General in 1965 over two years ago. Let us hope we do not have to do this town by town through the northern part of the province. They are entitled to everything as good as goes on in other sections of the province and they are not getting it because the department has not been able to work out a mathematical formula. It is an excuse but it is no answer.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I think the Attorney General has been aware of the situation as far as the magistrates are concerned. I do not think it is a matter of saving money because they have two part-time magistrates and I would like to ask what the salaries of those two part-time magistrates were last year, were they greater than would be paid to a full-time magistrate if one were appointed?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the answer to the hon. member is—Magistrate Gould had a \$5,000 annual salary; Magistrate Nadeau receives \$40 per day when he sits as magistrate.

Mr. Smith: Could I ask the Attorney General why there is not an appointment made, a full-time appointment, in that area? It seems that almost everywhere else in the province has a full-time magistrate except Nipissing.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can assure the hon. member he brought this to my attention some time ago and certain action has been taken. I am not quite at liberty to give the final result but I can assure you it has been under consideration and is moving toward a result which I will be able to announce very shortly.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am sure if my friend the Attorney General is short of nominees that my colleague from Nipissing would be glad to give him a list of suitable and able people and let the Attorney General

have a look at them. That might be a reasonable way to carry on the business of the province.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I should be glad to have them. We have found in quite a few situations that not too many people are anxious to move. Certainly, when we were speaking of salaries not so long ago, I went all over the territory to get persons to serve as magistrates. And the persons who came forward to offer their services were such that I could not consider.

Mr. Singer: Well, it may be that the Attorney General is just talking to the wrong people when he makes those visits.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I talk to everybody.

Mr. Singer: I was interested in the second point my colleague from Sudbury touched on and that is in relation to the uniformity of sentencing. He made one point, and there was the case where his worship Magistrate Karoti in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto received quite a bit of publicity when two boys were given quite a minor sentence for beating up a gentleman, and injuring him very seriously. The Attorney General's Department took that on to appeal and the sentence was increased.

There are many examples of apparent inconsistencies in sentencing and I am certain that no lawyer is going to say that because A got three weeks and B got three months that it is obviously an inconsistency. You must look at all the facts. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, it seems to me from reading the newspaper reports from day to day insofar as these things are concerned, that these conferences relating to uniformity of sentence do not seem to be having the desired effect. It seems to me that there is very little common train of thinking that runs through the minds of these magistrates.

I just wonder, and I would like to get the detail if it is available, how many conferences there have been relating to the uniformity of sentencing within the last 12 months? In what parts of Ontario were these conferences held, and what attendance was there at the conferences?

Was it put to the magistrates on a voluntary basis, or were they instructed to attend? And on whatever basis it was put to the magistrates, did these conferences result in the attendance of a substantial proportion of the magistrates, or not?

Mr. Chairman: While the Attorney General is getting this information, it might be an

opportune time to tell the House that in the east gallery we have some students from Malden central school, near Amherstburg, and it has been brought to my attention by the member for Essex South (Mr. Paterson).

Hon. Mr. Wishart: First of all, it is purely a matter of opinion, but I take issue with the hon. member on the effectiveness of these conferences and seminars on the uniformity of sentencing. From our observation, which I think is pretty detailed and closer and broader than the hon. member for Downsview, we have noted a very great improvement in this field.

You will read the newspaper, I know, and sometimes pick up two cases which appear to be similar, and the sentences are perhaps far apart. It must be borne in mind that the boundary, that is the minimum and maximum sentences, are generally laid down in the Act which creates the offence and within those boundaries the court may go.

Then to go on, we are continuing these conferences and we are trying to increase the area of study. We have two to three seminars each year for the magistrates, which are attended by 75 to 80 per cent of the magistrates. That is one thing we have done and this is the type of attendance we get from the seminars on the uniformity of sentencing.

Particularly with respect to this field, I can inform the House that the Deputy Minister of Reform Institutions toured the province with the chief magistrate. They held meetings in five regions of the province where the magistrates were attending, to discuss the principles of sentencing with them there.

Then we paid to the centre of criminology the sum of \$30,000 for a study on sentencing and the uniformity of sentencing and on the principles of sentencing. This study is going on and we have asked in that study that the magistrates submit the cases so that they will form a part of the study.

This is going on, and when that study is complete I think it will be a very great advance; something we can offer to our courts to see how, from actual cases, there have been variations. Or how much uniformity has been achieved and where sentences are apparently out of line and the reasons why and so on, and the factors that should be taken into consideration in sentencing in particular cases.

We are very aware of the need of not necessarily having a uniform sentence for every conviction of a certain offence, but that the principles on which the sentence is handed down shall be uniform, shall be

followed. We are following this up very definitely.

Mr. Singer: This is fine and the Attorney General tells us of what the chief magistrate is doing. Could he tell us why he will not let us have access to the report of the chief magistrate of the province, so he can tell the Legislature directly?

Perhaps we would be able to inquire into these matters much more intelligently if we could see the report of the chief magistrate of Ontario, which has been denied to us in 1966 and is denied to us this year. We did get it in 1965, and the Attorney General—and I have said this before—he smilingly denies it, but he was hurt that we used a report coming out of his department to criticize him.

If we have a chief magistrate surely he is the servant of all of the people of Ontario, and when he makes his report surely we should have a look at it. Because to be able to reasonably and intelligently review and criticize constructively what is going on in this field, we should have access to these statistics and these studies he does.

But we are completely in the dark, and so we have to keep on probing and we have not got the sources of information or the availability of statistics.

My friend says, as you read cases in the paper they differ. I know that; he is quite correct. I know that, but how can we know that if we do not get the advantage of the information coming to The Attorney General's Department? It is just not reasonable, and it unfortunately brings me again to the conclusion that for purposes of—well, it is pretty obvious the government does not want us to find out what is going on because they are not prepared to bring the facts before the people of Ontario, and allow reasonable criticism of what is going on.

I would like the Attorney General to tell us why we cannot have a look at the report of the chief magistrate of the province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I know the hon. member will harp on this point. I think perhaps I can only say to him that I could ask him, first of all, did he want one also from the chief justice of the high court? I have the administration of justice in that field.

Mr. Singer: But my friend is being very specious in this.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Does he want one from—

Mr. Singer: He knows I am only talking about people that he appoints, and he knows that full well.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: All right. You will not want one then from the chief judge of the county court?

Mr. Singer: You appointed the chief judge of the county court, yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I appointed him.

Mr. Singer: As chief judge of the county court.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Right; we created the position. I did not appoint him as a judge.

Well, I would have to say this to the hon. member: the chief magistrate, and I think we are the only jurisdiction that has such an office, was appointed for the purpose of surveying the magistrates' courts, for inspecting them, for observing their conduct; for looking at them and visiting them and reporting back to the department, to the Minister responsible, everything that he observed. And he makes to me very pertinent comments. I do not think it would be good, I do not think it would be proper, that if he tells me about a particular magistrate in that report I should make that public.

It is not that I object personally; I want the hon. member to understand this. But I think for the administration of justice—the type of report that we get, the type of report that I shall expect to get from my chief magistrate, will be one which could be critical, one which will be pointed, and one which will be perhaps dealing with personalities. It would do little good for this to be made public.

It is meant for the Minister of the department to improve the administration. And I am the first to admit—I was not hurt when then hon. member saw the first report that the chief magistrate made. I made the report available to him.

Mr. Singer: Yes, after I asked, how many times?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You asked and I gave it to you.

Mr. Singer: Yes, but it took about ten requests.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh no. You got it anyway. I gave it to you and I expected defects. I do not expect that the administration of the magistrates' courts is perfect. I know it is not. The chief magistrate's duty is to

point out those defects, to be critical, to be critical of personalities if necessary. But to broadcast that to the public would not be helpful. It is not the intention of that report to be broadcast to the public.

If the hon. member wanted to speak to me as a person interested and as a member of the legal profession, saying I think I can offer you some suggestions, can you give me some information as to what the situation is there, I am happy to have him criticize and offer constructive criticism or whatever. But to make that report public, surely he can understand that in my view this would not be helpful or proper and I do not propose to make such a report public. I just do not think any purpose would be served by doing so.

In fact, I think it would be damaging to the administration of justice to do that. I think it would destroy confidence. I think it would destroy respect. I think my efforts have to be directed to improving those areas where there has been defective work, where there has been wrongful performance by a magistrate or something that is not as good as it should be; but to hold him up to the public as a person who had gone wrong and was not running his court properly in the view of the chief magistrate would certainly not improve our situation. I cannot make it plainer than that.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, my friend is indulging again in his favourite practice of setting up straw men and knocking them down. No one expects, certainly, that a confidential report on the conduct of any government person, particularly a person who holds a judicial office, is going to be made public in the way that my friend feels, and there is no reason for it.

The Attorney General knows how many reports are presented to the Legislature and that from time to time the Legislature has seen fit to write into statutes that requirement. The Minister of Transport—I hold his report in my hand—he does not deal with the personalities of effective or ineffective people in his department. He says what they do, when they do it and how they do it and gives the statistics. Now why can the Attorney General not do that sort of thing? What is he afraid of?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is all contained in the report of the inspector of legal offices.

Mr. Singer: What is he afraid of? He puts an iron curtain of secrecy in front of the operation of his department and says, in

effect, big brother is in charge. We will look after you, do not worry, just trust us.

Now I say, Mr. Chairman, this is not good enough. We are entitled to know what is going on.

Now what terribly secret and embarrassing information was in the report of the chief magistrate given in 1965, the one that I had to work so hard to get hold of? The chief magistrate had letters from me, and I have got copies of them; and phone calls, and I have got a record of those; and the number of times I spoke to the Attorney General and his Deputy until I got it—I made at least ten inquiries, probably many more—before I finally got that report.

What was the damning information that derogated from the administration of justice? The fact that the magistrates' courts facilities in the city hall were bad? Does that harm the administration of justice? Anyone with one eye can see how terrible the magistrates' courts are in the city of Toronto, the physical facilities are terrible.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You will now see a great improvement.

Mr. Singer: Oh, a great improvement! Well why do you not tell us that? Why do you not tell us what you have done?

Have you been down to the bullpen there at the city hall? Is that greatly improved too? Are you not embarrassed by that?

Well you should be because it reflects, Mr. Chairman, on the administration of justice. It is a disgrace, really, the way the physical facilities of the magistrates' courts in the city of Toronto are set up.

What is the Attorney General doing about it? What is the chief magistrate recommending be done about them? Have you not got enough money? Why do you not come to us and ask us for some more money to build magistrates' courts?

These are the sort of things that should go on.

You looked shocked. You should have—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am shocked at the hon. member for suggesting that we should build a magistrate's court for the city of Toronto.

Mr. Singer: Well do not be shocked, because I am going to suggest it. I am going to suggest it much more forcibly, because you should take over. You know full well you should take over the whole cost of the administration of justice.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You know perfectly well that is the responsibility of Metro Toronto.

Mr. Bryden: It is no such thing.

Mr. Singer: Well that is nonsense. You shrug off the responsibility. I am sorry that the "hon. chief of everything" from London South is not here so we could get the story on the London court house.

Could the Attorney General, now that we are into this, tell us how the city of London is going to get a new court house and who is paying for it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The city of London, of course.

Mr. Singer: Oh the city of London is, are they? After all these years!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And the county of Middlesex.

Mr. Singer: Oh, has the city of London signed an agreement to do that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We do not know.

Mr. Singer: Oh, you do not know!

Did you not read what Chief Justice Gale said about the court house in London?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes.

Mr. Singer: Just a few months ago; and he said it how many times? Are you not embarrassed by this? Does this not reflect on the administration of justice in the province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: When the hon. member sits down I will give him the answers.

Mr. Singer: Then stop popping up and down. If you want to talk I will sit down after a while and listen to you talk.

I say, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Order!

I am going to ask the member for Downsview, if he will, to please direct his questions through the chair.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Be careful.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): He is hitting pretty close.

Mr. Singer: I will say this Mr. Chairman, through you to my good friend the Attorney General. And you know I have the greatest respect for your office. Anything I say, if I derogate in my phraseology occasionally, is

meant to be directed through you, Mr. Chairman, to the Attorney General.

I say through you to the Attorney General: When are we going to be able in these estimates, to find out what is going on in connection with the administration of justice in this province? As long as this cloak of secrecy is kept around the activities of the people who work in that department, the senior and important people, that long, sir, is the suspicion going to increase.

When we see obvious physical defects in what is happening in the construction and the furnishing of physical facilities; when we see what Chief Justice Gale said year after year about the court house in London; when we lawyers who practice in Toronto see what the condition is in the city of Toronto insofar as magistrates' courts facilities are concerned and the bullpen is concerned and so on; we say it is a disgrace. We say this reflects seriously on the course of the administration of justice.

Now can the Attorney General give some answer to that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, on the first point that the hon. member raised, if he wants to mix up the type of report that the Minister of Highways presents, he can refer to exactly the same type of report which is presented by The Department of the Attorney General with respect to courts, and that is the report of the inspector of legal offices. That contains all those statistics, all those details, all those features and all the information that he is talking about in that type of report.

All I was saying, and I will not repeat it at length again, is that the report I ask from my chief magistrate is a report which goes to the conduct of the court, the personalities, the way it is handled and so on.

And this again, I simply say, is not the type of report that I wish to make public. It was not intended for that purpose, it is used for the administration within the department.

Mr. Singer: Was there anything in the 1965 report?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That was a first and a preliminary run, and I had gone to probing a lot deeper than was shown in that report.

Now I was surprised to hear the hon. member get up and almost say—from the import of his words: You should build the magistrates' courts for the city of Toronto.

Mr. Singer: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: If he would get up and make a reasoned argument for the whole province I would listen with great respect to it, but at the present time it is the responsibility of the municipalities in southern Ontario apart from the districts, to provide the facilities for all of the courts.

This has been a traditional and time-honoured programme. Now perhaps it is time to change and I would like to hear the views of the hon. member on how this should be done and whether he would share capital costs or operating costs and maintenance and how far he would find it possible to go.

In any event, with respect to Toronto a great improvement—I think the member will be fair enough to admit—has been made in the number of courts provided, in the furnishing and equipment of the courts. I was down there and inspected them myself, Mr. Chairman, and there are one or two that certainly are nothing to be particularly proud of yet, but there has been a tremendous improvement since the old city hall was vacated and we have been given all that space for our court rooms.

They have been refurbished, lighted, improved and furnished in many ways to make space and to provide fairly good surroundings in which courts can carry on; as a temporary measure, and I stress this. As everyone is aware the matter is still waiting the determination of the proposals of the T. Eaton Company as to what they will do, and there are proposals in their agreement about the building of new court house facilities.

The city of Toronto has not shirked—and I do not want to give this impression—it has not shirked or complained about its responsibility in providing these courtrooms or the space. They have not said that they want us to do it, they simply asked to have time so that they could get the Eaton project determined before deciding whether to have a brand new court house, to add to the present facilities, or what shall be done.

That is Toronto.

I am glad to tell the hon. member that the court house in London again is the responsibility of the city and the county, but their committees have been working together and they have, I understand, arrived at agreement in principle on the building of a joint facility to serve the city and county.

Now I am quite certain that the agreement has not actually been signed yet, but a measure of agreement has been reached and the

committees, with the accountants and financial people, are now engaged in working out the details. I think a great deal of progress has been made there and we will see formal agreement reached very shortly. But until we can find it possible, for either matters of policy and taking into account financial situations, to move farther as a province into this field, we deal with these situations as we find them.

We have made much improvement in those two instances he mentioned, Toronto and London-Middlesex. This has been accomplished.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am not at all convinced that this has been accomplished in any method that is reasonable. The Attorney General surely, as a good lawyer, must agree with me that if you try to administer justice in bad surroundings that administration of justice has very serious defects in it.

Has he wandered around the halls of the city hall in Toronto and seen what conditions the witnesses have to put up with?

Has he seen the case load that is placed before each magistrate in the city?

Has he heard the bawling courtroom attendant saying: "Take the gum out of your mouth!"; or "Stand up"; or "Sit down"; or "No talking in here".

I do not know, really, how much of this the Attorney General has seen, but he must agree with me, I am sure, that if courtrooms were conducted in reasonable premises where dignity could be maintained and where there were proper facilities available for magistrates and for the people who are charged, so that they would not have to appear behind a little wire cage, this would add to the appearance of the administration of justice.

Have you ever been in magistrate's court in the city of Toronto on a Monday morning? If you have, have you ever seen a more bedraggled lot of citizens of Ontario than those who are shuffled up from the bowels of the city hall into that narrow little box behind a wire screen and stand there facing justice, unshaven, tired, bedraggled?

And the Attorney General says that we are making progress in this field.

If the Attorney General has been there and has the temerity to stand up and say we are making improvements, he just does not know what he is talking about!

If he has not been there, I think he should go down. I think he should go next Monday morning at 10 o'clock and just wander around having a look. I think he would become

educated in this regard and I think it is high time that the Attorney General of Ontario realized what was going on.

Now the Attorney General invited me, Mr. Chairman, to make an argument about who should pay for the cost of the administration of justice. I am glad to accept that invitation, because it is time-honoured. I suppose it is time-honoured because Mr. Baldwin, when he drafted The Municipal Act and invented the system of taxation that now exists in the province of Ontario, set forward that costs of administration of justice be borne by taxes on realty. That makes it time-honoured but that does not make it right.

This is the thing, Mr. Chairman, that is so wrong in this province. The government is just not prepared to embark upon an equitable system of taxation.

Can there be anything that is more logical than that the cost of the administration of justice in all its aspects be paid for by all of the people of Ontario?

Should there be a different kind of justice in London than there is in Owen Sound or Sudbury or Toronto? No!

There is no reason for it, because crime and the enforcement of our laws know no municipal boundaries. The county boundaries, the district boundaries, the village, township and city boundaries make no sense in this regard. What could be more sensible then, than to have the province of Ontario pay all the costs?

Why do you not take the poor Minister of Reform Institutions off the road on his selling pitch when he is trying to get people to sign all these agreements and say: Okay, if there are going to be better jails in the province of Ontario the province of Ontario will build them, we are not going to have to go through all these difficult and impossible bargaining situations with all this multiplicity of jurisdictions.

Why do you think the mayor of the city of London has bucked for so long against bringing his council along to pay for a new court house in the city of London? Because he, as do most municipal officials, does not feel that this is a fair cost to levy on the municipal taxpayer.

Now Mr. Chairman, no one can deny that the course of the administration of justice suffers because we are living under an archaic system, and the words added by the Attorney General this afternoon have done nothing at all to restore the confidence of anyone who is concerned about matters of this sort.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, is the Attorney General going to reply?

Mr. Chairman: I am sure he will reply if he feels so inclined.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, once again I bring up the case of Mr. Frank Bender, the tailor.

After six and one-half months, 14 suits still remain in the local jail. Can something not be done, Mr. Chairman, to have at least 12 of the 14 returned, and two kept in there? The man had his establishment broken into once again since last August, and this time he was cleaned out completely.

Surely the law—I was going to say that surely the law can be changed so that once you have at least \$50 worth of merchandise being held that would be sufficient evidence, all of the suits would not have to be held from the gentleman.

I assume, Mr. Chairman, that the Attorney General will take care of that.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is a nice broad undertaking to give me.

I will say this, as I said the other day, we cannot let the evidence go from the custody of the people who are going to prosecute this case, the court officials, but I will find out why there has been this delay. I think there must be a good and substantial reason for this.

As I said the other day in the precincts of this House, even if Mr. Binder, who lost his property, were to say, "Oh, forget all about it, I don't want to be bothered prosecuting" we cannot even do that. I think we have a responsibility. And the hon. member will understand that this was a break and enter, this was a theft; we cannot just let this offender go free because the gentleman wants his suits back. We have to prosecute and in order to prosecute we must keep the evidence. I will definitely find out and find out soon if there has been any undue reason for this delay.

Mr. Singer: Can you not give most of them back?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not think you could.

Mr. Newman: I understand that you only have to keep a little over \$50. Am I wrong, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I will check that.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister has promised to check it.

Mr. Newman: Well, Mr. Chairman, check very closely, because the man's back is against the wall and he is suitless now.

The next, Mr. Chairman: over the Christmas holidays we had a 14-year-old boy jailed in the local county jail. And the reason for the jailing was that the facilities to which he would have been sent, that is, the closest facilities in the city of London, were not operative at the time. They could not make connections with the individuals who operated the detention centre in the city of London and the magistrate had no alternative but to confine the youngster in the local county jail.

Mind you, he was segregated. He was not kept with the other inmates, but he was in the county jail. And the reason for being there? The city does not have a juvenile detention centre; it cannot afford a detention centre. Another reason for the taking over of the administration of justice, the cost of the administration, by the province.

The county would only have the need of the use of a centre like that for approximately ten times in the course of a year. And I do not think they can see in their wisdom the value in putting up a centre for that number of individuals that would require to be detained.

Perhaps the Attorney General could look into some liaison with the children's aid society, so that one of the foster homes maybe could have a centre set up or a room set up for someone to take care of a juvenile so we would never again in the city of Windsor have a 14-year-old boy kept in a local jail. I think this was very bad. The magistrate apologized all over for having to do this, that he did not want to because he is a man with a family of ten and he knows just exactly how this does affect a parent.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Attorney General, not being a lawyer and not knowing the pile-up of cases in our courts—but I do understand there is a great backlog in our courts, there is always a backlog of court cases to be heard. The Attorney General shakes his head but I have had many lawyers tell me there is a great backlog in our courts.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This is not so.

Mr. Sargent: Well, in other jurisdictions there are, and I would like to ask the Min-

ister what he thinks about detoxication centres. The records show, Mr. Chairman, that one out of three arrests in America is for being drunk in a public place. Now, the question arises, should police be handling drunks at all? They must handle them until we have others to do the job under the present set-up. But why not recommend that where the offence is simple drunkenness, it should be handled through detoxication centres. That could sober up the drunk without adding a police record to their problems.

In one area there were six alcoholics who had been arrested a total of 1,409 times and would spend a total of 125 years in institutions for no other reason than drunkenness.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Where was that?

Mr. Sargent: This is in the District of Columbia, Mr. Chairman, in the United States. This does not seem to make a lot of sense.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): What has that got to do with us?

Mr. Sargent: We are talking about the administration of justice in our courts, Mr. Chairman, and I think this is very important. I am talking about the national crime report in the United States and they think crime is an important thing down there. But there should be a parallel in a certain amount of concern here too, in these estimates. So I would just like to get the Minister's thoughts on the merits or demerits of it. Does he think it is a good idea? In the states they are going to give it a whirl; what about some intelligent thinking on this matter here?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have a centre on alcoholism and research and a study that has been going on for some time. But it really is not too helpful, I think, to quote statistics from our neighbour to the south in some of their situations. And I would just like to say while I am on this, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. member apologized for not being a lawyer. I do not think anyone who quoted Lord Devlin as he did the other night needs to make that apology.

Mr. Sargent: The Attorney General is very generous today. Well, I might counter by saying I think he is doing a very patient job of handling the estimates. But I want to get back to this point; why I prefaced that by saying—I brought this up before and I did not get a clear answer from the Attorney General. I am talking about the situation of

wire tapping. Now the Minister has stated to me that it is illegal. This is a quotation from the *Toronto Daily Star*:

Police are using wire-tapping and electronic eavesdropping to an extent that would drastically shake public confidence, if it became generally known.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the member would permit—he starts off immediately with the wrong premise. He says I said it is illegal. Now what I have said, and I have said it I know at least twice and perhaps three times, is that there is no law with respect to this subject presently extant. There is no law. The police if they are doing this—and some of our courts have accepted such evidence—are using their own discretion as to how far they may go and where they may in a sense trespass on privacy to get such evidence.

What I have said—and I hope I say it here for the last time at least in these estimates—is that my feeling is that if such evidence is to be required, it is because public welfare, public safety, public protection, demands the obtaining and presenting of such evidence.

If the police find a situation where they know criminal elements are gathered and criminal plans are being made, and they feel that that justifies their going in and tapping or using electronic devices to get some evidence of what is going on, I have said I feel they should go to the court, recite the circumstances, persuade the court that they need to take such evidence in such manner by using all these technological devices. And armed with that order, then go and get it.

At the moment there is no law and it is not correct to say that they are doing it illegally, because there is no law for or against it. There is no law at all in this field. And that is all I have said. My position I think is quite clear. I think our police should not be left to have to exercise their discretion as to how far they trespass on anyone's privacy in any circumstances.

But if the court authorizes it, and the police are able to persuade the court that a situation is of such importance and has such possible consequences to the public safety and welfare and protection, then—

Mr. Sargent: If there is no law then why do you have to ask the court?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I am saying this should be the law, because this is a vacuum now; there is no law. I am saying if you want my opinion of what the law should be,

that is it. They should go to the court, persuade the court of the necessity of getting evidence in this way and be covered by a court order. That is my opinion for what it is worth.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: I would remind the member for Grey North that what we are discussing now is the estimate, and I do not know if there is any money under this particular vote for that. He has indicated to the House his intention along these lines. He has asked questions before and—

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Chairman, this is very important. The research involved here is very important to our security and this is the place to talk about it.

Mr. Chairman: I am not suggesting anything about the importance. I merely suggested it has been brought up previously and answered previously and there is repetition.

Mr. Sargent: We have no answer. Mr. Chairman, in the area of business, surveillance and anti-surveillance, detection and anti-detection is widespread. As you know, every phone in this building could be tapped and no one would know about it. So these de-bugging process firms are now offering de-bugging services all over the United States for a fee.

The Minister should get his thinking straight, because either you must have a law for it or against it, either one way or the other; you cannot be neutral in this case. The United States are passing legislation making this an offence, and the Minister said there was no law against it so he asked the court to get a court order to do it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh, no. The hon. member misunderstands me. I say we should have a law, in my opinion, providing that you would go to the court under circumstances I outlined. That is what I am suggesting, that that should be the law directing the police officers to the court. That is what I was trying to suggest to the hon. member that we should have a law.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, I thank you. What are you doing about it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I recommended it to the federal people nearly a year and a half ago and it is really in their field because it has largely to do with the criminal law. It has largely to do with criminal matters. I think that is where it lies.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Sudbury.

Mr. Sopha: Now by the way of extending some comments in support of my friend from Downsview, some of us had the advantage of hearing the president of the Canadian bar association deliver his presidential address at Winnipeg on August 29, 1966.

I do not think the Attorney General was there nor any of his senior officials. My friend the Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko), was there, and his Deputy.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I might say I was attending the international law conference at that time.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes; that was in Australia, was it not?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, it was in Helsinki.

Mr. Sopha: Helsinki?

Hon. Mr. Grossman: That is in Finland.

Mr. Sopha: That is in Finland, yes; I have been to Helsinki.

If you want to go to Helsinki you will find in an appropriate place, a park plaque with my name on it. That park was evidently owned by His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): That silenced you for a moment.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I wish I had known when I was there. I would have paid my respects.

Mr. Sopha: If you are ever in Helsinki go and look for that plaque!

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I have been there. You should have told me.

Mr. Chairman: Order! I am suggesting the member for Sudbury not be encouraged by these divergences.

Mr. Sopha: I will not be.

It is worth reading what the president of the Canadian bar association had to say. He is an outstanding Toronto lawyer, J. T. Weir, QC, of the firm of Mason, Foulds, Arnup, Weir and Boeckh—and I quote:

But the civil litigant is less than half of the problem. Gideon's trumpet has been blown—Orison Marden, Mr. Kuhn's successor calls it a "legal explosion"—and despite the fact that it blew in another country, its effect upon Canada will be a little slower but just as great.

Never again will we be able to pretend that there is adequate administration of justice unless every accused person is adequately defended.

Look at the status we have given criminal law. Despite the fact that we claim to be devoted as a profession to the principle of liberty, and make cloying speeches about the rights of *habeas corpus* and the fact that all business of the Supreme Court stops when the liberty of the subject is at stake, we do put a tremendous part of the administration of criminal justice in the hands of our magistrates, our worst paid, worst housed and least supported socially member of the profession, and not all legally trained at that.

Then if the poor accused can afford to wait for trial by a jury, we do not give him our first rank judges, but assign him to the county or district court.

We generally reserve our superior court trial judges, with their better pay, their better titles, their great social prestige, to property cases.

In saying this, I do not want to be understood as not recognizing the tremendous work of our superior court judges in courts of appeal, who devote so much of their time to the criminal law and whose devotion has been recently dramatized in Ontario by the fact that our Ontario court of appeal sat during a long vacation to deal with some pressing criminal work. But why do we preserve, in almost all provinces, this distinction between the county judges and the superior court judges? Why do we expect the county or district court judges to do civil cases, criminal cases, probate and surrogate court work?

We admit to them no specialization, they must be generalists. The trial judge of the superior court, on the other hand, rarely meets up with criminal law, passes no accounts and generally has a much narrower field of activity. If there is an excuse for two classes of judges, that excuse must lie in the need for a specialized court in criminal law, because the greater proportion of the bar confine their legal practice to the civil side. There appears to be no reason, except history, for the present division of responsibilities.

Our evaluation of the criminal law shows itself at every level. We say to the county judge: You may only handle a civil case with a few thousand dollars involved, yet

you are adequately qualified to sentence an armed robber to life imprisonment.

We carry these relative values right to the Supreme Court of Canada. Any property dispute, no matter how trivial, has an absolute right to be heard by this, the highest court, if \$10,000 is in dispute. Yet the criminal case has a wretched time overcoming the hurdles of obtaining leave to appeal.

The bar itself has turned its back on concern for the administration of the criminal law. A very high percentage of the practitioners in Canada have not been in a court of criminal jurisdiction for years and years. The most responsible and respectable solicitors and barristers almost pride themselves on their ignorance of the criminal court.

The time has come when there must be a re-evaluation in this attitude in the big firms and in the little firms, in the big cities and in the country districts. Every man who calls himself a lawyer must be prepared to play his part in the administration of the criminal justice. If not a part as an advocate, at least a part as an improver, a reformer and knowledgeable man.

I suggest to every lawyer here present that between now and the end of September he spend one half day making a visit to the magistrate's court nearest to his office, that he judge for himself whether in the period awaiting appearance before the court the accused is treated with dignity as a man accused but not convicted. Whether or not the accused is kept waiting trial in dignified surroundings. Whether he has the facilities to take some care of his personal appearance to make that all-important impression on the court when he is arraigned. Whether, when he is brought before the court, he is given an opportunity to be fully advised as to his rights—to understand the proceedings in which he is involved—and to make the defences open to him.

And I suggest that when you have made this visit, you take the time to sit down and write a thoughtful letter to the Attorney General and give your frank opinion on the administration of justice at this level, and your opinion as to the ways and means that may be adopted to improve it.

In order that the bar association itself may show its vital concern, I suggest that you send a copy of your letter to the sec-

retary at Ottawa. I confidently look forward to the mails being clogged with your communications.

That is the end of the speech of Mr. Weir, and I would think it would be too sanguine to guess that the Attorney General got a great many letters as a result of it. Did you?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Do you think I did?

Mr. Sopha: Did you?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: To my knowledge I have not got a single one.

Mr. Sopha: That is what I said, I thought it would be too sanguine to predict that he got a great many letters. He tells me he did not get a single one.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Not even from the partners of the learned author.

Mr. Sopha: Yes; well they are a very high class firm.

Mr. Singer: You have a copy of his speech, have you not?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have read his speech.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Did you send one?

Mr. Sopha: Did I send one? Well, I have the unparalleled advantage of being able to deliver mine here personally. There are several things, of course, that bear some comment.

You will notice at the first of his remarks he refers to the Gideon case and predicts that the effect of that case, and it was very well described and discussed by the member for Riverdale, will be slow to be felt in Canada.

It is always thus, of course, it is always thus. It is a matter of great personal disappointment to me that the bill of rights passed by the Right Hon. John G. Diefenbaker has met with such defeat as it has in our superior courts. Really, I think it is not incorrect to say that the judges treated the bill of rights as a political document, as a politician's production and their attitude seemed to be that they were not going to allow politicians for political purposes to instruct their lordships as to what the rights of the subjects were, the rights which had evolved as a result of a thousand years of struggle.

The judges really, I believe, took the attitude that they were perfectly aware of the rights of the individual and did not need any assistance from the politicians. In the result of course, there are a very small number of

cases where the bill of rights has ever been held to have any real effect; and in a great majority of cases, where it has been pleaded as a defence, the judges have ruled that it is inapplicable to the proceedings.

For example, a provincial statute was tested—and I believe it was a charge of careless driving under The Highway Traffic Act on the rule of law that an accused was called upon to make an explanation, to answer, to make defence, whether that was not an infringement of the bill of rights; and it was held that it was not.

So it has been. The bill of rights has been knocked down in just about every court, every time. Really, I do not exaggerate when I say that when counsel stands in a magistrate's court and he raises the defence of the bill of rights, it evokes something of a smile on the corner of the magistrate's mouth. He really thinks it is more or less of a time wasting exercise, and if the accused has not got something more substantial than that to raise in his defence, then counsel had better sit down and let the court get on with the meeting out of justice.

Now for example, the bill of rights says quite clearly that when any statute passed by the Parliament of Canada is in conflict with the bill of rights—not the criminal code, I am talking about, those that the Attorney General is charged with administering—it says that when any statute is in conflict with the bill of rights, then the bill of rights is deemed to prevail unless the statute specifically says that it has pre-eminence over the bill of rights.

The Attorney General and his agents—his agents mostly, the provincial police—use this heinous section of the code, a section that is not fit for any civilized country to employ but I observe they are using it more frequently; that is somewhere around 170 of the code where they may, in investigating offences of the nature of common bawdy house or common gaming house, common betting house, may take the witnesses before a justice of the peace and examine them under oath before the trial—and all this in the absence of the accused, of course. Indeed, the found-ins in a common gaming house are themselves accused persons. They are accused and their fate depends upon the fate of the keeper of the common gaming house. If he is convicted of keeping a common gaming house, then *per se* it automatically follows that they are in turn convicted of being found-ins.

So really in using that, what I call, and I do not think in an exaggerated way, that

infamous section of the code, the authorities are asking a person to swear under oath and give evidence against himself. Now that, I say, is in direct violation of the bill of rights. But I suggest that we are in a situation that if you raised that the magistrate would shrug off that argument; and if you took it to the court of appeal I predict that your chances of success would be very slim indeed.

Which serves to demonstrate that we in Canada, in our criminal law, in the great body of our criminal law at any point in time, my experience tells me, are behind the United Kingdom and are behind the United States; as we always are, dull and uninteresting and somewhere in the middle.

But, in this case, as I say, we are behind the United Kingdom and behind the United States.

For example, in the law of murder, the law of homicide, if an illustration be needed, England has had for many years the law of diminished responsibility. It has never occurred to us yet to revise our criminal statutes to take into account the reality of the working of the human mind.

I will tell you, Mr. Chairman, what the result is. Having no sanctified statute for the Attorney General and his agents to administer which includes the law of diminished responsibility and that only circumscribes the notion that a person may commit homicide and be not fully responsible for it, there may be extenuating circumstances, the Attorney General's Crown attorneys throughout the length and the breadth of the province, apply a law of diminished responsibility as if it existed.

Oh indeed they do! He nods in agreement, because he knows what I mean.

A person is charged with murder and there is a little conference between the trial judge and the Crown attorney and the defence counsel, and they look into this matter. The first thing you know, the trial is over before it begins. The trial has not begun and it is over. There is a plea of guilty to manslaughter and that is the end of it.

Now that is the application of that law which the English have put on their statute books.

It is to be hoped that the *dicta* in Gideon and Escobedo will some day form part of the law of Canada. I am confident that they will, but it is a depressing thing that we do not catch up as quickly. The reason we do not catch up is the reason John Turner, the hon. John Turner, came and made a speech

in Osgoode Hall a few months ago. He came down and he looked at that assembly, to the lawyers down there and students—and I have no doubt all the poo-bahs of the bar were out, because they always turn out for those luncheons for the elite—John Turner came down and he looked them over, and according to the press reports he delivered the speech and he said: You are not up to much, none of you. You are not up to much. You do not really conduct any legal research. You are not interested in law reform. As far as I can see—a lawyer from Montreal—the Ontario bar is interested in making money and I am told it makes a good deal of it.

I suppose that is the reason they have got that fence up around Osgoode Hall down there, to keep the sheep out because they would get fleeced if they ever got inside.

That would be the burden of the hon. John Turner's remarks, and I never read a murmur of protest about it. I never read where anybody ever protested that his description of the Ontario bar was inept and incorrect. They did not write a letter to the paper; and that man I mentioned the other night, Joseph Sedgwick, he is a great letter writer to the papers, if he disagreed he presumably would have written a letter to the papers. But that was his assessment.

Now that is one of the reasons, of course, that we do not get the progress in development of the criminal law as quickly as they do in the United States and England. Because there, as far as I can see, and I say to my fellow lawyer the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch) that there is a greater impetus to write articles for the legal periodicals.

Indeed, the United States has a multiplicity of legal periodicals. They have literally scores of them, where scholars are writing and analyzing fields of the law, making suggestions for improvement. We do not have that here, and as Mr. Justice Laskin points out the article in the legal periodical has never achieved any height of prestige in the courts. It is very seldom in the prosecution of a trial that an article in the legal periodical is cited as an authority. And if it is cited, Mr. Justice Laskin points out that the judges do not treat it with a great deal of respect, so it is a two-way—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member in the full flight of his oratory, but I would like to ask him if he thinks that justice is a better quality in the United States for all the periodicals and articles that are written, than it is in this

country where he feels that we have a dearth of learned writing on the subject.

Mr. Sopha: I will not be trapped into that.

Mr. Chairman: I was going to say to the Attorney General and to the member for Sudbury, if we could at this time stay with vote 207 and not try to deal with amendment to the criminal code.

Mr. Sopha: I have consulted with the hon. member for Downsview and I am perfectly satisfied that we are talking about the administration of justice in Ontario.

In many parts of the United States the administration of justice, I would venture to say, is greatly superior to that in Canada. I would think that if a person is accused of crime in the city of New York that he would have every bit as good defence and just as much chance of preserving his liberty as he would anywhere in Canada. No doubt that applies for Los Angeles too. Has it ever occurred to the Attorney General that in 100 years of history we have yet to produce a lawyer whose name is well known throughout the length and breadth of the land in the way that Rogers and Darrow and for that matter, Elihu Root and Holmes and some of the others are known.

Mr. MacDonald: What about John Diefenbaker?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That applies to crooks as well—they produce all the well-known ones.

Mr. Sopha: Well we have had some pretty good crooks. It would be pretty difficult to find in any country a more nefarious scoundrel bent on social misdeeds like Red Ryan—

Mr. Chairman: It is very interesting—

Mr. Sopha: I am asked these questions and I am ready to reply. Indeed, let me make just one addendum—we have not had in this country, in 100 years, a literate judge. We have not had a literate judge who has ever written anything in the way that Oliver Wendell Holmes or Cardozo or Frankfurter or Leonard Hand or Brandeis—and I have named several who have written something.

Mr. Singer: Douglas!

Mr. Sopha: Yes. And it makes one wonder.

All right now, there is another part of this. You notice he says that the most responsible and respectable solicitors and barristers almost pride themselves on ignorance of the criminal court.

I can only speak out of my own experience. Three Attorneys General ago—the one that just left the House, Kelso Roberts—at a meeting of the legal bills committee, when we came to a point where I disagreed with him about something—and it was easy to get tempers somewhat aroused, especially his, without much effort—he hurled the innuendo at me: “Police court lawyer.”

Between lawyers the meaning of that is plain. Now I am not saying that because I am looking for a vindication, but I am saying it to illustrate what Mr. Weir is talking about.

In other words, the fat cats of the bar—they are the prestige-laden people of the bar—they see the upper strata to be involvement in the civil case which involve a great deal of money or a great principle of law and that is the prestige, the sought-after area. I suppose the very height of the bar is to have a gigantic legal factory in the new Toronto-Dominion bank. One would have arrived if one had about three floors in that bank. The practitioners of criminal law, there is no question about it, are somewhat looked down upon in the profession and a lawyer will frequently say, as Mr. Weir points out, “I do not know anything about criminal law”, as if it is a distasteful subject.

Of course the truth is—and I am going to end this here—the truth is that the most exciting branch of the law, the warp and the woof of our law, is to be found in the field of criminal jurisprudence, there is no question about that. It is the part of the law that is alive and vibrant, the part involving the liberty of the subject and it is the most exciting environment and arena that can possibly be sought after by a lawyer. But in order that we get reform, Mr. Weir's injunction here will have to be transformed, as he properly points out, and more able lawyers will have to devote themselves to the very important task of defending the liberty of the subject.

The rest of Mr. Weir's dissertation so far as it obtains to the city of Toronto is true. A number of years ago I went down to that, A court is it, in the basement of the city hall where females particularly were brought in. Hon. members would not believe the uncivilized, barbaric and disgusting conditions that exist in that court and which presents such an assault on the dignity of the individual. One could see those women corralled up in a very narrow and restricted space as they were herded in like animals; and at that time, of course, without benefit of legal assistance at all.

For myself, I observe that in the Toronto courts at present it does not obtain—oh I should not say that, but I observe this about Toronto, that in those courts down there, far too much barking goes on by police officers. In fact, there are too many police officers around there. They could take about two-thirds of them out and set them to directing traffic.

One gets the impression down there that there are people just barking and shouting and yelling at the human beings that come in there because they have had a brush with the law. I venture to say that we must never forget that the great majority of our fellow citizens who find themselves enmeshed with the criminal law will experience it as a one-shot affair. They will not be back, the great majority of them. There will be those who will be back time and time again, but experience teaches me that in most cases it is just one brush—and usually through misadventure—and the rest of their lives will be devoted to being useful citizens.

Over in the other place—now that I am reflecting I have left that cattle barn called the old city hall—over in the other place the opulence is indescribable. It is like the Taj Mahal, and really for a local yokel like me to go in and look around, I say that I feel sorry for the residents of Metropolitan Toronto in having to support the number of supernumeraries there are around that place. There are more attendants down at that county court house than in the whole of the Jordanian army, I should say.

They have them at the doors; they have them in the hallways; and you go into the courts and they have a small army of them there. It appears to me that they have a couple who do nothing but pour water for the judge and they have another couple to look after the doors and then they have a few who sit there and do nothing. They have a few to look after the jurors and I venture to say that before they can get a court in operation in the city of Toronto they need about ten people, ten non-judicial people to get the thing moving before counsel can announce their names and the name of the case that they are on which is waiting to be tried. Of course with the administration of justice being absorbed at the local level in Toronto, this means an increased burden on the property owners.

But Toronto is certainly well fixed for a court house and nobody envies them that. The burden of litigation in Toronto must be several multiples more than it is in the rest of the province put together. The best law-

yers are here in Toronto and they deserve the best that money can buy.

But I say to the Attorney General that if we believe in human dignity, if we really believe in it, then it is not enough for John T. Weir to make a speech at Winnipeg, 2,000 miles away from here, and then have it published and sent around. If there is merit in what Mr. Weir had to say, then it behooves us, them and my friend the member for Downsview and myself and the rest of us, to do something about it. We have a good place to start. A good place to start is to really believe that the accused is innocent until he is proved guilty. That would be a wonderful principle to have accepted, and to work from that basis and the Crown be required to prove its case.

But it is not the case. As Martin Freedman has pointed out in another area, it is not the case where an unshaven, ill-kept individual comes into the court and he is asked to stand there and plead. The judicial officer looking at him is inclined to assume his guilt before he has had a chance to answer.

There is many a lawyer really believes that in magistrate's court in this province the accused is assumed to be guilty, and it is up to him to prove his innocence. That opinion is very widely shared and for many reasons. But you see it is a departure from that principle, Mr. Chairman, the basic principle of the law that a man is assumed to be innocent until he is proved guilty.

There are so many things that we can correct. For example, may I mention the nexus, the rapport between the magistrate and the police that would be an easy one to eliminate. And how many accused people around this province going up to the court house see the police closeted with the magistrate before the proceedings begin? Now, what are they talking about? Last night's pinochle game? About the seventh hole on the golf links, or the weather, as my friend says, what are they talking about?

That goes on all over the province. The police troop into the magistrate's office before the court begins. It would be very simple for the Attorney General to eliminate that one. All he would have to do is lay down an injunction that it just must not happen and instruct his Crown attorney to do it—the Attorney General, let us remember, being the repository of justice in this province. That is what the Prime Minister meant when he changed his name; that is what he meant.

The Prime Minister meant about the Attorney General that he would get rid of this

title which seemed to imply that he was a prosecutor, solely a prosecutor, and solely engaged in the enforcement of the law. And he would give him a title which would convey the notion that he is concerned about justice.

In the administration of justice, the Attorney General is in a unique position in that he has agents and officials in every part of the province who act on his behalf. And he is really in every court through his agents. The maxim of *respondeat superior* works perfectly, and all the Attorney General needs to do in some of these areas that my friend the member for Downsview and I have canvassed, is send out some intelligence from Queen's Park here to his people in the province, and suggest to them that some things ought to be corrected in this way.

Treat these accused people with dignity and make sure they have an opportunity to clean up, get their best suit on. But in no circumstance could he say, "Shall an accused person be brought to court in his prison clothing if other clothing is available?"

Now I say to my friend, the member for Downsview, what chance has a fellow got in coming into court when he has both the handcuffs on and the leg irons on and he is attired in prison garb? But he has been brought from Kingston penitentiary perhaps to answer some local charge. And they get out the process and get him out of Kingston penitentiary and they bring him into court like an animal, that way, with the handcuffs and the leg irons. Now what chance has that man to get up and protest his innocence?

Well, there are so many things and it moves so slowly that it really depresses one sometimes that we do not see a greater progress. When all is said and done, and I am going to give you the perfect illustration of it, it is better that 99 guilty ones go free than one innocent man be improperly convicted.

Now where we had a tremendous illustration of that without judging the case—look at that Truscott affair and how that exercised this country. And who am I to say what the outcome will be, and I would not presume to predict.

But the moment that the public had inculcated in them the notion that perhaps a young man was improperly convicted, well, there was just a swell of protest and concern throughout the length and breadth of this country. So the Cabinet of Canada had to intervene and take some steps to initiate a new examination of the whole thing. Because

there is a deep concern in our people about the administration of justice.

As I have said before, if you had a conference on regional development, you might be lucky if you got 250 people. But if you had some meeting concerned with an interference with liberty and the loss of freedom, which we have known, I say to the Minister of Tourism and Information who is concerned about these things that we could get Maple Leaf Gardens filled on 24 hours' notice. That was the effect of Isobel LeBourdais' book, really, in a different way.

Mr. Singer: And Bill 99.

Mr. Sopha: And Bill 99, as my friend says. Because there is a deep consciousness in Canadians of doing what is right and fair and proper and just. These things, my friend, the member for Downsview and I have pointed out. Herein the administration of justice is wrong. It is an assault on the dignity of the individual and it is unworthy of the sophisticated society in which we live. And we can do better, Mr. Chairman, than we have done by just a little effort on the part of your Minister of Justice and my own.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Chairman, my friend, the member for Sudbury, has been dwelling on the administration aspects of the administration of justice, specifically the lower courts.

I think we must also under this heading take a look at some of the other courts and also the probation services.

It seems that our whole system, not only administration of justice, but of punishment for crime is failing somewhere along the line. I pointed out the other day that the rate of crime is on the increase. Statistics show that our jails are as full as ever; the crime rate is rising but not the number of people in jail.

At the same time, the rate of recidivism is not falling and 80 per cent of the people who go to jail are apt to return there for a second or third time. It is estimated that it costs \$20 for every man, woman and child in this country for the administration of justice and that 15 cents of every dollar that is spent on food, clothing and sundries, goes to make up the loss that the merchants suffer to thievery or pilferage every year.

Originally the punishment for crime was to be deprived of freedom. Being incarcerated in those days was in fact punishment.

Today, it does not seem to hold any more, because if you speak to the convicts who are sentenced to two, three, four years, they

will tell you, in their language, that they can do it standing on their heads. It is no longer a punishment. To some of them it is, as a matter of fact, a sort of semi-paradise.

They become institutionalized. A prison to them is not a place of punishment, but a home. And when they are released and in some flop house or in some boarding house, that flop house or that boarding house is only a temporary home away from home.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that we have lost sight of why we are sending people to prison, that simply depriving them of freedom is no longer the punishment that it was at one time. Basically we send people to prison particularly for one of four reasons:

One, they are awaiting trial. And as my colleague from Sudbury pointed out, these people have not been found guilty, and they ought to be treated with all the respect that is due, or would be due, to the highest citizen of this land. They ought to have proper accommodation, they ought to have proper food, and they ought to have decent surroundings, because they are not as yet under our law guilty of any offence.

The second class are sent to prison for punishment. Punishment aside from the simple deprivation of freedom. These are the habitual criminals even though they are not so found by the courts. The continuous repeaters who, when they get out, will do nothing except something that will cause them to be sent back. These have become institutionalized. There is little hope of doing anything to reform those people.

With reference to these I think that we have sort of misconstrued the parable in the *Bible* about the one lost sheep. The *Bible* tells us that the good shepherd, when one sheep is lost, he leaves the 49 and goes and seeks the one that is lost.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Ninety-nine!

Mr. Ben: Forty-nine. I think it was 50 sheep, were there not?

Mr. Young: No, 99.

Mr. Ben: Well I will abide by my learned friend here. There were 99, so we will leave the 99.

It seems to us that we are leaving the 99 to go for the one that is lost and when we come back we find that the 99 are gone. So I think it is about time we took another look at that parable and reappraised our thinking in this line.

There is another group that are incarcerated, basically speaking, simply to isolate

them from society, because they are *per se* dangerous through some mental illness or other defect. For instance, the pedophiles, the drug addicts, the homosexuals, the alcoholics, those people who might in some circumstances claim they are not criminals in the true sense. They are isolated for their protection and also for the protection of society. Those people, more than punishment, need comprehensive medical or psychiatric treatment. There should be a special prison for people like that, where they can receive the proper detailed comprehensive treatment.

Then we have a fourth group, and those would be the ones that are in prison in order to be reformed. These are the ones with whom the hon. Minister of Reform Institutions deals, the first offenders or the younger offenders, those we do have a hope of saving.

They again should be put in a special type of detention. They should not be put in prisons in the true sense of the word, but in schools, training schools. The responsibility of reforming them ought not to be under reform institutions, but frankly speaking under The Department of Education. But we do not run that kind of a system any more. We talk about a maximum security prison, a medium security prison and a minimum security prison and people think that all the habitual criminals are in a maximum security prison and all the ones who are ready to be reformed are in a minimum security prison.

This is not so, because those that are concerned with the administration of justice in this province will tell you that it is the habitual criminal who is clever enough to behave himself while he is in prison, so that he can get all the good behaviour time that he is entitled to and get out as early as possible. It is usually the youngster who tries to make a name for himself that tries to act big in one of these prisons and therefore loses time and in most cases ends up in a place like Millbrook.

I think last year I pointed out to the House the number of youngsters, 16, 17, 18 years of age, in Millbrook reformatory, a maximum security prison run by this province.

But that is not enough, Mr. Chairman, because basically speaking we ought to avoid giving rise to the situation where these youngsters are put in either training schools or reformatories. We supply at the expense of the taxpayers of this province, subsidized housing units for our senior citizens. We look after our senior citizens, our aged, relatively speaking, pretty well; but almost nothing,

or little if anything, is done for the opposite end of the age scale, the youngsters.

For instance, Mr. Chairman, there are many youngsters that have neither homes nor parents because of the conditions that prevail, the environment; large families in decrepit surroundings, or noisy areas. Perhaps their parents are alcoholics and they drop out of school because they just cannot remain in that environment.

So what do they do? They end up in some flea-ridden flop house, or up in Yorkville trying to find solace in LSD or marijuana. If, Mr. Chairman, and I hope the Attorney General is paying attention, if we can spend money to rehabilitate people who get into prisons, if we can spend money to look after senior citizens, why cannot this government spend money to create hostels throughout this land for the benefit of youngsters, who find themselves compelled to leave home, where they can have decent surroundings, where they can have a decent address, where they can get decent meals; where, if they wish to pursue their studies, they can have surroundings which will permit them to study; where they can have house mothers or house fathers that will look after sewing on buttons and darning their socks.

Because there are many youngsters who want to continue school or who want to follow a proper course in life, but are compelled to leave home because they cannot tolerate the conditions that exist. And as I say, if we can spend the taxpayers' money to look after the aged then why cannot we similarly spend money to look after the young?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member would permit me—I think perhaps I would go a long way toward agreeing with him in the proposition he is putting forward, but I am very doubtful if this is in my department. I think if we had perhaps a Ministry of youth, it might deal with this specific problem. As we are now, I would think if it is a matter of hostels or detention homes, or that type of establishment, that would be in The Department of Reform Institutions.

If it is welfare to give them better conditions at home, or out of home, it certainly is not in my vote. I cannot find it. It would not lie in the hands of the Attorney General to do this.

While I listen with very much interest to the hon. member, and agree with much that he is saying, I think it is quite irrelevant to this subject. I do not want to shorten his

contribution, Mr. Chairman, but I am afraid it is a contribution that should be made in another direction.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, if I may, there is an item under the estimates and it is under vote 207; magistrate and juvenile and family courts. Perhaps the Attorney General may be right, but he is also wrong.

For instance, the Attorney General mentions that perhaps this would come under the estimates of the Minister of Reform Institutions. Unfortunately it does not, because The Department of Reform Institutions does not have jurisdiction until the Minister or his department are through with the individual. You are charged with bringing him into the orbit of the responsibility of the Minister of Reform Institutions, and frankly, Mr. Chairman, I must admit that this particular order is the responsibility of the Minister of Reform Institutions. And frankly, Mr. Chairman, I must admit that this particular suggestion I have just made I cannot throw at the feet of any Minister of the Crown on the other side. Because the way they are set up they just do not cover that particular aspect of it. Perhaps the Minister is right—

Mr. Chairman: If such is the case, I wonder if the member would be relevant.

Mr. Ben: Well, I am relevant in this regard: I am trying to keep youngsters out of—perhaps the word “clutches” is not the best word to use in connection with such an hon. gentleman, sir, as the Attorney General, but for want of a better word I will use that phrase—out of the clutches of The Attorney General’s Department who, in turn, would transfer these children into the clutches of The Department of Reform Institutions.

If we can keep them out of jail it is going to mean that less money will be spent by this hon. Minister’s department, and less money is going to be spent by The Department of Reform Institutions.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Probation definitely does come within my department.

Mr. Sopha: Probation does come within this scope. Yes. And there again it is the inconsistencies in the way these departments are set up. The Minister is responsible for getting them into prisons and then responsible for them after they get out of prison. I cannot understand why he is not responsible for them while they are in prison and I cannot understand why he is not responsible for keeping them out of prison.

Mr. Young: Sure, give him something to do.

Mr. Ben: What I think we need is something for the other Minister to do. The fact remains that we ought to have under one department the apprehension, the bringing to trial, the trial, the sentencing, the incarceration, the reformation and the rehabilitation of a citizen. All that should be under the responsibility of one Minister.

And probation—I was shocked to read some of the statistics that were published in the *Canadian Journal of Correction* on the probability of a person serving a sentence in prison completing his parole; that is not just being a recidivist but completing his parole.

Of the high risk parole—those that have three or more previous convictions, the probability rating, that is, the probability of their carrying out their parole, was an average of 29.6 per cent. If these same individuals who have had three or more previous convictions are supervised by other than the John Howard society, the probability rating is only 13.6 per cent.

If they have three or more previous convictions and are supervised by the John Howard society, the probability jumps to 44.6 per cent. I think this speaks very highly of the success that the John Howard society does have through its intervention in an endeavour to rehabilitate those who have been discharged from prison.

The next class is three or more previous convictions paroled from other than Joyceville or Collins Bay, and not supervised by the John Howard society. The probability rate is 23.8 per cent. Three or more previous convictions paroled from Joyceville or Collins Bay, supervised by the John Howard society, 61.5 per cent.

It shows the difference that the presence of the John Howard society can have towards rehabilitation of, or at least keeping on parole, these people. This is simply keeping on parole people who have had three or more convictions. I should point out that they parole those whom they deem to be only the best risks.

Many people in prison refuse parole; they do not ask for parole. They will strive their utmost to get all the good time to their credit that they can and to maintain those credits, but they will not ask for a parole. Because, if they do, they will then be under supervision of The Attorney General’s Department.

Mr. Bryden: Parole is not under this vote.

Mr. Ben: Oh, yes, it is. Probation service.

Mr. Bryden: Probation is, but not parole.

Mr. Ben: It is the probation officer who acts as parole officer, too.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Woodbine is right.

Mr. Ben: So perhaps the solution would be, Mr. Chairman, to make post-sentence probation compulsory. In other words, every person who is released from prison would be compelled to serve a specific period of time—three months, six months or a year on probation so that he would be under the close scrutiny of officers of The Attorney General's Department to see that he was rehabilitating himself and rehabilitating himself properly.

Mr. Chairman, before I sit down I would just like to mention the family and juvenile courts. Last year I said that The Deserted Wives and Children's Maintenance Act was long overdue for revision because it is an anachronism. It just does not function properly. One of these injustices that you see under this Act is that women, having been allocated a certain sum to be payable to them by their husbands by the court, find they must repeatedly go back to the court and try to enforce this order.

It might interest the Attorney General to know that during the month of February, 1967, of the 484 appearances before the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court, that is domestic disputes, which do not include juveniles, of these 484, 209 were before the court for non-support, an original appearance; 173 of them were there on show cause summons—that is where the court summons them back to have them show cause why he should not be held in contempt for having failed to comply with the order of the court; 40 of them were on rehearings; and 62 were there for other miscellaneous matters such as breach of Minors Protection Act, access, assault, contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

These figures show that 213 of those appearances dealt with the wife's right to be paid that which the court ordered. In other words, those 213 people appeared in the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court last month to deal with the amounts that had been awarded to the wife on the original application for support.

Surely this must indicate that something is wrong. It means more women have to go

back to assert their rights to receive what the court said that they should receive than go there on the original applications. The figures continue to mount. Why is this so?

We are not in a period of unemployment at the present time. As a matter of fact, the figures that were released to us indicated that we were in a period of prosperity. And yet, almost half of the cases that appeared in the domestic branch of the family court in the city of Toronto concerned women coming there to assert their right to receive that which the court said they should receive.

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this Act is long overdue for revision. If the Attorney General does not see his way clear to making a complete revision, he at least ought to give consideration to amending the Act to provide that the judge shall not award a fixed sum to be paid to the wife either for her support or for the support of a minor or for both. But that he shall fix a percentage of the husband's income either gross or net.

This would mean that as the husband's condition changed so would the amount that would be payable to his wife and children. If he bettered himself overnight and was receiving twice as much as he did the week before, the wife would be entitled to twice as much, and this could be established by an employer being compelled to supply the court with a copy of the T-4 slip which is given to every taxpayer or every wage-earner in this province.

I feel that if the husband's condition is better, then the conditions of the wife and children he has deserted, ought also to be better. This would make it unnecessary for husbands to go back on rehearings and make it compulsory for this percentage to be deducted from the husband's salary and paid directly into the court and if this did exist, 173 women would not have had to go to court last month asking for the money to which they were entitled.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Halton.

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Attorney General a question under the official guardian's branch. As the hon. Minister knows, any moneys that are held for minors who have been awarded certain claims or bequests until they reach the age of 21 years is under the trust and jurisdiction of the official guardian. At present these moneys are earning, I understand, interest at about 4 per cent per annum. This seems low today in view of the high interest rates earned generally.

I do not know what authority the official guardian may have as far as investing such trust funds is concerned; perhaps he has no authority outside of just banking these moneys, but it would seem that they should earn more money than 4 per cent. Possibly the hon. Attorney General could comment about this.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, money is paid into the office of the official guardian and it is maintained for them there, but is paid out from time to time on application or on a court order which may direct payment out—it is always on a court order—so that the money that is paid in there earns 4 per cent.

Money that goes into the official guardian's hands may be needed for monthly or quarterly payments, or as the court may direct, so that the money cannot be invested over a long period of time, except in the instance where as Mr. Justice Haines a couple of weeks ago found a particular case before him that the money would not be needed for at least five years or perhaps longer. He directed, in that case, that the money go to a trust company and be invested at their 6 per cent or 6.25 per cent rate—

Mr. Bryden: York Trust is offering 6.5 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In that case the trust company has no obligation except to meet a cheque or withdrawal slip, but the official guardian has the business of administering that fund and meting payments out. There are hundreds of payments sent out from his office from day to day in the various estates that he administers. If the money is taken to the bank where it can be checked out or to a trust company on a chequing account, I think the interest rate is 4 per cent or 4.5 per cent, so that there is no responsibility on the bank other than to have the money available to meet the demand on a cheque. But the official guardian has the responsibility to administer the fund, to make sure that it is available, to go to court and to present anything that is to be paid in the protection of the infant, to examine the affidavit material on the application that is made and to produce the funds in monthly or periodic instalments, as required.

It is true, I think, that as funds are administered by any trustee even on that floating basis from time to time, there will grow up in that trustee's hands a floating fund. An amount will be there belonging to the various depositors who turn it in, but that could

be invested and that floating fund would always be maintained at a certain level. I think this is true of funds that are held by law firms and some of them amount to a good many thousands of dollars. It was never regarded—at least up until recently—that that money could be invested and earn any interest.

I only point out that there is a responsibility on the official guardian to examine every account and to go to court and represent the infant and to be ready to pay out the money. He pays it out from time to time, and the funds that are in his hands and are available for investment are invested in government-guaranteed securities.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I think we are going to run into a little difficulty. This vote has a long, long way to go and if we start skipping—well, there are 12 items here that are current and four items that are statutory, and if we go backwards and forwards—

Mr. Bryden: We have been doing it for two days.

Mr. Singer: No, we have not, we have not really. We have been talking about judges and magistrates and then we jumped out into probation, which is down toward the end, and now we are into the official guardian, and so on.

I do not know that it makes much for a good debate or a logical debate. It makes it difficult. I have some remarks that I want to make about the official guardian's office, but I am far from through with magistrates' courts.

Mr. Chairman: That is all right; there are only 12 items before us and if you wish to take them in sequence, I am prepared to do that.

Mr. Singer: I think it would be more helpful in the general conduct of the debate and then we could say that such and such a subject is finished and move on to the next one. I do have some remarks I wish to address to this official guardian matter, but as I said, I am far from through with magistrates' courts as yet.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Downsview has the floor.

Mr. Singer: Let us go back to magistrates' courts again, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, just by way of clarification before the member gets going. Which item are we now on, how are we proceeding?

Mr. Chairman: Is it the wish of the members that they follow in sequence on this vote?

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the procedure, but I would suggest we do not follow the items shown on page 19, but the functional breakdowns shown on page 20. I think that is more meaningful. The items simply group everything under objects of expenditure.

Mr. Chairman: Is it the wish of the members of the House that we continue on that basis? All right, the Supreme Court of Ontario at the top of page 20? Carried.

The county district and division courts? Carried.

Magistrates' and family courts? The member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: Back again to that point, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I did the Attorney General an injustice and I am glad that the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information is back, because there is one improvement I neglected to point out. In the cell block down at the city hall, there is an official reproduction of the Centennial emblem on the front door before you get into the cells and that is a real improvement and has created a far better atmosphere in behind the door. I do not know whether the hon. Minister of Tourism and Information is responsible for that, but if that is one of the improvements, I certainly commend him. I wish he would go inside and see what is behind the door, behind the Centennial emblem.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to know—and I do not know whether these are matters that would hurt the administration of justice if the Attorney General told us about them, but he should and take a risk that we might infringe a bit on the effectiveness of the veil of secrecy that he maintains.

Could he tell us the average number of cases handled by each magistrate, first of all in Metropolitan Toronto and, second, by each magistrate elsewhere in Ontario, over the last 12-month period?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the number of cases handled by magistrates throughout the province of Ontario are, in alphabetical order, as follows:

District of Algoma, Magistrate Boyd in the year 1966, 19,254. Magistrate Peterson, 765 in Elliot Lake and 2,811 at Bruce Mines court. Brant, 11,824, Magistrate Shillington; Bruce, Magistrate McClevis, 3,483; Carleton, Magistrate Williams, 14,109; Cochrane, Mag-

istrate Leger, 7,705; Magistrate Gardner, 8,712. In Elgin, Magistrate Barnum, in the city of St. Thomas, 3,429; in the county, 4,300. In Essex, Magistrate Thrasher, 9,217; Frontenac, in the city of Kingston, Magistrate Garvin, 13,404 and in the county 4,905. Glengarry, Magistrate Fitzpatrick, 2,039. Grey, Magistrate Stewart, 4,452. In Haldimand, Magistrate Young, 2,132; in Halton, Magistrate Langdon, 22,740; Hastings, Magistrate Wills, 8,431, Magistrate Jackson, 3,850; Huron, Magistrate Hays, 3,193; in Kenora, Magistrate Fregeau, 4,818; Magistrate Cox 3,215. In Kent, Magistrate Craig, 15,368; in Lambton, Magistrate Dunlap, 15,916; in Lanark, Magistrate Smith, 4,652; in Leeds and Grenville, Magistrate Deacon, 8,020; in Lennox and Addington, Magistrate Baker, 2,466; in Lincoln, Magistrate Hallett, 16,360; in Manitoulin Island, Magistrate Falzetta, 437; Middlesex, Magistrate Marshman, 8,821; Muskoka, Magistrate Byce, 4,861; in Nipissing, Magistrate Gould, 9,533; in Norfolk, Magistrate Ross, 5,871; Northumberland and Durham, Magistrate Baxter, 12,948.

Mr. Sopha: Well, he was yelling about not having a changing room; he had to change his gown in—where was it—in the mayor's office or some place, and it seemed to offend him. Can there be something done for him?

Mr. Singer: Get him a new gown so he can have one to wear at home and one when he is out.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: As I read these figures I noticed in various areas where I know there are two or three magistrates that only the name of the one magistrate is given. So that the total number of cases were really not heard by that one magistrate, but just the name of one magistrate is given.

Mr. Sopha: I was just referring to this fellow the Attorney General just read, about the perquisites of his office, and I was wondering if he could do something for him.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This was Magistrate Baxter? I will note the member's comment.

In Oshawa, the name given is Magistrate Ebbs but the number of cases is 37,567. I would think that would be two or three magistrates.

Mr. Singer: That really is the purpose and direction of my question. I wanted the case-load per magistrate, the average case-load. As a matter of fact, it is interesting, Mr. Chairman, this is quite painless and I do not see the walls of justice come tumbling down

as the Minister delineates this information for us.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This will all be included in the report of the inspector of legal offices, which will be tabled in this House.

Mr. Singer: But the fact is, Mr. Chairman, this is the fourth day that we have had these estimates and we have no statistical information here at all, and it is a disgrace.

Mr. Sopha: Where is the inspector of legal offices; has he disappeared?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, he is sitting in the House.

Mr. Singer: That is nice.

Mr. Sopha: Will you tell us when we get to Sudbury?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Does the member wish to know the number of cases tried in Sudbury? Is he interested in this information?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, indeed I am.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Very good.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Downsview has asked for some information and I would ask the Attorney General if he would give the information now, and the members will let him make his presentation.

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mail it to him.

Mr. Singer: Yes, that is typical of that Minister.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I gathered from the hon. member that he was not interested in the information I was giving but I would be happy to give it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: For the county of Oxford, the number of cases, 8,985; Parry Sound, 4,454; Peel, 27,147; Perth, 5,773; Peterborough, 11,536; Prescott and Russell, 5,538—

Mr. Sopha: Well, Louis will not have a great deal to do down there.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Prince Edward, 2,662. This will all appear in the report of the inspector of legal offices. I would be glad to give it to the member now if he likes. Rainy River, 2,734; Renfrew, 7,813; Simcoe, 8,457 and 18,596. That is divided between Magistrates Glass and Foster, Stormont and

Dundas, Magistrate Bergeron, 6,074, Magistrate Hunter, 8,351; Sudbury, Magistrates Woodliffe and Falzetta, and I think you have another magistrate, total 34,167 plus the Espanola cases, 1,412. Timiskaming, 6,204; Thunder Bay, there are three magistrates: Magistrate Cunningham, 8,310; Magistrate Connor, 6,617, Magistrate Davies, Fort William, 7,175. Victoria, Magistrate Munroe, 6,188; Waterloo, 27,948 cases, and I have just the name of one magistrate. Welland, Magistrate Roberts, 9,338, Magistrate Woodhouse, 10,317. In Wellington, number of cases, 12,215; Wentworth, 9,595; York—

Mr. Singer: Does Wentworth include Hamilton?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I am coming to that in a moment. In York, Magistrate Hollinrake, 18,965; city of Windsor, total number of cases, 40,852; city of Hamilton, total cases, 150,636; the city of London, 81,093; Metropolitan Toronto, 699,751. And the city of Ottawa, 62,211.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I regret that while those figures are complete as they are presented, they do not give me the information I asked for. I asked the Attorney General if he could advise me the average case-load for each magistrate. And it is impossible really to bring that figure out of those statistics that he read to us, whether or not they will be in the report of the inspector of legal offices, which we have yet to see.

Now can the Attorney General give us that figure? What is the average for each magistrate or has he the same kind of breakdown? I think this is important.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I cannot give that information, I do not have it.

Mr. Sopha: May I add to that question? I took it that the dropout will be handling 5,500 cases down in Hawkesbury. How much is he going to be paid?

I am reliably informed that he will be able to look after the county of Prescott and all the breaches of the Queen's peace down there in one day a week.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The total number of cases as I read out for Prescott and Russell in 1966 was 5,538.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, that is about one day a week.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I cannot divide them up that way.

Mr. Sopha: I am told that he will be able to look after—now someone who is right down on the scene, and I would not dare reveal who that was, said he will be able to look after that court in one day a week.

Now are we going to get our value out of that? I would like to know. Would it be too embarrassing for the Attorney General to tell us how much the dropout is going to be paid?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: First of all, I can tell you what he is paid. I can tell you that exactly. But this is approximately, let us say, 6,000 cases.

Mr. Sopha: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There are 52 weeks in a year; let us say 50. This is 100 cases a week.

Mr. Sopha: Oh, forgive me. Magistrate Woodliffe did not try 34,000 cases in Sudbury. Many of those are pleas of guilty.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There are 6,000 cases in Prescott.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Five thousand were pleas of guilty.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know that. I know that there are 100 a week, if you take 50 weeks in a year.

Mr. Sopha: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: And I do not think you will do them all in one day a week.

Mr. Sopha: Ninety-seven were pleas of guilty.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: You do not know that at all.

Mr. Sopha: And the magistrate heard three.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: On even a plea of guilty you must still hear some evidence and look into the case.

Mr. Sopha: Oh no, not in the driving offences.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In a great many of them you do.

Mr. Sopha: Well, I am told that he will look after that court in one day a week. Now how much—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In any event, we pay our judges a salary across the board. They do not all do the same amount of work and

I do not think I need to defend the principle of magistrate's salaries. We pay that magistrate, a man of long standing as a lawyer, \$14,000.

Mr. Sopha: Now would he be required to help out in Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He will be required to help out if we ask him wherever we need him.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am beginning—no, I am not finished.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Oshawa.

Mr. Singer: But I am still trying to make this point and surely I—this is where we get into trouble. If we get involved in another field, I will have to come back to this point.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps the member for Oshawa would defer to you at this time.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, all I was going to say is if the Attorney General is unable to give us the average number of cases per magistrate, this is one of the reasons why we are not getting any reports, because he has not been able to gather the reports.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Does the hon. member mean what he says, that he wants the average number of cases per magistrate?

Mr. Singer: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can easily add these figures up and divide it by the number of magistrates.

Mr. Singer: No, by district and by location.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Oh, that is a different thing.

Mr. Singer: How many did the magistrate in Prescott hear and how many is every magistrate in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto hearing?

Then it would follow logically, because the Attorney General is a very wise man and he is expanding his staff and he has a chief magistrate who reports in secret to him, that somebody would have been studying whether or not the magistrates are properly employed. And whether perhaps, Mr. Chairman, that magistrate X might have far more work than any magistrate can be reasonably expected to do in one day. And as a result, that the people before him—because there is a purpose in this; I am not just asking for statistics out of the air—that the people who come before magistrate X who is overburdened

are not getting a fair break. And I would suggest that you will find these magistrates in the big cities. The people are not getting a fair break because the magistrate has not time for them. The docket piles up.

Now these are the statistics; this is the kind of study that the Attorney General and his advisers, whether they are secret or public, should be bringing forward. And this is the information that we asked for in detailed form in 1965. At that time, only because we asked for it in detailed form, did we get anything approaching it. But this year, 1967, apparently an election year, Mr. Chairman, the cloak of secrecy descends again and we cannot get the information.

Being not able to get the information, let me say that it is my sincere opinion that in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto there are far too many cases on the dockets before the magistrates who sit here to enable them to properly give judicial consideration to the matters that come before them.

And I say that we have not enough magistrates and we have poor facilities and justice is being denied in the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, because the Attorney General and his advisers have been unable to cope with this problem and apparently, from the lack of information they bring before us, are unwilling to cope with the problem.

Now let me ask the Attorney General another question; maybe he has statistics on this. Can he tell us if there is any backlog—what the present backlog is on March 16, 1967, of cases to be tried in Metropolitan Toronto and if so, how many such cases are awaiting trial?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Is the hon. member speaking of magistrates' courts?

Mr. Singer: Yes, in magistrates' courts.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I shall have to get that information for him.

Mr. Sopha: Illustrative of what my friend says, a month or so ago I was at magistrates' court in Newmarket, and that would be Magistrate Hollinrake. They deal first, of course, with the adjournments. That was the month of early February and they were fixing dates for the trial of actions, would you believe it, in July.

Mr. Singer: Oh, I believe it.

Mr. Sopha: The case was going to be adjourned to come before the same magistrate in the month of July, and I found it extremely startling that they would need February,

March, April, May, June, a six month adjournment. Witnesses might die in the meantime—and the accused of course is extremely restricted in his movements, but I suspect that that is fairly general in many areas of the province.

Let us make it absolutely clear that these statistics recited by the Attorney General are meaningless and the reason they are meaningless is that included in that compilation are all of those traffic offences that are settled out of court. The bottom of the summons says: If you wish to plead guilty, send your cheque to the magistrate's court at X. In a plea of guilty the magistrate simply never sees those people. He makes a return as to the fines collected but he holds no judicial proceeding in reference to them.

The statistic that would be meaningful to us, would be the average number of cases that a magistrate hears during a sitting day, so that we could compare the workload of a magistrate sitting in the city of Toronto with one in Walkerton, let's say, or Russell, or of Magistrate Peterson in Bruce Mines. That would be meaningful.

I will be very surprised—and I will watch this very closely—whether the dropout will hold any court in Ottawa. I strongly suspect that he will grab that \$14,000 and he will sit in Hawkesbury and perhaps he may wander over to L'Orignal, but I will be very surprised if they can push him around in the magistrate's court in eastern Ontario.

He was a long time away from the law and he performed a useful public service here but he was certainly a long time away from the law and I do not know that it was quite proper for the Prime Minister of this province, the first citizen, to give his fiat to his appointment as a magistrate.

Some years ago, of course, it is well known that he wanted to go to the county court bench during the Diefenbaker years when they had that brief period of privilege of appointing; but then Diefenbaker went out of power.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sopha: The member for Glengarry stood in his way. Do you recall that?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Sopha: I do not know if that was quite proper, even though he was an old buddy in the Cabinet. I really do not know, he could have had his pension that he earned here very honourably, he could have taken that

pension and retired like the member for St. Patrick; gone back to the practice of law and try his luck like the rest of us.

If the Attorney General retires, I do not think the Attorney General is going to ask for a magistracy—

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): I would hate to think any of your clients—

Mr. Sopha: He will return to his law practice in Sault Ste. Marie, and he was one of the outstanding lawyers in Sault Ste. Marie. I do not say that for flattery, it was well-known that he was. But really in my view, and I want to say it here, they stretched a point when they took their old pal—they have no Senate to send them to in Ontario, they have to scratch around to find some place—

Mr. J. F. Edwards (Perth): Where are you going?

Mr. Sopha: My leader points out there are several vacancies in the parks commission! But I do not know; we can merely try to get these statistics out of my friend, and other members of the House would know how hard magistrates work in this province and what they are required to do.

Mr. Singer: Now, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Sopha: I am not through, far from through on this point.

Mr. Chairman: Because you are not through does not mean that some other member of the House cannot speak.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Singer: Are we going to get some answers?

Mr. Chairman: Under the circumstances it is up to the Attorney General to answer, if he feels so inclined.

Mr. Singer: The cacophony over there does not disturb me at all but I would like to get some meaningful answers. This is the most important department of government in the province of Ontario. We are not getting any answers about the administration of justice and it is obvious that the government is not interested in giving these answers to the people of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Oshawa.

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): I wanted to go on to juvenile and family court counselling, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, if there is nothing further you are next, unless there is something else, on the same point.

Mr. Walker: I wanted to switch on to another subject altogether.

Mr. Chairman: We are still under magistrates and juvenile and family courts.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I do not think the member for Oshawa would be offended. I am also on your list, I too am interested in the juvenile and family court—

Mr. Chairman: That is before us now.

Mr. S. Lewis: Would it not be wise to conclude the discussion on magistrates' courts so that it is orderly?

Mr. Chairman: Is there anything further under magistrates' court?

Mr. Singer: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have been trying to get it in but the noise over there makes it a little difficult on occasion.

Now, Mr. Chairman, another statistic I would like to know, if the Attorney General can give it, is this: In the event of an adjournment pending in metropolitan court, can he advise us the average length of time that it takes to have the case heard again? And I think this is a most important statistic which should be made available to us. Has the Attorney General got that information for us?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member well knows that to give any such answer in the average length of time would be meaningless, even if I could give it. Because it would depend on the type of case that the magistrate is trying, whether it was a traffic case or a serious criminal case. Many magistrates sit on a particular type of case and those cases take much longer than others. They are much more serious and they may be adjourned for a particular length of time, but to give an average length of time would be meaningless.

Just as the hon. member for Sudbury pointed out, the statistics for which the hon. member for Downsview is asking are largely meaningless. According to the member for Sudbury, Magistrate Hollinrake handled 18,965 cases. On the same theory that he put forward with respect to Magistrate Cecile, he would work perhaps three or four days a week.

Many of the cases, as he pointed out, are traffic cases. In Toronto, some of the magistrates try traffic cases. Some of them try the serious criminal cases, and you cannot relate an average case-load by giving an average statistic. They are not the same thing at all. As for the average length of adjournment, I cannot give that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, it is obvious that he cannot give the kind of statistics I am asking for, nor has he any other statistic to replace them. There is no idea at all in the mind of the Attorney General as he comes before this House to present his estimates as to whether or not there are long delays in our courts; whether magistrates are overworked, whether their case load is too big or too little, whether justice delayed is justice denied.

These are things, Mr. Chairman, that I think the Attorney General has a duty to the people of the province of Ontario, and particularly in this Legislature at the time he comes before us and asks us for money, to stand in his place and explain.

Now his performance this afternoon is one that he should be abjectly ashamed of. I suggest, sir, that I have great respect for the Attorney General. But I do not think that he is coming here with the information that we are entitled to get. He is not doing his job and for this he should be condemned.

Mr. Chairman: Order. I would suggest to the member for Downsview that he stay with the vote and avoid the personal attack.

Mr. Singer: It is not a personal attack, Mr. Chairman. With great respect it is not a personal attack at all. It is an attack on the way the Minister is carrying out his duties in his office and this is what we are here for, and this is what I intend to continue to do. It is my submission, Mr. Chairman, that this office is not being properly run, and if we cannot get proper information about the way the magistrates' courts are being conducted, then in my opinion the Attorney General is not doing his job.

I make that statement without any apology, sir.

Can the Attorney General tell us how many police departments are located in the same building as the magistrate's court offices? My friend, the hon. member for Sudbury touched on this a moment ago, and I wonder if he can give us that information. Has there been any improvement on the removal of police stations from the same building in which

magistrates' courts are located, over the past 12-month period?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, that last question the hon. member asked—I cannot tell him. I can get the information for him. This, of course, is a municipal matter, a municipal problem, the housing of the police in the magistrates' courts and the magistrates' facilities. But I can get the information where they are joined together in the same building; where they operate from the same building.

I would like to return for a moment to the question he makes such a to-do about—if I may say that. Some information has come to hand since he asked about the cases which were called a "backlog", or those which were awaiting hearing in the magistrates' courts of Metropolitan Toronto at the city hall. I now have figures which show that the cases on hand involving liquor charges as of March 1, 1966, numbered 3,217; on January 1, 1967 that figure had fallen to 3,100. On February 1, 1967, that figure 3,100 had fallen to 2,659, and on March 1, 1967 the figure was down to 2,495.

Now that is in a city where the total cases in the year are 700,000—699,751, and I would say to the House that I really appreciate the hon. member's interest. But I want him to know that while I may not be able to produce the statistics to meet his demand at the moment, I have a chief magistrate who spends the better part of his time in Toronto. He observes those courts in action every day and he reports to me frequently. And he says such and such a magistrate is overburdened, or such and such a magistrate has not got a great case-load today, or we need the appointment of another magistrate to take care of a certain situation.

He keeps me fully informed from day to day and week to week and if a situation is coming on where there is difficulty, overwork, a case-load that is too heavy, I am not aware of it, and we are not inactive about it. It is a matter that is of great concern.

I just want to reassure the hon. member, although I am not able to meet him with some of the statistics and I perhaps have indicated that I felt some of them were meaningless, I am not unconcerned about these matters. Nor am I uninformed, nor do I fail to take action.

Mr. Sopha: Will you ask that chief magistrate to keep an eye on the dropout down in Prescott and report to us whether he is overworked?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I really would like to come to the defence of the gentleman who entered the field as a magistrate. I do not think that the hon. member for Sudbury is unkindly in his thinking, but I hate to see him putting on the record that expression "drop-out".

Mr. Sopha: That is what the *Globe and Mail* called it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, but I do not think—

Mr. Sopha: And that is the paper that the Prime Minister gets his best ideas from. They called him that.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not think the hon. member should support that type of name calling.

Mr. Chairman: Does this conclude the part of the vote on the magistrates? Are we ready now to consider the family courts?

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on the family courts, juvenile courts.

Mr. Chairman: I recognize the member for Oshawa, under the family courts.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Chairman, if we have reached a break in the proceedings—

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that the committee rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I would like to go to the order paper. There are some second readings, some bills in committee of the whole House and there are some speakers in the Budget Debate. Then we can return to the estimates of this department. We do not have as many Budget debaters as I thought might be ready.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.

APPENDIX

(See page 1452)

Answers to written questions were tabled as follows:

3. *Mr. Ben*—Enquiry of the Ministry—Would the Minister inform the House: (a) What will be the cost per unit of, (1) bachelor apartments; (2) one-bedroom apartments; (3) two-bedroom apartments; (4) three-bedrooms apartments—in Alexandra Park completed or in process of completion exclusive of land costs. (b) What will be the cost for these apartments per square foot exclusive of land. (c) What will be the cost per square foot of the land. (d) What interest rate is being paid on the capital cost.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (*Mr. Randall*):

3. (a) The Alexandra Park development consists of 410 units as follows:

	1-bedroom	2-bedroom	3-bedroom	4-bedroom	5-bedroom
Row housing	—	—	159	77	27
Highrise apt. building	48	99	—	—	—
	<u>48</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>27</u>

(b) Cost per unit for row housing, \$16,601; cost per unit for highrise building, \$14,410. These prices are for construction only and exclusive of land. No attempt has been made to differentiate costs as between 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5-bedroom units. The average footage is as follows:

1-bedroom	601 square feet
2-bedroom	819 square feet
3-bedroom	1,031 square feet
4-bedroom	1,256 square feet
5-bedroom	1,360 square feet

The average cost per square foot for construction is \$14.50 for row housing units and \$13.60 for units in highrise buildings.

(c) Land has been made available by the federal-provincial-municipal urban renewal partnership to OHC on the basis of \$1,000 per unit.

(d) The interest rate charges are as follows:

47 units—90% federal share: 5%; 10% provincial share: 5%.
363 units—90% federal share: 5%; 10% provincial share: 6%.

4. *Mr. Singer*—Enquiry of the Ministry—Would the Attorney General inform the House: 1. The cumulative expense incurred by the Royal commission inquiring into the causes of the recent failure of Atlantic Acceptance Corporation Limited to January 31, 1967, or to the latest date at present available. 2. A breakdown into details of this cumulative expense, showing the various items for which these moneys were expended, including salaries and to whom paid, honoraria, travelling expenses, car expenses, and so on.

Answer by the hon. Attorney General (Mr. Wishart):

4. (1) To January 31, 1967	\$667,644.08
(2) Salaries	49,247.81
J. B. Lind (secretary to commission)	\$ 14,687.37
F. E. A. Jackson (accounting consultant)	9,390.54
V. F. Cunningham (registrar)	7,657.50
H. McPhee (general clerk)	5,638.54
R. D. Oslender (stenographic secretary)	5,352.24
M. Ineson (stenographer)	4,994.66
M. J. Jensen (filing clerk)	1,526.96
Overtime of investigating officers	1,074.99
Honoraria	1,414.00
Investigating consultant	\$ 1,200.00
Title examiner	102.00
Appraisers	112.00
Professional fees	539,907.58
Legal counsel and solicitors' fees	\$145,468.50
Accountants' and financial analysts' fees	365,617.50
Reporters' fees	28,821.58
Special examiners' fees	1,959.21
Witness fees	1,480.71
Office expenses	44,081.27
Travelling expenses	26,720.41
Car expenses	1,758.10

5. *Mr. Gisborn*—Enquiry of the Ministry

1. In what year was the LCBO outlet at Greenwich and Market Street, Brantford, Ontario, leased. 2. From whom was it first leased, and who were subsequent lessors, if any. 3. What was the amount paid for each year under lease. 4. From the date of original lease, and subsequently, what amount were paid by the LCBO to make the property suitable for service. 5. (a) In what year was this property purchased by the LCBO; (b) what was the amount paid and to whom. 6. Since the purchase of this property, what was the cost of remodelling. 7. What was the cost of the property and the new outlet on George Street, Brantford.

Answer by the hon. Provincial Secretary (Mr. Welch):

5. (1) July 1, 1955.
- (2) Executors of the estate of Reginald Welsh and Welsh Fuel Co. Ltd.
- (3) \$11,100.00 per annum.
- (4) \$12,260.89.
- (5) (a) January 1, 1965.
- (b) Two cheques—Welsh Investment Co. Ltd., \$65,000.00; Estate of Reginald Welsh, \$65,000.00.
- (6) \$58,410.51.

(7) Cost of property, \$50,022.25; new outlet, \$154,858.03.

8. *Mr. Sargent*—Enquiry of the Ministry—How much has the province of Ontario paid to the city of Toronto over the past five years in subsidies on, (a) subway construction, and (b) highway construction.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme):

8. (a) No payments to city of Toronto. Subsidies on subway construction are paid to the municipality of Metropolitan Toronto.

(b) \$4,731,207.

10. *Mr. Spence*—Enquiry of the Ministry—(a) How many cottages has the provincial government purchased in Rondeau provincial park in the period 1965 to date. (b) What price did the government pay for each of the cottages. (c) What price was the government able to get for these cottages when it re-sold them to the public. (d) Is it the policy of the provincial government to buy all the cottages in Rondeau park where a lease has expired and where the owner cannot find another buyer.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle):

10. (a) During the period January 1, 1965 to February 7, 1967, 27 cottages were acquired by the province of Ontario.

(b) The following prices were paid by the province of Ontario for the 27 cottages as follows:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Purchase Price</i>
Lot 163, North side Bowman Ave.	\$ 3,500
Lot FF, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	4,900
Lot 162, North side Bowman Ave.	4,000
Lot Bb, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	5,000
Lot 90, Water Street	4,700
Lot 4, East side Lakeshore Rd.	7,500
Lot 254, East side Lakeshore Rd.	8,000
Lot 36, East side Water Street	6,500
Lot 267, East side Lakeshore Rd.	7,500
Lot 353, East side Lakeshore Rd.	8,000
Lot W, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	6,000
Lot 136, West side Lakeshore Rd.	8,500
Lot K, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	5,400
Lot 273, East side Lakeshore Rd.	10,500
Lot 320, East side Lakeshore Rd.	8,500
Lot 34, Water Street	6,500
Lot 164, South side Bowman Ave.	4,200
Lot 21, East side Water Street	9,500
Lot 169, South side Bowman Ave.	4,500
Lot Ii, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	4,500
Lot P, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	6,500
Lot 12, East side Lakeshore Rd.	7,000
Lot 22, East side Water Street	10,000
South side Gerundy Bay	1,500
Lot 328, East side Lakeshore Rd.	12,000
Lot 379, East side Lakeshore Rd.	3,000
Lot 289, East side Lakeshore Rd.	7,500

(c) The following prices were obtained from the sale by public tender of cottages that were acquired during the period—January 1, 1965 to February 7, 1967.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Sale Price</i>
Lot 169, South side Bowman Ave.	\$ 850.00
Lot 163, North side Bowman Ave.	250.00
Lot 164, South side Bowman Ave.	126.00
Lot 22, East side Water Street	659.89
Lot I, East side, Rondeau Park Rd.	900.00
Lot W, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	350.00
Lot P, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	35.00
Lot K, East side Rondeau Park Rd.	26.50
Lot 254, East side Lakeshore Rd.	1,050.00
Lot 267, East side, Lakeshore Rd.	700.00
Lot 273, East side Lakeshore Rd.	1,500.00
Lot 353, East side Lakeshore Rd.	253.36
Lot 21, East side Water Street	1,200.00

(d) Yes, if a satisfactory price can be negotiated.

11. *Mr. Sargent*—Enquiry of the Ministry—(a) How much money has been paid out for the GO-transit system from Burlington to Toronto. (b) How much money has been paid to other cities in the province for transportation systems.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Highways:

11. (a) Expenditures to date cannot be applied to any one section of GO-transit, including the section between Burlington and Toronto.

(b) None—other than for highway construction and maintenance.

12. *Mr. Gisborn*—Enquiry of the Ministry—1. At what date did The Department of Highways approach the Batchawana Indian band on the Rankin reserve, Sault Ste. Marie, regarding the purchase of 30.6 acres of land to build the Highway 17 by-pass at Sault Ste. Marie. 2. What was the first offer made for the purchase of the land. 3. What was the last offer made for the purchase of the land. 4. Where do the negotiations stand at the present time.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Highways:

12. (1) July, 1966.

(2) \$16,975.

During negotiations which followed this offer, the Indian band made representations to the effect that the severing of the property, and the restriction of access to the new highway, would have a depreciating effect on their overall remaining property. This was given consideration in the later offer.

(3) \$30,859.

(4) As the hon. member is no doubt aware, since he attended the meeting the Minister held with the band, following rejection of the later offer, the Indian band indicated their intention of obtaining an independent appraisal of the property. The Minister is awaiting the report of this appraiser.

13. *Mr. Sargent*—Enquiry of the Ministry —1. In the case of the Stephen Truscott trial, how much per diem is Donald Scott, Crown attorney, receiving over and above his annual salary. 2. How many days has he worked. 3. Is this at the standard rate. 4. How do you justify this. 5. How much money has this case cost the province of Ontario due to Scott's research and travel. 6. How much have his expenses amounted to.

Answer by the hon. Attorney General:

13. (1) \$75 per diem for 73 days only.

(2) 139 days.

(3) There is no standard rate established for this type of assignment.

(4) Pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of The Administration of Justice Expenses Act, (R.S.O. 1960, chapter 5).

(5) \$14,761.96, inclusive of Mr. Scott's regular salary as Crown attorney 3 for 139 days in the amount of \$6,438.37.

(6) \$2,848.59.

14. *Mr. Gisborn*—Enquiry of the Ministry —1. (a) Is the building occupied by The Department of Transport at 217 Greenwich Street, Brantford, owned by the government. (b) If not: (i) from whom is it leased; (ii) for what period of time; (iii) what is the rental. 2. (a) From whom was the previous building occupied by The Department of Transport leased at 221 Greenwich Street, Brantford; (b) for what period of time; (c) what was the rental. 3. (a) Is The Department of Agriculture and Food renting a building at 207 Greenwich Street, Brantford. (b) If so:

(i) from whom is it leased; (ii) what is the period of the lease; (iii) what is the rental.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell):

14. (1a) No.

(1b i) Welsh Fuel Co. Ltd.

(ii) Ten years from February 1, 1967.

(iii) \$3,540.00—annual rental.

(2a) Welsh Fuel Co. Ltd.

(b) January 15, 1961—February 1, 1967.

(c) 1961-1962—\$80 per month.
1963-1967—\$90 per month.

(3a) Yes.

(bi) Brant Mutual Fire Insurance Co. Ltd.

(ii) Ten years from September 1, 1958.

(iii) \$3,000—annual rental.

15. *Mr. Gisborn*—Enquiry of the Ministry —1. How many vehicles crossed the Burlington skyway in 1966. 2. What was the largest number of vehicles crossing on any one day. 3. Do the toll collectors work a five- or six-day week. 4. What is the wage scale for toll collectors. 5. What are their annual vacations. 6. How many statutory holidays do they receive. 7. How are toll collectors compensated for working on statutory holidays—(a) do they receive equivalent time off; (b) are they paid straight time; (c) are they paid time and one-half; (d) are they paid double time. 8. Do toll collectors have to purchase their own uniforms. 9. What fringe benefits, i.e. pension plan, sick leave, medical plan, etc., are available to toll collectors.

Answer by the hon. Minister of Highways:

15. (1) 10,546,032.

(2) 47,365.

(3) Five day week.

(4) Regular and probationary staff \$84.50 to \$99.00 per week (by arbitration award).

Unclassified staff—\$2.11 per hour (by arbitration award).

(5) Regular and probationary:

Two weeks for first three years; three weeks after three years; four weeks after 20 years.

Unclassified staff:

Two weeks—through addition of 4 per cent to basic earnings.

(6) Ten.

(7) Regular and probationary staff:

(a) yes.

(b) see (a) above.

(c) see (a) above.

(d) see (a) above.

Unclassified staff:

- (a) see (d) below.
- (b) see (d) below.
- (c) see (d) below.
- (d) yes.

(8) No.

(9) Regular and probationary staff:

Pension plan, sick leave, vacation with pay, subsidized medical and life insurance, unemployment insurance (optional).

Unclassified staff—(the group from which appointments are made to regular staff):
Four per cent vacation pay, unemployment insurance, Canada pension plan.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Friday, March 17, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1967

The House met at 10:30 o'clock, a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are pleased to have as visitors to the Legislature today students from the following schools: In the east gallery, Dublin public school, Downsview and Franklin Horner public school, New Toronto; and in the west gallery, Lansdowne senior public school, Toronto and Crescent private school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House a report which sets out the details of the HOME plan.

While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the indulgence of the members to let me make some comments on the housing programme, in view of the fact that I am not going to be able to present my estimates for a couple of weeks or so; but I would like to say to all members that I have sent a copy of my report to the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nixon) and the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. MacDonald) and there will be copies downstairs in the post office for all the members to pick up this morning so they can take it home with them.

Now Mr. Speaker, three years ago, on April 23, 1964, when I presented my department's estimates to the House, I announced that a housing corporation would be created that year to undertake an expanded housing programme for modest income families across Ontario.

As hon. members are fully aware, The Ontario Housing Corporation Act was passed by the Legislature and came into effect later in the year following passage of legislation at the federal level enabling such agencies to borrow 90 per cent of their capital requirements under the terms of The National Housing Act.

Ontario housing corporation commenced operations in November, 1964, and immediately set about the formidable task of building a housing programme of the dimensions

I had envisaged. When I say formidable this is not an understatement, as a programme of these dimensions required a sophisticated organization to plan and implement it. Furthermore, it was necessary to channel the physical resources of the construction industry into this new field of public and private enterprise.

My instructions to the Ontario housing corporation were to provide housing for modest income families as quickly as possible, using every technique at their disposal, and to plan for future housing programmes of ever-increasing tempo and scope, geared to meet the needs of our changing society.

One housing critic, commenting on a chance remark of the late chairman of the Ontario housing corporation, stated that Mr. Soble gave him the impression that the corporation's initial three-year target of 12,000 units was nothing more than a figure pulled out of a hat.

I would like at this time, Mr. Speaker, to pay tribute to Ken Soble as a truly great Canadian and one with whom it was my privilege to be associated. He did much for many in the few years he guided the Ontario housing corporation and his loss has been a great personal one, not only for me but for all of us associated with him during the formative years of the corporation. He was not a man who based his predictions or business ventures on anything as frivolous as a figure pulled out of a hat, and I can tell members now that the target figure he set for Ontario housing corporation was an intelligent estimate based on the physical capabilities of the construction industry and having regard to the industry's commitments for private development and the demands being placed on it by Expo '67.

We also realized that until the programme of new construction got underway in the corporation's second and third years it would be necessary to augment the housing portfolio by purchasing existing properties. It has so happened that conditions in the industry have enabled Ontario housing corporation to make greater progress than was originally

envisaged. At the present time the corporation is ahead of schedule and the pace has been aggressively accelerated.

As of today, Mr. Speaker, the housing programme stands as follows:

The number of units constructed and purchased from January 1, 1965, to date is 4,280; the number of units under construction now is 2,721; contracts to be awarded within the next 60 days is 2,394; existing units approved for purchase, 433; preliminary planning or design stage, 5,368; existing units offered, and if acceptable these will be purchased within three months, 825; totalling 16,021. Existing federal-provincial units transferred to Ontario housing corporation for administration November, 1964, total 6,514. This gives us an overall total of 22,535; and of this total, units now under administration by Ontario housing corporation amount to 10,794.

From January 1, 1965, to date, or in just 25 months of actual operation, the Ontario housing corporation has built, bought, or has under construction and design, more public housing than was provided in all of Canada in the last 15 years. Mr. Speaker, if these housing units were produced out of a hat, then all I can say is, "some hat".

If by quoting these figures I leave myself open to charges of complacency or bragging, let me correct this misunderstanding right now. I am satisfied with the programme only in that it represents a greater effort than ever before in the history of public housing in Canada. I am satisfied that the Ontario housing corporation has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that given the responsibility and financial support it is possible for a Crown corporation to cooperate with private enterprise and produce tangible results in the field of low rental housing.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure few of the hon. members are aware of the tremendous task the Ontario student housing corporation has undertaken as a new subsidiary of the Ontario housing corporation. The corporation was only formed in August of last year yet it already has under construction a \$13 million residential project for 1,662 students, including all necessary dining, recreational and study facilities. It will shortly award contracts for nearly 1,000 units of accommodation for married students in the city of Toronto and has under review several more major projects that will be activated as readily as need surveys are completed.

May I also point out that these projects are financially self-liquidating and do not require

government subsidies, but they do have to be planned and constructed under the administration of the Ontario student housing corporation if this type of accommodation is to be available to meet this great and growing need.

Mr. Speaker, it was my intention to table the HOME plan report before commencing with my estimates so that the hon. members could review the contents and be able to discuss it with me during the presentation of the estimates. Unfortunately, fate decreed otherwise and I apologize for the delay. However, as I have lost my turn at bat and will be on the list following the Easter recess for estimates presentation, the hon. members will now have ample opportunity to digest in detail the several schemes outlined in the HOME report.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): That will be fatal for the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I will welcome their comments or inquiries before or during the presentation of the department's estimates.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): They have made up their minds already before they have even read it.

Hon. Mr. Randall: May I assure the hon. members—

Mr. Bryden: This time is always very difficult.

Hon. Mr. Randall: May I assure the hon. members, Mr. Speaker, that contrary to statements made by some of my critics, the HOME plan was not dreamed up overnight, as I am sure the hon. members will agree.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: Of course all this is improper; this is not a statement before the orders of the day at all, it is a political speech.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has permission to make this statement as I could find no other place where it could properly be made. It is a statement, first of all a report and a statement of government policy surrounding the report.

Mr. Sopha: It is a political argument.

Mr. Speaker: With that in view, I gave permission to the Minister to make his statement this morning.

Mr. Sopha: It is an arrogant and impudent misuse of the time of the House. I do not think—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): The member asked the same questions.

Mr. Sopha: The election campaign started several weeks ago, and the Prime Minister started it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member started it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Sopha: It is a squalid misuse of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I cannot really accept that. This is information of great interest to the people of this province. We have been asked questions about it before the orders of the day. Here is a Minister who is presenting to this House, in proper form, a position taken by the government, which as I understand it the Opposition is very eager to criticize.

Now we are laying it before the members opposite. They will have an opportunity to examine it and to criticize it. Just tell me how else we can deal with the business of the people of our province.

Mr. Bryden: Of course the Prime Minister is giving us an opportunity to criticize long after he got his headlines.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Speaker, if I may, my hon. friend has completely missed the point.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No I have not.

Mr. Oliver: I think that in the element of fairness that he possesses he can surely see it.

Now the Minister is speaking. It is quite proper and it has been done for many years, to make a statement before the orders of the day on government policy on what is going to happen or on what has recently happened. But what the Minister is doing—and he knows this quite well—is arguing this question politically. A member cannot do that before the orders of the day unless all the rules are going to be thrown to the four winds.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I am sure from here on in, if the hon. member will give me permission to finish, I am sure that he will find that it is government policy in which he is interested, just as we are. If I may continue—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the hon. member's point of order. Really, if one so wishes, the label "political" can be attached to any statement made by any member in this House. This is just a ridiculous argument.

The hon. Minister is presenting facts and figures to this House. If they are found to be a little uncomfortable to accept, that is not our affair. The Minister is perfectly at liberty and I will abide by the Speaker's ruling.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend says that this is a fair statement; it is not!

Hon. Mr. Robarts: That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Oliver: No it is not a matter of opinion. It is a matter of fact and a matter of record. The hon. Minister when he is making his statement today is taking statements made by some of the members of the NDP and answering them in his statement, and saying that he is doing it. Now surely that is for the Budget Debate or for the presentation of his estimates or on some occasion when he can argue politically. He is not arguing the state of housing, he is making a political argument and it should not be done.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, I am sure when—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

I would ask you to allow the Minister to continue, and I would suggest that he take into consideration the various points of order that have been expressed.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, as I said, I am sure that hon. members will agree after they have studied the HOME report. The HOME plan was announced after careful study and research over many months. Having recognized the ever-mounting problem of housing for low- and middle-income families in all sections of the province, I conceived the plan early in 1966.

During that period, in almost daily consultation with the late Ken Soble and the managing director of the Ontario housing corporation, Mr. Suters, we evolved the many schemes in the HOME plan which, we felt, would meet the housing needs of this province and its people.

The Prime Minister was kept informed of the progress and, on completion of the study, several discussions were held with my Cabinet colleagues. The HOME plan was then

approved for implementation and presentation in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me be specific as to some immediate, and tangible, results anticipated from the HOME plan—and this is where the hon. members have an interest. I would like to advise them that lots will be placed on the market this year, under the HOME plan, in time for summer construction. What is more, lots will be made available, not only in urban areas, but also in smaller rural communities of Ontario, wherever a need and demand is established.

We can expect many requests for housing through the various schemes available when the HOME report has been received and its contents studied by the municipalities. In fact, some have already acted on the information I released at the housing conference held on February 10 this year.

Thousands of acres of serviceable land have already been offered to the Ontario housing corporation, in addition to several thousand lots, some of which are already serviced, and others which will be serviced and available for building this year. These are in addition to developments already owned by the federal-provincial partnership in many areas of Ontario and in which, a substantial number of lots will be available this year also.

Land lease is, of course, only one scheme in the HOME plan, and I would like to assure hon. members that each and every scheme will be available this year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to sum up my comments, may I emphasize the following points so that there will be no misunderstanding of this government's intentions in matters relating to housing through the HOME plan.

The public housing programme for families and senior citizens will be continued and expanded until the needs of the low income segment of Ontario's population have been met. There will be no curtailment of this programme whatsoever.

Mr. Bryden: At the rate you are going it will be 200 years from now.

Mr. G. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Why does the hon. member not listen, he might learn something.

Hon. Mr. Randall: In fact, it will make possible more housing in a greater number of communities, to house low-income families who require financial assistance, without resorting to what was originally termed

"housing ghettos." These families can be assimilated into the mainstream of our society without being designated as second-class citizens.

Public housing tenants will be actively encouraged to become homeowners in their own right. This could be achieved through the purchase of the Ontario housing unit they now occupy, or through the other facilities provided under the HOME plan.

Many of these families are already in a financial position where ownership of their present house can become a practical reality this year. They are paying the economic rent on the geared-to-income scale and, with low down payment, mortgage terms up to 35 years, and leasehold land at Ontario housing corporation book value, the opportunity to secure a fixed gross debt service based on their present income, with but one exception—taxes—makes it possible for these families to attain home ownership.

Modest income families who are presently renting accommodation, quite often unsuited to their needs because they are unable to meet the heavy initial cost of home ownership, will, through the land lease and long term purchase facilities offered under the HOME plan, be given an opportunity to attain home ownership without financial hardship.

Because this aspect of the HOME plan is intended to assist modest income families, a dwelling to be constructed on land, leased or purchased on a long term basis under the plan, must not cost more than \$15,000. Again, may I stress that this is a non-subsidized and financially self-liquidating scheme.

Community development housing will be provided in those communities where there is a proven need and demand for this form of accommodation. Rentals will be on a full recovery basis—that is in an amount sufficient to cover all costs. This housing will be provided for families of moderate income who would not normally become tenants of public housing and whose needs are not being met by private enterprise.

No government subsidy will be required, but an opportunity will be provided for families to buy or rent through the Ontario housing corporation within reach of their income.

Assistance will also be available to ensure that elderly owner-occupants, whose homes have been expropriated as a result of an urban renewal scheme, may purchase alternative accommodation without financial hardship. This will be achieved through the use of

the land lease technique, with rentals on the land being deferred.

Deferment will apply during the lifetime of the homeowner and/or his spouse, or until the property is sold or leased to some other party.

No subsidy will be required, as deferred payments will be accumulated and recovered with interest by Ontario housing corporation when present owners are deceased or sell the property.

The provision of housing for industry is another important facet of the HOME plan. This will apply in new resource areas and in communities where the development of residential accommodation has been relatively static for a period of time. Under the HOME plan, assistance to a municipality experiencing industrial expansion, or direct assistance to the industry, may be in two forms, as follows:

(1) Where lack of serviced land is impeding the development of accommodation by private enterprise, a land development programme will be implemented by Ontario housing corporation.

(2) Where land is available and private enterprise is not meeting the need for residential accommodation the necessary accommodation will be provided on a rental and purchase basis, subject to certain guarantees from the industry concerned.

The housing programme for both married and unmarried students of provincially-assisted universities, and certain other post-secondary educational institutions, will be continued and expanded wherever there is an effective need and demand for such accommodation.

This programme forms an integral part of the housing programme, because each time a married student is provided with rental accommodation, it releases their previous accommodation for another family and thus relieves the overall pressure for housing. Furthermore, every time we provide a student with decent accommodation close to the university, hospital or community college, we give him a greater opportunity to apply himself to his studies.

Mr. Speaker, very shortly my colleague, the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), will be introducing legislation which will permit the stratification of land titles in Ontario, or, as it is commonly known, condominium. Very simply, this will permit persons to purchase individual apartment units or individual row or town houses within a larger multiple development being disposed of on a stratified title basis.

This, I hope, will result in many elderly homeowners, who no longer fully utilize their present single family home and who would prefer apartment living—were they able to retain their home ownership status—to purchase accommodation more in keeping with their needs.

This, in turn, will release much needed accommodation for families with children who need the additional space and the safe play area provided by a rear yard.

In a city such as Toronto, where land values are so costly for single family dwellings, high density apartments or town houses are, today, the only economically feasible form of construction. Under the stratified title basis, thousands of people who want to reside in the city proper will, we believe, be enabled to do so under this scheme.

The Ontario housing corporation will also be keenly interested in the development of this type of accommodation to fill housing needs.

In conclusion, may I emphasize as strongly as possible, that housing the citizens of Ontario must be approached in the broadest possible sense, having regard to the diverse needs of our people. We have no desire to compete with the private construction industry and, for this reason, the HOME programme is designed to create a climate in which government agencies and private enterprise can combine their resources to make available substantial quantities of housing at moderate cost.

If through this HOME plan we can alleviate the backlog of housing needs in all communities, and particularly in our large metropolitan areas, it will mean adequate accommodation for those families in need of financial assistance; and housing for modest income families who, given the opportunity to buy or rent within their means, will require no government subsidies.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): What is a moderate income?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Housing for the elderly or those on fixed incomes whose property is expropriated to make way for urban renewal.

Mr. S. Lewis: What do you mean by modest incomes?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Housing to assist industry to obtain workers; housing for students; and housing for teachers and other personnel in essential community services where adequate accommodation is not available on the private market.

Now Mr. Speaker, I want to make it abundantly clear to the hon. members that this HOME plan will subsidize only low-income families and senior citizens.

Mr. Bryden: And mighty few of them. Mighty few.

Hon. Mr. Randall: All other facets of this housing programme will recover, with interest, the capital invested.

I know that if mortgage money were available in abundance tomorrow to private enterprise, it would not produce housing for low or modest income families, or in the smaller isolated communities.

Mr. S. Lewis: Right.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Normally, private enterprise invests in areas where it can earn the greatest return with the least possible risk. Now some of my hon. friends, Mr. Speaker, may disagree with me, but this is the right and privilege of any private entrepreneur, and I for one do not quarrel with this concept.

This is, and I hope it will continue to remain, a free economy. It follows, therefore, that the job of providing housing is one which both government and private enterprise must do together. Neither one can go it alone and hope to solve the housing shortage.

Mr. Bryden: Who suggested they could?

Hon. Mr. Randall: In the HOME plan, this government has provided a challenge to all involved in the housing industry and a workable solution to a very grave problem.

Mr. Bryden: You have not got any solution at all. You have not said anything that has not already been said.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We must be flexible in the application of the plan—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the members that they should not get too exercised at this time. There will be plenty of opportunity to debate this statement.

Mr. Bryden: We are just getting a few licks in now.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, we must be flexible—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will both members please sit down? I have called for order—

Mr. Bryden: How about the Minister being in order?

Mr. Speaker: That includes the Minister. Now the Minister is just about finished with his statement and I think, perhaps, with the indulgence of the House, the members would like to see him complete it. I would ask him to finish it as soon as possible. I would suggest to the members that there will be plenty of opportunity to debate this statement at a future time.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, continuing, we must be flexible in the application of the plan and we must be prepared to make changes to meet tomorrow's challenges. Above all, we must pursue the opportunities provided in the HOME plan with all the energy and effort that we can muster. And that, Mr. Speaker, the hon. members can rest assured, is the intention of this government.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, when does the Minister intend to give the House the details of the HOME programme?

Hon. Mr. Randall: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I announced, if the member was in the House, that this copy is on his desk or down in the post office.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day—

Mr. Speaker: I wonder if we could complete the questions, and then we will proceed with the tributes to the Irishmen.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Health, a copy of which he has.

Regarding the 13-year-old lad in the Hamilton Ontario hospital:

(1) Has the length of time designated in the original committal certificate expired?

(2) If so, for how long is the extension period of the boy's continued committal, and for how long is it estimated that he will remain in the Ontario hospital?

(3) What efforts have been made to find an alternative placement, emergency or long-term, in places like Thistle town, the children's

psychiatric research institute, Brown camps, boys' village, and so on?

(4) If such alternatives have been explored and discarded, why have they been discarded?

(5) Does the Minister continue to believe that Hamilton Ontario hospital is the appropriate setting for this boy?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, since there is no designated time on the committal order of the boy, the answer to the first part of the question is, "No". Therefore, there is no applicable answer to the second part of the question.

Three, four and five all fall into one piece. The Minister has no clinical opinion concerning the suitability of this setting for the boy, but on the advice of my staff, in whom I have unbounded confidence, it is believed he is in the appropriate place at the present time.

Mr. S. Lewis: May I ask the Minister a simple supplementary question, Mr. Speaker?

Does the Minister fully appreciate the risks that are assumed by maintenance, in this particular setting, on a permanent basis, which is implied in his answer?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, I had made no comment about this being a permanent solution and we are fully aware of any risks that may be inherent in looking after this patient—as we do in the case of all of our patients.

Mr. Speaker: The chair at this time will accept any statement from all of the eloquent Irishmen of the House.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Mr. Speaker, in those years when the fall sessions of this Legislature included the month of November, it had been my custom to speak on the significance of St. Andrew's day, which falls in that month. While I am not the member for St. Patrick riding, hon. members will know now that a portion of that riding will be combined with mine under redistribution. Hon. members also know that the former member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts), asked me, on his retirement, to look after the needs of the people in that section of the riding.

Mr. Kelso Roberts always rose in his place on the "17th of Ireland" and spoke very glowingly of the Irish. I know that he would wish me to do this in his stead. Therefore, I deem it a great honour, Mr. Speaker, to pay tribute to those of Irish ancestry who reside, not only in the area of St. Patrick, but Irishmen everywhere on this St. Patrick's day.

I sincerely hope that I will be forgiven if I also pay tribute to the Scots and their patron saint, St. Andrew, at this time.

I should point out to the hon. members that I am not in tears really. I have a suspicion, Mr. Speaker, that perhaps I have been cursed by the leprechauns for having ventured into seas which are supposed to be sailed only by real, true Irishmen, and I hope I will be forgiven.

I have never had as bad a cold in my life as I have this morning, and I rather suspect this might be the reason.

Perhaps this Legislature, in annexing a portion of St. Patrick riding to the soil named after the patron saint of Scotland, St. Andrew, had in mind the affinity of the Scots with the Irish and felt that it was advisable to have this new riding, which is named St. Andrew-St. Patrick, represented by a member who can look upon the whole matter in an objective fashion.

The former member always appeared with a shillelagh on this day. However, I felt that in the ecumenical spirit which prevails, albeit not always in this honourable House and certainly not a few moments earlier, this might be a good year to do away with the shillelagh. With the rumblings of election battle drums, however, that are being heard these days, it may be necessary in the not too distant future to reinstate this noble weapon.

The camaraderie which is so prevalent on March 17 is well illustrated by a special function which takes place in my riding at this time of the year. A fine gentleman, one Michael Shanahan, whose ancestry I am sure need not be explored and who is an outstanding entertainer, makes certain that the Irish shall never be forgotten. For 11 years almost every day, and particularly at this time, he and his Irish group play to a packed house in a place with the Spanish name of El Mocambo for celebrants whose origins are German, Polish, Jewish, Italian, Ukrainian, Greek, Portuguese, Hungarian, Czechoslovakian, Yugoslavian and many others including a few Scotsmen, even some Irish—and a roaring good time is had by all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask: Could there be any greater manifestation of the truism that everyone loves the Irish?

Others in this House may feel they are more qualified than I to wax poetic about the Irish, but their evidence could be what the lawyers call, I believe, self-serving. It may well be, then, that my remarks come from a more objective source than the praise which flows from the lips of those who have

kissed the blarney stone, and which we will no doubt be hearing momentarily.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, this enormous shamrock on my desk this morning would indicate I suppose that my antecedents were Irish. The Minister who has just spoken indicated that he did not really feel that people other than himself, who did not have this background should take part, and frankly, I do not want to indicate to you, sir, that I am not just sure directly of my antecedents in any way, but I do feel that the former member for Brant, my dad, shared with the hon. member for Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan) in trying to convince a good many local people that they sprang directly from the Indians.

But I would say that in the Opposition here we have two members who were born in Ireland. Unfortunately both of them are about the business of the Irish this morning, but we do have high regard for the people of this extraction and particularly their ability to wax eloquent in this chamber. I am sure in the next few moments we will hear from those who have had a closer association with the blarney stone than even the hon. Minister and myself can claim.

So at this time I do want, on behalf of the official Opposition, to extend our greetings and best wishes to those who are wearing green ties this morning and to wish them great success and happiness.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I would not like hon. members, and especially those who may be of Irish origin, to attach any particular significance to the symbol that I am wearing on my lapel this morning. I wish to explain, Mr. Speaker, that there has been a long tradition in this House affecting the secretary of the Cabinet and the leader of the NDP, whereby the person who happens to be leading the group on the day of the 17th wears this fine sprig of heather presented by the secretary of the Cabinet. Naturally, as you know, I am a great devotee of tradition, Mr. Speaker, and I am carrying on this tradition.

Expressing my own personal position, however, I would like to say that I am in the same position as the hon. Minister of Reform Institutions. I am an Irishman on St. Patrick's day, a Scotsman on St. Andrew's day and so on down the line; and perhaps—

Mr. R. A. Eagleson (Lakeshore): What is the member on April fool's day?

Mr. Bryden: Well you know, we even need some recognition of the group from which

the hon. member for Lakeshore has sprung, Mr. Speaker. In this country we have and we need recognition of all groups. I think we can be proud that all of them have had such an opportunity to contribute to this country, and we may be proud of the contributions that the many groups who form this country have made.

I think we can pay particular tribute to the contributions made by Irish people over the last 150 years to the development of Canada and of Ontario, and indeed of this city of Toronto. I think all of us recognize that contribution and I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that when the day of decision comes, as no doubt it will come soon, these fine people of Irish origin will note the fine emerald green with which the NDP is represented on the floor plan of this House.

Mr. Speaker: We shall proceed with the Irish speakers in line on my left.

Mr. L. M. Reilly (Eglinton): Well Mr. Speaker, the leader of the official Opposition said something about those who were associated with the blarney stone. Well it is said Reilly did not kiss the blarney stone, he swallowed it.

On my desk today I see a large shamrock containing many candied jellies covering both sides of the shamrock. The source of the shamrock is unknown, but I am willing to share its contents with fellow members. They can help sweeten their dispositions this morning by taking one of these jellies as they are passed along; if this is permitted, Mr. Speaker.

May I say to you I do have one regret this morning, on Irishman's day, that my good lady is not with us. But as a substitute for Mrs. Reilly my daughter from Connecticut is under the Speaker's gallery and I know you would want to welcome her here.

May I say to you too, Mr. Speaker, that tonight is Reilly's rink rally at North Toronto memorial gardens. I was tempted to come here in the uniform I have for this evening, with a tall silk hat and a cutaway coat and with white stockings and black shoes, but I invite all the members of the House to come and join me on skates tonight at the Reilly rink rally.

Irishmen, of course, have been known for their superstition. I am not particularly superstitious, but when I noticed that a member of our own group, the former Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Roberts), had resigned; and when I noticed that the former leader of the Opposition (Mr. Thompson) had resigned his post, I was wondering whether

we should continue with this particular celebration of St. Patrick's day or not.

Before I sit down, Mr. Speaker, let me say to you that I am delighted, of course, to pay tribute to all Irishmen, wherever they may be, on St. Patrick's day.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Speaker, I have to rise in the House today if I want to go home this evening. Last year I was guilty of a very serious mistake in that I did not wear a green tie on St. Patrick's day.

You people may talk about your mothers being born in Ireland, but let me tell you, I have greater problems. Not only was herself born in Ireland, but so was her mother; and if members think that mothers influence people, they ought to give consideration to mothers-in-law. So I just have to rise this morning and say a good word about the Irish in order that I can get my dinner on Sunday, as usual. They are wonderful people.

Erin go braghl!

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Speaker, the top of the mornin' to you from Erin!

On this St. Patrick's day, I could not let it go by without bringing greetings from the township of Erin and the village of Erin.

As was mentioned earlier, the historic riding of St. Patrick is to disappear after the next election. I do not know whether there is any dark plan to have a Scotsman take over from the Irish. However, that has happened and I think this gives added importance to the two Irish municipalities in Ontario. In the township of Erin, where we have the most beautiful scenery in the rolling countryside, the water that comes out of the hillside is pure and unpolluted but as it flows down to the Grand and Credit rivers, things happen to it at the lower altitude. We have pure fresh air in the higher altitude, and I want to invite all Irishmen and all people who would be Irish to pay a visit to Erin. There you will find a rich agricultural area, friendly people, pure water and fresh air. It is within an hour's drive of this great metropolitan area where I know there are problems of traffic congestion, air pollution and water pollution. Come up to Erin and visit us.

If the hon. Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) were here this morning, I would suggest to him that we are very hopeful that he will heed our plea to extend Highway 25

north, through Erin, so that it will be easier for people who want to visit that beautiful part of Ontario, to come into the area from the north, south, east and west.

On St. Patrick's day I bring you greetings from the municipalities of Erin.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Eagleson: Mr. Speaker, if I may.

All of us are aware from the newspaper reports that the world hockey tournament begins tomorrow. There are eight players from the province of Ontario on Canada's national team, including—particularly on St. Patrick's day—a fine brother of a lad by the name of Danny O'Shea.

In any event, the players are in Vienna at the present time, staying at the International hotel. I would express on behalf of all members of the House, I am sure, our best wishes to them. I would hope that the hon. Prime Minister would see fit to send a telegram expressing our views. Thank you.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

THE RETAIL SALES TAX ACT, 1960-1961

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs) in the absence of Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves second reading of Bill 56, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that we will have an opportunity to discuss this bill with the Minister present, in committee. I had planned to make some comments on it at second reading, but I think the comments can be as easily made in committee and I will leave them until that time.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I thought in view of the fact that this is what might be termed an "omnibus" bill—in other words, there is not one clear, consistent principle in the bill because there are various sections—we could perhaps move it along to committee of the whole; then comments could be dealt with on the individual sections.

Mr. Bryden: The only thing I would ask, Mr. Speaker, would be that, perhaps, when we get into committee, the chairman will not be too strict in allowing us to refer to some matters of principle. In other words,

there are some matters that we think might be included by the bill, but which are not, which would not, technically, I suppose, be in order in committee and which properly should be stated now. If it is understood that he will not be too rigid, that would be fine with me.

Mr. Speaker: I will so advise the chairman of the committee of the whole.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS OF FARM PRODUCTS

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves second reading of Bill 59, An Act to insure payments to producers of farm products.

Mr. M. Gaunt (Huron-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, may I ask if this bill will go to committee?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, I would prefer that this bill not go to committee. I have no reason for not wanting to discuss it in committee, but I would just like to get it proceeded through the House if we could.

I was hoping that we might get Royal assent on it before the House prorogues next week. I am not sure what the Prime Minister has in mind, but this is what I would like to do if we could.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE USED CAR DEALERS ACT, 1964

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves second reading of Bill 52, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister if this bill will go to committee?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think the principles of the bill are clearly set forth and I think it could well be dealt with in the House. I would like to say this about it—that in the press, there have been certain articles written with respect to what might appear to be a conflict of opinion within the department.

I think this has largely been built up by the press and has no foundation in fact.

I took the position some ten days ago, with respect to this matter, that if the bulletins

which were issued by that particular branch, raised some questions as to their authenticity, that then we should go back to the bill itself, and we would go according to the legislation as it existed.

Now the main change in this bill has to do with the disclosure factor. Some writers have said that we have done nothing. I say that is absolutely a misinterpretation and a lack of understanding of the bill itself. The bill provides for disclosure and regulations with respect to the representation having to do with used cars, such as police vehicles and so on, and frankly I think that is a desirable thing.

I think it is something that should be dealt with, and dealt with by regulation so that care may be given to the wording and the application of the Act—and I ask the support of the House in this matter.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, the only significantly new principle in this bill is embodied in section 10 where there are additional powers to pass regulations. Unfortunately, in this House, we have fallen into the procedure in recent years, of doing far too much by regulation.

We get great new ideas about how we are going to govern, regulate, rule, and control various facets of our business. We give powers to the Minister to pass regulations. The end result is that we get into the very situation that this Minister finds himself in when he has to explain away comments in the press, because nobody really knows what he is going to do.

I would think, when we get a bill like this before us, that the Minister should make every effort to bring before us, at least in general terms, if he is going to insist that he has power to do it by regulations, the essence of what those regulations will be.

Does he, for instance, believe that each car should have a log book with it? Does he, for instance, believe that it should be made an offence, or it should be prohibited, to turn back the odometer?

I think we are increasingly getting ourselves into the position where the Legislature no longer governs; where somebody in the background passes regulations and sends out directives—there is where the law is made.

Now many of us have ideas about what controls could, and should, be exercised in relation to used car dealers, but if we pass this bill we are no further ahead. Some day in the future, somebody is going to draft some regulations and they will go to the council of the province of Ontario, and there they will be. If we like them, fine, if we do not

like them, there is nothing we can do about it.

It would seem to me, Mr. Speaker, as we get into this unhappy position, and we have been getting more involved in this kind of position as the years go on, that it is incumbent upon the Minister, when he comes forward and says, "There is not enough ammunition in the Act I already have, I want more power," that he should tell us what general principles he believes should be contained in the regulations that will follow.

Hopefully, we would have seen in the statute powers to the Minister. The Minister should theoretically, and this is my understanding of the method of carrying on a parliamentary government, the Minister would come forward and say: I want powers to do A, B, C, D. But all he says, and he is not unique in this, is: I want powers to pass regulations which I have not figured out yet. Now this is the sort of thing, Mr. Speaker, about which I hope the Minister can give us some substantial detail.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support, and perhaps to a certain degree elaborate on, the point made by the hon. member for Downsview.

The bill we have before us points up a problem to which I for one have been calling attention for many years. What we are being asked to do here, Mr. Speaker, is not to make law but to give *carte blanche* to some person or persons unnamed, in effect to make laws.

We have no control over what they do. We have no idea even that they will do anything. In fact, the record of the government to date on this matter gives one very little assurance that effective action will be taken even if this bill and the particular section in it, which is really the pith and substance of the bill, is passed.

The Minister in moving second reading said that there had been misleading statements in the press, or words to that effect. Well I would say, Mr. Speaker, that if there was anything misleading in the press the government is doing its best to create a misleading impression.

What happened was this. The person in charge of the administration of The Used Car Dealers Act, Mr. Cormac, the man immediately responsible, issued a policy directive or some sort of guide line, I do not know what you would call it, and the moment there was a breath of opposition from certain elements in the industry the government caved in. Now this is what happened. They caved in.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Oh no!

Mr. Bryden: They pulled the rug right out from under—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is not the truth!

Mr. Bryden: That is the truth!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is not the truth!

Mr. Bryden: That is the truth. He issued a directive, there was a breath of opposition and immediately the rug was pulled out from under him. Now this is what happened.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, no!

Mr. Bryden: Well what happened then? It is a pity that the Minister did not correct the information that appeared in the press at the time it happened.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I did.

Mr. Bryden: Anything the Minister said certainly indicated that he was trying to be on both sides of the fence at the same time, and also stand on his head in the middle of the fence.

Now that is about the position the Minister took. He did not either support Mr. Cormac or his superior. The point is that Cormac made a move to do what the Minister is now asking for authority to do, and he had the whole thing collapse.

This, I may say Mr. Speaker, was more than two years after this statute became law. More than two years after the statute became law Mr. Cormac makes a move towards doing what should have been done all along, and the whole thing stands in the air. Now we have the Minister coming forward with a statute which he says is designed to deal with the problem with which Mr. Cormac dealt.

But I would emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that we have no assurance at all that that is the way it will be dealt with. We have nothing before us, just a request for *carte blanche* to do whatever they want.

Mr. Speaker, I think it should be emphasized that this government makes it a usual practice to carry on window dressing. They come in with what are in effect dummy statutes like this, asking for authority to do something. They get a large headline in the press which gives the impression to the public that they have indeed done this; and then they either do nothing or what they do is totally inadequate to meet the situation.

We had an outstanding example of that sort of procedure earlier this morning when a 14-page statement was read that did not

say a thing that had not been said ten times already; and said it three times and was not in any sense an adequate solution to the problem.

I will not get into a discussion of that statement, there will be lots of opportunity for it, but here again we have the same sort of technique. A promise that they are going to do something, no indication to us as to what they are going to do, no guarantee that we can work on, sir, that they will do the sort of thing we would like done. And of course, Mr. Speaker, when this is passed—and undoubtedly it will be; because even though there are no pictures being taken today, if necessary they can always line up enough to ram everything through.

In any case we will not oppose them. It may not do any good but it cannot do any harm.

But if it is passed, as it will be, it goes completely beyond our control. There is nothing we can do, ever, to get the thing back into our hands again. It happens that we are merely the people elected by the citizens of Ontario to represent them in the making of laws, and we are pushed out of the law-making process altogether.

I have advocated, and many members have advocated, that regulations that are passed under authority like this should be reviewed by at least a committee representing the members of this House. Now I am aware that yesterday, in answer to a question of mine, the Prime Minister indicated that he was prepared to have that question go before one of the standing committees of this House. But we have no idea when it will go before the committee. And even if the committee brings back a report, with a recommendation, we have no idea, no assurance, that anything will be done on the recommendation, even if it should be a satisfactory one.

So once again we are put in this position of abdicating our responsibility as legislators. I think it is regrettable that the government insists on putting us in this position. There is not much that we can do to stop them, but I would hope that at least the Minister sponsoring the bill would do what the member for Downsview asked, that is come before us and outline the regulations, without getting into the precise terminology. He should say he has in mind to do this, this, this and this. Then we could discuss the adequacy of the government's intentions.

We have no idea what they intend to do, whether this is just another of their long parade of pieces of window dressing or if

they really intend, after two and a half years, to do what they were supposed to have done when this legislation was first passed.

I do not know if they are going to do it or not. I would say the previous record with regard to Mr. Cormac leads me to the conclusion that if a few specially vested and entrenched interests come in the government will collapse pretty quickly. That is what they have been doing so far in this matter, and I have no doubt that is what they will likely do if they again try to make a move.

At any rate we have no assurance, on anything that has happened to now, that they will do anything different.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the section of the bill that does give the Minister the authority to issue the regulations is of course the meat of the principle that we are discussing this morning. I am very much concerned at what has gone on in recent months, particularly what has come to public attention in a coroner's inquest that indicated, in a case with which we are all familiar—it has been brought to our attention before—the fact that the car had been sold and been in definitely bad repair; and in fact not only endangered the lives of those using it, but cost the lives of those using it.

I am thinking of the number of young people across this province who are, from day to day, being licensed by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Haskett). They are properly trained and equipped to operate the vehicles on our highways system, but if they are able to go out into the market and purchase an automobile that is a death trap—and in too many cases it turns out to be just this—surely no matter what this legislation provides for today, or what the Minister's good intentions are in the future, we are shirking our responsibilities in this jurisdiction.

I urge, Mr. Speaker, that those responsible authorities who are given special permission by this Act to set down the regulations controlling this matter, move into it in a strong and definite way and see to it that automobiles which are unworthy to be used on the roads by anyone, of whatever skill or whatever age, be removed from the roads. I do not think that this is entirely a matter of inspecting property that is owned by people personally. Surely, on the basis of sales from used car lots to young people and others, it must be possible to require a certificate of roadworthiness before this sale is made.

Now this is something that must be done immediately. Recent cases have pointed up, beyond any doubt at all, that there is a requirement for this. I would urge that one of the first moves the Minister makes under this new Act would be to implement regulations along these lines.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE LOAN AND TRUST CORPORATIONS ACT

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves second reading of Bill 53, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the principle of this bill is very simple. The registrar of loan and trust corporations is now going to decide—to take it upon himself to decide—the competence of an auditor for a loan or trust corporation. It would seem to me that this is in the nature of a minor piece of panic legislation.

There is absolutely no way, without further elucidation from the Minister—and he has not chosen to make any statement about it—by which the registrar of loan and trust corporations should be charged with the responsibility of deciding on the competence of the accountant, or auditor, for a loan or trust corporation.

If The Loan and Trust Corporations Act is adequately administered and properly administered, the question of the competence of the auditor of a loan or trust corporation is a matter which should be left to that loan or trust corporation. To suggest that in some way or other the government is going to warrant, or guarantee, the competence of the auditor of a loan or trust corporation is, to my mind, an unnecessary and unwise assumption by a government department of a decision which should be left entirely to the loan and trust corporations. The government should not, in any way, get involved in passing upon the competence of the auditor of such a company.

Mr. Singer: Is the Minister not going to reply?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The hon. members jumped up so quickly to get their names in *Hansard* that we just sit back and have a listen to what they have to say.

Now the point here is this—there is nothing new in this practice with respect to a specialized area, or a selected category of

industry. This principle exists, for instance, in the banking fraternity. This is not designed to hinder or prevent anyone from practising the profession of accountancy.

It has to do with the factor of whether or not a certain auditor has, or has not, the facilities to deal with the retainer which he has accepted. I put it to you quite frankly; there are obviously certain firms that do not have the facilities to audit a loan or trust corporation.

This has been recognized in The Banking Act and we think that it should be recognized here. I put it to you just as simply as that. I will also say, very frankly, to you, that this rises from the knowledge and information which is now available from the investigations into certain other situations in the financial community where this type of legislation would have been a helpful instrument.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, the Minister talks about facilities, but if you look at the statute, it talks about competency. Now what is the test of competency? It is a—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is “facility.”

Mr. Singer: Well, why do you not say “facility”? Is it a subjective test in the mind of the Minister? Will he apply this test because he likes the offices in the Toronto-Dominion tower, and he might not like other offices in a less grandiose building? It is a subjective test because the member of the auditing firm may belong to a certain golf club and not to another golf club? Is that the test?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Oh, come off it!

Mr. Singer: What does “competency” mean? Now surely, Mr. Speaker, the principles behind legislation such as this when government comes before us and asks for unusual powers, mean they should be able to define what those powers are, and a word like “competent” means only that the test is going to be in the mind of the Minister, and he can—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, the registrar.

Mr. Singer:—determine on any rules at all, any thoughts that go through his mind. What is the test of competency? He has given us an interpretation this morning; he said that it means facilities. Well, if it means facilities, why does he not write it into the Act? It is simple enough.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Because that is part of the meaning of the word “competency”.

Mr. Singer: Well, I would like to see any dictionary that describes "competency" as dealing with facilities. Surely it lies within the intelligence of this Minister, and his advisers, to bring before us an Act that says what the tests are going to be.

If they are going to say to someone: "You cannot be an auditor for a loan and trust corporation", there should be clearly definable reasons why that decision is made, and the right to make those decisions should be contained in the statute. All this does is just give another limitless power to the Minister because he is afraid something might happen, and we are—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Do not ever stand up in the future and accuse this government again about anything like Atlantic or Prudential, after that statement! Do not ever do it!

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Prudential is not a loan corporation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is one of them.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the Minister is so sensitive, but the answer to what happened there is not that we make the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs the dictator of the province of Ontario.

The answer is, that we govern this province by laws passed in a democratic manner. The answer is not that we bring statutes before us continuously that give vague and undefined powers to Ministers which allow them to do anything they want. The very sensitivity the Minister displayed—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That was a fabrication; this has to do with the right of the registrar, not the Minister. Let us get the record straight.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the Minister is so sensitive this morning.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You were pretty sensitive last night in the apologia that you delivered.

Mr. Singer: In the apologia that I delivered—I do not quite get that. I am sorry the Minister is sensitive to his colleague, too. This is the only conclusion I can draw from that last, rather futile, interjection.

But meantime, back to the principle of the bill, Mr. Speaker. I think it is incumbent upon government, when they come before us and ask for unusual powers, that they define the bounds of those powers.

What are the "four walls", what does the word "competency" mean, as it is contained in this statute? In the absence of anything better than this mumbling that we have had from the Minister this morning, one must conclude that he wants, in fact, to become the dictator of Ontario.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I find this so incongruous that it reaches the point of incomprehensibility to me. Now, in the select committee studying The Corporations Act, we were reliably informed that the institute of chartered accountants was a body that was extremely conscious of its place in the financial affairs of this province and, indeed, in this nation. It was also one of the most active groups, in society, that concerned itself with research and the development of progressive ideas in the field of chartered accounting.

Now, I would assume that as a professional organization, the accreditation of a member of that institute would, in itself, be *prima facie* evidence of the competency of any practitioner in the field.

What is the difference, by way of analogy, I ask the Minister through you, between the enunciation of this principle here—of laying on the line, before the registrar, the qualifications of a person who has certification by the institute of chartered accountants—and the qualifications of a member of the law society of Upper Canada?

If he can intervene by assessing the competency of a chartered accountant, then why cannot the registrar intervene to assess the qualifications of the lawyers who advise one of the loan and trust corporations?

And yet to merely mention that shows the incongruity of the whole thing. To make a suggestion that the lawyers' qualifications should be reviewed by the registrar would, of course, be met with such a storm of protest that the Minister would be laughed out of court by it.

I cannot really understand this business of the facility. Presumably, in the free enterprise system, which the Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall), of course, was forwarding among the brethren this morning, there ought to be an area of selection left to the corporations themselves.

They should be the ones who should have the first opportunity to select their auditors. *Prima facie*, we can accord them enough common sense, I would think, that they would select a firm of auditors who would have the facilities. I imagine, to carry that just a step forward, if one of the larger ones

like Canada Permanent, for example—if it is an Ontario company, and I do not know that it is, but let us assume it is—that if Canada Permanent selected a firm of auditors then if the auditors did not have the facilities to look after Canada Permanent's affairs they would soon get them, because the acquisition of that client would be such a prize that they would enlarge their operation.

So I cannot really believe at this point that it ought to be a matter of concern to the registrar under this Act what the facilities in the broadest sense, that is number of employees, number of juniors, the number of students, the number of chartered accountants, and so on, I cannot conceive that that ought to be a matter of concern to him. I would think that would flow automatically from the nexus between the firm and the company whose books it audits.

Then I must assume, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, that if there is any other matter affecting the competence of the auditors, then that will become in the first instance a matter of concern to the institute of chartered accountants. I would think that if that institute became aware of anything improper on the part of a firm of auditors, that it would move to correct the situation long before the registrar. Indeed if you want to put it another way, the registrar would only need to inform the institute and they would presumably exercise their disciplinary body to correct the evil.

So from any point of view, I just cannot understand why this ought to be a matter of government concern at all. Certainly we know of illustrations, apparently there are now some cases that are *sub judice*. I may be wrong in that, but there is certainly some investigation being carried out about the activities of auditors. But surely those must be the rare exception and we would not expect a spate of revelation about nefarious affairs of auditors.

So really, I think the government here is engaging itself in needless activity in asking the Legislature to pass this amendment. The thing might better be left alone; and by leaving it alone, in my view, sir, that would obviate any suggestion of interference with this reputable professional group and would leave the maximum freedom of choice between the hirer and the employee.

Indeed, that would accord with the philosophic principles of the Minister himself, as I apprehend them. He wants to leave a maximum of freedom of initiative in the financial world; and so do I, believe it that I do!

I am one of those who for 43 years has felt that whenever something anomalous or unusual happens in an area, that the great danger on the part of the legislators is they rush in and do too much by way of correction. They distort the ordinary flow of events in the mainstream of that activity; because the business community operating as it does, has many self-correcting devices. A businessman engaged in the pursuit of profit, we may rest assured, you and I, that whenever something threatens to disrupt the normal business activity of that area they themselves are going to apply corrective devices.

Here is an area where the law of supply and demand operates perfectly, because intelligent businessmen, at the helm of the loan and trust corporations, are themselves not going to tolerate incompetent auditors.

Now let it just be added that there are other areas respecting the auditing of company books in general that the select committee, of which my friend the member for Downsview and the member for Riverdale and others are members, led by the very able member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence) might examine.

There are other areas where many corrective measures are required. They have nothing whatsoever to do with the selection of the personalities, but they have to do with the methods that they employ and they have to do with the disclosure that their offices will effect by making it a matter of legislative command. But I say to the Minister, in the most friendly fashion possible, that I just do not see this Friday morning that we ought to be concerned in this area. We should pause greatly before we impose ourselves into something that probably is largely not a matter of our business at all.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would just say this with respect to this matter, that I appreciate and understand the presentation of the hon. member for Sudbury, with his clarity, in much greater degree than I did the member for Downsview.

I think—and I would like to say this—there is an essential difference between the legal profession and the auditing profession. I think the legal profession in its essence would be involved with the giving of an opinion which an individual solicitor or counsel might very well prepare and study, and against his experience give to his client. Whereas on the other hand, we have the situation of the auditor who is involved with the mechanical aspect of assembling a lot of information, and not just the assembling in that sense of the

phrase but the correlation of all of the information that he receives.

I think the question has been put, not only in this country but in the United States, as to whether or not one firm can afford, as an auditing firm, to even delegate a portion of that responsibility. It is in this area that this problem arises.

Now the question is put as to why we bring this forth. The proposition is that the government should not concern itself.

I think that the consequences of that proposition are much greater than are involved in this bill, because there are certain aspects of the Opposition in this House who say the government is responsible for what is going on in the financial institutions of this province, and I have no hesitation in putting this bill forward and asking the support of the House, on frankly no other grounds than the public interest.

I agree that there is an argument available, that has been put forward—on the basis of public interest—that with the technicalities of what is involved in the audit of companies today, it is questionable whether or not the disciplinary side of the accounting profession has been able to cope. My position is that in the circumstances that I see, this legislation is desirable.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE SECURITIES ACT, 1966

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves second reading of Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister, in this bill, would like to make a preliminary statement. We would be delighted to hear it. If not, I will proceed with my remarks.

Mr. S. Lewis: If he would like his name in *Hansard*.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: If the member would like to go ahead, I think the bill itself is divided into three main sections and I think the principles here are self-explanatory. I would like to deal—maybe I should deal with the question of finance companies and say this:

I have given a good deal of attention to this matter of finance companies. The word "finance" is a very difficult word to define and it seems to be in this area that some of

our problems in financial institutions has developed.

Now we run into many situations. We run into situations where a company might be in the furniture or in the mining business, and the hon. member who has just spoken and others will know that sometimes the operation, even though the powers of a company under The Corporations Act are almost limitless, because you can change operations from A to B at will.

But take the case of a company that has exhausted its primary and original intent of operation, has come to the end of the line, and yet has been a successful operation. It finds itself with substantial funds at its command, and in the treasury. We assume that the shareholders, through their elected representatives, the directors, determine that rather than wind the company up, they will go into another venture.

Now, it is at this point that the pattern of corporate conduct in recent years seems to attract our attention, insofar as many of these changes of pattern have led to trouble. It would be perfectly obvious that a company, engaged in the furniture or mining business which has come to the conclusion of that aspect of its objectives, would say: "Well we are not going to wind the company up; we will transfer our attitude, and our intent, and our course of conduct into the field of investment."

It is not for me to comment as to whether or not they are competent to make that decision. That is their decision, that is their right.

If they get into the finance business, which has been the subject and which has attracted so much criticism over the years, and which the Opposition in the House, and the critics, have said government must look after more closely, then I say, "How do we define finance companies?"

I am going to suggest that it is almost an impossibility to define, in comprehensive terms, just what a so-called finance company is.

But I think that because of the dangers that arise from a company dealing in finance, in the sense that I think is understood by the hon. members in the Opposition, and our own members on the government side, we should have the right—when I say we, I do not mean the government, I am talking about the public interest—I think that the public interest should be protected against the atmosphere which prevails today.

Let us not forget, Mr. Speaker, that members of the Opposition, critics and our own people on this side of the House, feel that some closer attention must be given to this very difficult area. This is what we are trying to do. We are trying to get at this area where people have gone beyond the bounds of what many of us regard as corporate decency.

So we say, "Let us then, in the same sense as mining companies have certain privileges and responsibilities, banks have privileges and responsibilities, and then, against that background of the phrase, near banks, let us then have categories. Let us recognize the fact that categories of companies do exist." We are talking about finance companies, but then recognize the fact.

Now how can we then define them? The method, the vehicle is that the securities commission should have the power to define categories of companies.

If they say that a company has changed from being a concrete mixing company into an investment or finance company, then at that point—that is their right to do that, no question of that under the corporate law—having changed their objectives and their operation, in the sense that their dominant interest may be said to be that of a finance company, they should, having come so close to the near bank situation, if I could put it that way, they should be subject to certain rules and regulations.

I would think that out of this matter and this proposal, what I contemplate is this. I do not think there is any easy answer. There is certainly no instant answer. I anticipate that this matter would be referred to the Ontario securities commission and, frankly, I would be very surprised if they could come up with any answer in a day or so.

My own view is that this would be a subject of study and research by them with respect to the regulations that are provided for here. Now this was done deliberately. I did it deliberately. I did not do it without a lot of thought, but I think something has to be done.

I anticipate that the securities commission, on reference to them about the drafting of these regulations, would hold hearings and contact the various people who are concerned with such matters, not only on the industry side, but on the consumer side.

I would doubt very much if they could accomplish this within even six or eight months; I tell you that frankly. I do not want

anyone to think that this legislation in this bill is going to be automatic; it will not be.

As you get into this subject, the involvements are very great as to how far you can go, and what the effect is of a control. Is it going to be effective? Is it going to attain the objectives that we hope for? These are the things.

I do not know, and I will tell this House, Mr. Speaker, that I do not know, but this is the very reason that I am advancing this legislation and on this particular Bill 54, so that we can try and find out.

I will go further than that. I have some very firm views of my own as to the principles that should be stated in legislation, as against the elasticity that is provided for, and comes about, by virtue of regulations. I anticipated this—and, as long as I am the Minister of this department concerned with this area of our economic society, there must be an area of elasticity—so that we can deal with situations immediately.

We must have elasticity in certain areas so that we can deal with matters as they arise, and as the patterns and trends and involvements develop. I also recognize that in the theory and in the principle of law, and of legislation, there are certain things that should be in legislation and not in regulation. I put this to you very frankly, and I am going to tell you also that I think the things I am talking about here probably should be in the law, but it is going to take time to work it out. I will go this far about this bill and tell you that if we can use this vehicle to accomplish and research the situation, and find out some kind of premise, I am prepared next year to come back and translate the results of that investigation and regulation into legislation.

I put this to you because I feel this way about the matter. I think it is a very important matter having to do with society and I have recognized—I think, as I said—that the member for Sudbury has raised some very, not just interesting propositions, but principles.

You cannot ignore the principles that he put forth so succinctly. They live; they are real. I recognize the point that the member for Riverdale raised. I am trying to get at it, I am trying to find the solution; but I do not think that there is any "instant coffee" involved in this deal.

That is my problem. I have looked at it. I have spent a lot of time with the best advisers I can get, and I do not think that there is any quick and easy solution now. It

is a subject I do not think that we, as government, we as legislators—including all of us here in this House—can ignore.

We have to look at it and this, gentlemen, Mr. Speaker, this is my way. This is the vehicle that I think would be best available for us to get at this subject. Let us put this new securities commission to work, give them that task and let us have a look at it.

I do not think that they are going to come up with an answer a week from next Tuesday or anything like that. I would anticipate that this would be a matter of some six or eight months' study. If we can find the basis of putting it into legislation and, bringing the best brains we have to bear—including those of the Opposition—then I go back again to my basic principle that this, I think, is the kind of thing that should be in legislation. I am prepared to give the House that commitment, that if we can come up with a formula and the kind of approach to this area, which is undefined, which has been proven to be the area where trouble seems to exist, we will do so. When I say "trouble" I mean things that affect the "little" man.

I do not make a political pitch about the "little" man, because we are all interested in the "little" man. That is our duty, our duty collectively.

Mr. Bryden: But the Minister let them get fleeced, that is the trouble.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member just keeps on yacking away as he does and ignores a genuine, sincere approach to a subject.

Mr. Bryden: I am very much concerned that the little man got fleeced.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member is not concerned with the little man. He is just concerned with a lot of politics. I am talking here this morning about the little man that the Opposition are concerned about; and I join with them and they join with me, but it is obvious that the NDP does not join with the government in trying to solve this problem.

Mr. Bryden: Not in the Minister's inadequate measures—absolutely not—We are dead against him!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: They sure are!

Mr. Bryden: The Minister should be doing something instead of talking about it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: So the member does not want the government to make a statement in the House.

Mr. Bryden: We want the government out of here; and that is where they will be!

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I will tell the member that he is going to be out of there—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Bryden: The government has failed in its responsibility and they know it—a hopeless failure!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, for a man who has declared his intention not to run again, who is giving up his dedication to public life, that is a terrible statement for you to permit, to be recorded in *Hansard*.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

I am going to ask members to proceed with the principles embodied in this bill.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I do not think that in any session of this Legislature in the past number of years, a fairer, more sincere statement about what is intended about a bill has been made than that which I made this morning about Bill 54.

The best brains have to be brought to bear on this subject. The answer is not available. There is no instant answer. In fact I will go so far as to say that I invite the assistance of any member of this Legislature to this department and to the securities commission to find the way of dealing with this matter, which must be apparent as a problem to all of us.

It is my dedication as a Minister to try and find that answer; I am trying this morning to provide the leadership, and I invite all members to join with me in achieving that objective.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Minister for giving us this brief introductory remark about the bill on which he was not going to make any statement at all until I suggested that perhaps it deserved a statement.

Then we had from the Minister one of the most ridiculous diatribes on a second reading that I have ever heard in the short time that I have been in the House.

If the Minister thinks for one moment that he can come into this Legislature and produce a bill such as this and stand up and make a statement which contributed nothing to the

solution of the problem that he placed before us, then I think the Minister should get out of that portfolio and let somebody else attempt to run the new department.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister in the course of his remarks asked us, on his say-so, to accept an entire reversal of the procedure by which legislation is passed in this assembly.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member has just lost the right to criticize—

Mr. Bryden: By the Minister's decree? Is this his new approach?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, if you will recall what has taken place as embodied in this bill, in the last bulletin of the Ontario securities commission the commission elaborated certain rules or directional guides for finance companies so far as complying with The Securities Act is concerned. That is, it elaborated them not as a matter of law but as a matter of direction to the industry as to how finance companies' statements would be dealt with when they were received in prospectuses which were to be reviewed by the securities commission. Now we find—and this is the first time, I do not believe it exists in any other statute of this Legislature—we suddenly find that stuck in the middle of a brand new statute which was the subject of long study, long review by a committee of the Legislature, by other committees, and regulations which were again subject to long and lengthy review; we find suddenly stuck in the middle of a statute the power of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to make such regulations as he considers necessary or appropriate in the public interest. Well the very fact that the Minister feels for some reason or other the Lieutenant-Governor in Council must be limited in his authority to make only regulations in the public interest, shows the ridiculous way in which the Minister has approached this bill.

You do not stick in the middle of a major statute of this province—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Could I ask the hon. member a question, Mr. Speaker?

May I conclude—and it is reasonable for me to conclude from the member's remarks just now—that the present Securities Act and the regulations that stem from it are the be all and end all to everything and that we as the government may rest content that that meets the needs of the economic conditions today?

Mr. Renwick: Well, Mr. Chairman, the Minister certainly may not conclude that. That is not the proposition he is putting forward, Mr. Speaker. What the Minister is attempting to do is to appear to satisfy the problem which exists in the financial community without, in fact, doing anything about it.

This is what he is doing, this is what he did in the preceding bill. You see, Mr. Speaker, when this Minister wants to deal with the problem that relates to a finance company, he amends The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, which has nothing to do with the finance companies.

He immediately suggests, and he suggests to every member of the public who has any knowledge of the amendment which he made to The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, because of the failure of certain finance companies, he immediately suggests that, in some way or other, all the auditing firms of all the loan and trust corporations in the province of Ontario, are subject to, or under the veil of not being competent to look after the affairs of those companies and to audit their financial statements.

The Minister himself has said that the reason for that legislation is because of the difficulty, in what he referred to, as, "another area of the financial community." What he is talking about is the financial community, the finance and acceptance companies. Nowhere has he brought in any legislation to suggest that some member of the hierarchy of the Minister's department is going to decide on the competency of the auditors of finance and acceptance companies.

He is not prepared, Mr. Speaker, in any way whatsoever, to take it upon himself to introduce any kind of legislation which would even indicate an intention on the part of the government to provide the kind of supervision—the kind of regulation and the kind of inspection which, inexorably, this government is going to be forced to introduce, to deal with matters related to finance and acceptance companies.

The government seems to be quite incapable of realizing that just the use in the province of Ontario of the words "finance" or "acceptance" in the name of a company, is no longer to be tolerated, sir, unless the public is aware that, if those words are used, there is an overall government supervision, inspection and regulation of such company.

We say that, Mr. Speaker, having nothing to do whatever with whatever area of fraud or misrepresentation that may have been

involved in the collapse of the Atlantic Acceptance Corporation, or may have been involved in the collapse of Prudential Finance.

We are not talking about the marginal wrongdoing which takes place. What we are talking about is that the companies which use the words "finance" and "acceptance" in their corporate names, are companies which are engaged in the money market; they are not engaged in the capital market.

They should not be engaged in the capital market and they should, as separate companies, be subject to independent regulation and supervision and inspection.

This is the kernel and the key to the problem which is faced in the financial community, Mr. Speaker—the people who operate in the money market, that is, where you borrow money on short-term, relatively short-term money, and you use it for relatively short-term purposes.

We know, and everyone now knows, that the banks operate in the money market; that they are precluded from operating except by special authority in any other market; that they are not permitted to make capital loans or investments of a capital or equity nature; they are just not allowed to do that. They require special authority even to enter into the real estate mortgage field.

On the other side of it, this government has always assumed that the loan and trust corporations operated in the money market. In other words, they borrowed money on relatively short-term, either on deposits or by way of guaranteed investment certificates repayable over relatively short periods of time.

That money was, in turn, used by loan and trust corporations for relatively short-term purposes; it was not to be used as a mechanism for building up a financial empire; and it was not to be used for the purpose of building up an hierarchy of companies.

The reason is that those companies are not supposed to do that with the funds which they have available to them. This Legislature has told the loan and trust corporations in the statute, for many years, what they can do with the funds which are available to them and the kind of investments which they can make.

We supervise and we regulate and we inspect the loan and trust corporations. And the federal government supervises, regulates and inspects the chartered banks.

We have, in the middle, the finance and acceptance companies which operate in that money market and we do not do anything

about their supervision, regulation and inspection.

We are asked to accept this bill, which is part and parcel of The Securities Act which had a clear and concise principle behind it, the principle of full disclosure.

Now, we accept right across the board, for every type of company, the principle of full disclosure. We accept it whether or not they are issuing securities to the public or not issuing securities to the public.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, I regard this as a very important debate and might I just say this briefly, and probably in one sentence, I am not so sure that that principle of disclosure provides the answer to the problems of the financial community.

I say that to the House, I am not sure about it. That is the basis of the so-called disclosure, that, on this continent, has been adopted.

I would like to say to the House that I as the Minister, from what I have seen and looked at, that in the days ahead I am not sure that that is the correct approach to protect the public interest.

I do not know what the answer is but I just thought I would indicate my view that, in the long run, I am not sure that that principle of disclosure is the be-all and end-all of everything.

Mr. Renwick: Once again, Mr. Speaker, I must have difficulty communicating this morning. I am not leaving the impression that it is the be-all or end-all of the problem of the financial world; I am not suggesting that at all.

What I am saying is that there are two basic views, one is the principle of disclosure, the other is the principle of government supervision, regulation and inspection.

What we are saying is that they are not separate categories; the principle of disclosure applies across the board. We think, for example, that it is quite ridiculous that the financial statements of a loan and trust corporation, which are required to be filed with the registrar of loan and trust corporations, are not available, publicly.

They are public institutions, that is why they are regulated in the way in which they are, yet the statements are not available.

The same thing applies—and I just mention this particular side issue before I come back again to it—the same thing applies with the chartered banks' statements. Everyone knows that the chartered banks' statement is an

incomprehensible document, you cannot understand it.

For some reason or other, if there is government supervision, regulation and inspection, it then means that the information which goes out to the public, by way of financial statements of banks and of loan and trust corporations, can be in either a garbled form, or a form which cannot be understood.

Now we are simply making the proposition that, regardless of the category of company that we are talking about, the principle of disclosure applies across the board. In many areas, we think that it is the answer for the time being, to large areas of our economy. We think it is the answer for example, to the regular manufacturing company.

We think the techniques of accounting procedures and reporting are developing to the point where disclosure, by and large, will allow most informed people, or most intelligent lay people, to understand the state of the business of that company.

We also know that because they are in a manufacturing operation, or an industrial operation, there is tangible evidence available as to the use of the funds, the operation in which it is engaged, the manufacture and sale of the goods, the receipt of the income and the accounting for the money.

Most people can understand that, but as soon as you move into this field of the money market, you get into an area which very few people can understand.

I think it is a most difficult field. It requires very highly-skilled people who operate in that money market. We have learned this in the chartered banks, that the government has a very real responsibility for the financial integrity of the country, to deal with that particular segment of the community in a different way.

We think it should be the principle of total disclosure, plus the inspection, supervision and regulatory powers which The Bank Act provides for and which has ensured, and we all pride ourselves in saying that our banking institutions are second to none in the world because of this combination of the way in which they are dealt with.

The loan and trust corporations of the province of Ontario stood in the same category until the difficulties which we have experienced in the last little while. And the difficulty was quite clear. It was not in any vacuum in the legislation. What it was was that in the last seven or eight years, or ten years in this province, there has been a pro-

liferation of companies which were going into the loan and trust field, particularly in the trust company field, and the administration of the government department charged with it did not keep pace with the demands of the supervision, regulation and inspection of the accounts of those companies. We paid the price for it in British Mortgage and Trust, and we paid the price for it in the legislation which had to be put through here dealing specifically, for practical purposes, with York Trust. It had to be passed. We accepted it that day. We do not think that in the long run it should have been necessary. I would hope the day will come when that kind of government guarantee would be removed because the inspection services of the government would be adequate to solve this problem.

Now where is the big gap in the middle? The big gap in the money market, of unregulated, unsupervised operations, is in the finance and acceptance companies. Now it may well be that in a better way, in the case of Prudential Finance, the people who were going to invest their money in Prudential Finance could have been warned somewhat more adequately of the hazard of the investment in those companies. But that is not the significant point, and that is one of the principal reasons why I do not like to see this kind of legislation come in as an amendment to The Securities Act.

I think that for practical purposes The Securities Act, without these words in it at all, just The Securities Act as it stands today including the existing power of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to pass regulations, was quite adequate to do what this bill purports to do on the principle of full disclosure. There is certainly ample authority in the securities commission itself and in the power of the government to pass regulations, for practical purposes to have launched the necessary revolution, if that is what is required in the prospectuses of finance companies as they are filed under the new Securities Act.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We are not in disagreement as to the principle of what I am trying to do. We are only in disagreement as to how.

Mr. Renwick: Well Mr. Speaker, we are in disagreement on principle and the principle is—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, the member said he agreed with the principle.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the Minister quite obviously does not wish to understand this morning. He is not really interested in understanding; in fact I believe he does understand.

What went wrong in Atlantic Acceptance, what went wrong in Prudential Finance, what appeared to be difficult—to cause the difficulty—in British International Finance Canada Limited, and what may well turn out to have caused the trouble in Oshawa Acceptance Corporation? Again I rule out, I am not talking about, fraud or any of that area which may be involved in some one or more of those, such as Atlantic or Prudential or Oshawa. I specifically exclude British International Finance from any such suggestion of that kind of wrongdoing in it. But what I am saying is that in those four companies, the common denominator of the difficulties which they got into was the use of the moneys which they had available to them from the public. Whether it happened to be the public that had the benefit of The Securities Act is relatively immaterial; they used that money for other purposes and they all got into trouble.

The statement last Saturday of the losses of British International Finance were related to write-offs in connection with their investments in their subsidiary companies, in their subsidiary operations. Now this, Mr. Speaker, is the precise reason why The Bank Act prohibits banks from going into that kind of operation, because they are matching relatively short term money against relatively long term investment; or indeed in the case of equity investments a potentially indefinite investment in those companies, depending on the hazards of the commercial world or the venture in which they are interested.

What I am saying is that I do not want the Minister to bring in, under the guise of amendments to The Securities Act, under the guise of that, the kind of legislation or the kind of examination which is required to segregate finance and acceptance companies clearly in the minds of the public as a separate category of company which requires to be dealt with in a separate and distinct way, which requires some form of government supervision, regulation and inspection.

I agree with the Minister on the question of the difficulty of definition, but at some point you do define what a finance and acceptance company is, and if it comes within the pale of that definition it is subjected to certain inspection operations of the government, because Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Did I not define that problem and tell the member what my intent was?

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, what I am saying to the Minister is that under the guise of The Securities Act and on the assumption that in some way or other your disclosure principle applies, he is going to attempt through various regulations developed over a long period of time to deal with a problem which should be dealt with as a separate part of the problem. Now the way to get an adequate recognition of the separate and distinct part played by finance and acceptance companies in the financial market, is to face directly up to the problem. I think that it only confuses the problem to talk about near-banks. I think it is a most confusing way of expressing anything.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I agree with that.

Mr. Renwick: The Minister is talking about loan and trust corporations, he talks about—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I was talking about finance companies.

Mr. Renwick: Yes, and he talks about the banks and—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I made reference to the banks.

Mr. Renwick: Well what I am simply saying, Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member talked about the banks all through his debate. He gave us the whole history of The Bank Act. Does he mean I cannot do that?

Mr. Renwick: Well, if the Minister wants to make a speech, Mr. Speaker, let him get up!

Mr. Bryden: He has already made his speech.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: No, go ahead!

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, the Minister does not want to listen, because if he had listened he would have realized that what I was saying was in agreement with what he had just said; but he nodded his head to say he did not like the term near banks, and yet he is the one that throws it into the debate this morning in an effort to confuse the people in this Legislature that in some way it is difficult to define finance and acceptance companies.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This is pretty specious, Mr. Speaker. We are really in agreement on the difficulties of the problem and we are trying to solve them—with the Opposition's help.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: But the member just does not want to agree with us on anything.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, what we are asking this government to do is to introduce the kind of legislation which will permit finance and acceptance companies to be regulated and supervised and inspected. We do not expect, and we are not happy with, the attempt to muddy up a securities bill, which was passed after much thought and study and when the regulations were open to public discussion, to suddenly introduce a bill and insert in the middle of the statute the power of the Lieutenant-Governor to deal with substantive matters.

The Minister is being too devious about the problem; the Minister should face up to the problem that this is a separate category of companies. He has already told us—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It is right down in the bill; I have admitted—

Mr. Renwick: But the Minister does not do it in this bill, because the principle of the securities bill is one of disclosure. We are saying that the principle that must apply to finance and acceptance companies is the principle of supervision and inspection and regulation, as well as disclosure. We are saying that The Securities Act, as presently drafted, can do everything which is required to meet the requirements of disclosure for finance and acceptance companies, but it cannot do the other things.

Now that kind of a bill is absolutely essential to deal with the financial markets of the province of Ontario. The government cannot bring it in the back door; they have to face up to the problem because, Mr. Speaker—and he is knowledgeable as to what is happening in the money markets of the province of Ontario—people are not investing their money through the financial markets in the province of Ontario. There is a shrinkage of money being invested on short term in the province of Ontario, and it is being compounded by the failure of the government to intervene in this field and to say that this will not happen again.

We are paying the price now, in the financial market in the city of Toronto, for the failures of those companies. People with sub-

stantial amounts of short-term capital to invest, which is what makes the financial community operate, and which provides the grease that makes the whole machinery operate, are reluctant—to say the least—to invest their money in that kind of a market in the city of Toronto.

They have no assurance any longer, and the only way is for this government to provide the leadership and to step right in and simply say, "Certainly, in consultation with the industry—of course, in consultation with the industry—but we are going to deal with that problem. The problem is finance and acceptance companies."

From now on, the people of the province should be able to say: "If we see the names, 'finance' or 'acceptance', we will know that they fall into a category where government supervision, regulation and inspection, in the sense that we do it with banks, and in the sense that we do it with loan and trust corporations, is part and parcel of what is taking place."

I, for one, dislike the proposition by which, in some way or other, we are going to get the government involved in part of the responsibility, in the way in which the preceding bill was one part of that involvement, and in the way in which the deposit insurance bill was part and parcel of that involvement.

I think it is unwise—I think it is really a straitjacket for what we really want in this society—to have that kind of deposit insurance as a requirement when we did not need it—except, because of the convergence of events which led up to it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Have you seen the Quebec legislation?

Mr. Renwick: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Have you seen the proposals from Quebec?

Mr. Renwick: No, I have not seen the proposals from Quebec.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Have you read the papers?

Mr. Renwick: No, I have not read the papers.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Well, look at this morning's—

Mr. Renwick: I will, at some point. But we are not in Quebec, we are in the province of Ontario.

What I would say is that I would look forward to the time when the administration of The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, the administration of something to be called "the finance and acceptance companies Act" and the administration of The Bank Act, will give everyone who deals with a bank, a finance or acceptance company, or a loan and trust corporation, a sensation of confidence in the financial operations of those companies, not because the government is guarantor of them, but because the government recognizes the public interest involved, and provides the inspecting services, and the routines of government, to make certain that those companies operate that way.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: To me, this is a very important debate—as I have indicated before—and I do not want to pick on any minute item by way of trying to trip you up.

That is not the spirit of this question, but you did make reference to legislation pertaining to the various categories of what I will call the "financial community". Were you serious when you suggested an Ontario provincial supervision, or inspection, of banks?

Mr. Renwick: No, Mr. Speaker, I was not. I was not at all.

Mr. Sopha: It is constitutionally impossible.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I know; it has been tried in Quebec.

Mr. Renwick: I realize and appreciate the constitutional problem. What I am saying—and this in no way takes away from, or is derogatory of the federal government at all in what I have to say about finance and acceptance companies—it is the profound obligation of this province, which is one of the key financial markets in Canada, to provide the lead for this kind of legislation in the field of finance and acceptance.

We cannot wait for the federal government to get all of the other governments—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is my point; that is what I am trying to find out.

Mr. Renwick: —to get all of the other governments together in order to work out a country-wide system. We can, by taking the initiative in this province on the kind of up-to-date, sophisticated, intelligent legislation in the finance and acceptance field, give a very real impetus to other provinces accepting that kind of legislation—leading eventually to a federal system across the country. I think that it is almost impossible—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Are we not doing that now?

Mr. Renwick: Well let me say, Mr. Speaker, that in The Securities Act, 1966, this in fact is happening across the country but I want the Minister to face up to the fact that we have to have a separate bill for finance and acceptance companies, not this bill.

The one provision that allows the Lieutenant-Governor to make all these various regulations of one kind or another is simply a back door method of getting at the problem. I would have much preferred, since the Minister said it would be seven, eight, nine or ten months or longer before even the regulations are promulgated, I would like to say, because I think it needs to be said in the public interest, that the government of the province of Ontario is going to have in the next six months a full and complete study of the field of finance and acceptance companies for the purpose of introducing a statute in the Legislature to deal with them as a segregated group of companies because of the importance of the part which they play.

I am very concerned to see us use The Securities Act for that purpose—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Is the member not really arguing then on the vehicle? I thought I had made myself quite clear earlier.

First, by the introduction of this bill. The member may not have liked it under this Act, but that is another matter. At least I tried to indicate my interest and my dedication and to lead to my commitment to that investigation of this area to which the member refers. I think we are really differing only on the vehicle.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that depending on what vehicle you choose, the result is going to be dictated by the goal which you reach and the speed with which you reach it.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The results will tell the tale.

Mr. Renwick: And the significance to the community of what the government is doing with it.

Mr. Speaker, I am simply saying that—if I can put it this concisely—The Securities Act is based on the proposition of disclosure and nothing else. The government, in the case of Prudential Finance, when it was explaining to the House, said that The Securities Act is disclosure. It could not do anything about Prudential Finance until the

whole thing blew up, that we in the government could not do a single solitary thing about it because The Securities Act is based on the principle of disclosure.

Now having a brand new Securities Act dedicated to that principle, which we accept as an important principle across the board for the financial and industrial and commercial community and the mining community, we accept that. But the special segregated groups of companies require the special legislation; and the finance and acceptance companies require it now. We require the kind of study which does not kid anybody as to what you are going to do, the determination of this government that it will provide a satisfactory supervisory, regulatory, inspecting umbrella for this group of companies.

Not for the purpose of curtailing their legitimate operations, but providing for the sense of assurance which the public in Ontario badly need in this area. This is what we want. This is why we would think that the government would be—would welcome—the announcement by the Minister of a clear statement that this was the end that they wanted to achieve, that the government wishes to achieve, that a study will take place.

I can assure the Minister, with the resources at his disposal in the financial community of the city of Toronto, his study could be completed and a bill could be drafted and the regulations could be available within six months. I am not one that is going to say we should have had them years ago. I personally think we should have, but that is immaterial to this particular debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: That is what I am talking about, six to eight months.

Mr. Renwick: But let us face up immediately to what this government is going to do, and that is that it is going to supervise, regulate and inspect finance and acceptance companies. Then you will have done more than any single thing to have restored the financial confidence of people and the financial integrity of the Ontario money market, and that is what the object of the exercise must be. I am concerned that by using this, if I may say so, sir, surreptitious way of getting at that problem, the Minister is going to confuse it in the minds of the people who have to make the decision as to whether or not they have or have not confidence in the money market in Ontario. I dislike the principle of the bill because the government has confused it, they have confused the two principles.

The two principles should not be confused, particularly when so much time, effort, study and attention went into getting a Securities Act which was based solely and entirely on that principle of public disclosure. And now to muddy it up with a special type of company, which conclusively and obviously requires specific regulation, supervision and inspection, is to my mind a wrong way to present this matter to this Legislature and to the public in Ontario.

Now I ask the Minister. Nobody is going to think that the world is going to fall down if the Minister withdraws a bill and comes out with a different approach to this question; but I cannot urge it too strongly on him that the figures will in fact show that the financial community in Toronto, the money market in the city of Toronto, is now bearing the cumulative burden of the collapse of those companies which have collapsed, and the troubles and difficulties which British International Finance apparently so nearly averted in the course of its affairs.

I ask the Minister to accept for once that there is a different principle which is not to be confused by introducing such amendments as this to The Securities Act.

Now there are other matters, the role of the trustee and the trust indenture and what the trustee should do and so on, which again are separate matters. They should be reviewed. They are stuck in here. I do not think I would have any serious objection to that particular part of the study going forward in the way in which the Minister has suggested. I do not think I would have any serious objection to that. I myself would do it another way, but that is immaterial. I think it can be dealt with in the way in which the Minister intends.

That part of it can be dealt with in that way. But not this other matter which requires a separate, distinct statute which can only be accomplished by an open study indicating the dedication of this government to provide the leadership in the supervision, regulation and inspection of finance and acceptance companies which will remove this continuing cloud from the financial community of the province of Ontario.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, it is two minutes before one. I want to make some remarks on this.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Five minutes.

Mr. Singer: At this moment I will move the adjournment of this debate.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Let us hear the remarks.

Mr. Singer: It is two minutes to one, the House adjourns at one o'clock and I want a reasonable time to present my remarks.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Five minutes!

Mr. Singer: I move the adjournment, if the House does not carry it—

Mr. Sopha: While the Cabinet is not here, we might outnumber them.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker we will rise on Wednesday afternoon at six until a week the following Tuesday at 2.30, and I would like on Monday and Wednesday to eliminate the private members' hour because there is certain government business we would like to complete before the Easter recess. We can pick up those hours later on in the course of the session.

On Monday we will continue with this debate and second readings, and the House in committee of the whole; and we will not have the private members' hour on Monday and Wednesday. I want to complete the estimates of the Attorney General and then, of course, we have the motion by the leader of the New Democratic Party which will be dealt with on Tuesday afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, just before this motion is put, I was very interested in the hon. Prime Minister's comments on this matter. We on this side hold the private members' hour as something rather sacred and while we are quite prepared to go along with the requirements to carry on with the government business a bit faster in the few days before the adjournment for the Easter recess, I would bring to the attention of the Prime Minister that this is something that I would really liked to have heard of before it was announced in the House. It seems to me, that doing away with the private members' hour, even for a day or two, is something that we really are not keen to do. I would ask the House leader, Mr. Speaker, that surely this would be a useful exercise in public relations if this were agreed upon before it was simply just stated, unilaterally, by the government.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not wish to state anything unilaterally, but the whole question

of the provision of fixed hours for private members' business was adopted last year on the basis of an experiment. It has not been done for many, many years in this House.

We agreed among ourselves that we would approach it in this way to see how it worked out. I think we must accept the fact that government business must come first. This is accepted in every other jurisdiction.

When we discussed the procedures at the beginning of the session, I do not recall whether the leader of the Opposition was at this discussion or not, but I said then, when the three parties met together to discuss the future arrangements of the House, that I would want to examine the proposition of some limitations on the number of hours that would be devoted to private members' bills.

There is nothing unusual about this—there is a limitation—and I suggested, at that time, that it seemed to me perhaps ten weeks, of two hours each, would be sufficient in the session.

There comes a time when we simply must get on with the government business, if we are to complete the business that must be completed, the government business that is before the House.

Mr. Nixon: Is the Prime Minister really saying now that we are through with the private members' hour?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: No, not at all, because we have, to date, had ten—there have been five weeks of two hours apiece. I propose to discuss this with the two Opposition parties before any decision is made and I am in the process of bringing together some material which would provide a basis for discussion.

Perhaps the reason I did not consult the leaders about this earlier is that when I was sitting here this morning looking at the order paper, and in view of what we have been able to accomplish this morning, and at the same time thinking of certain bills to which we want to have Royal assent before the House rises for Easter, that other steps may be taken while the House is enjoying the Easter recess, I thought it might be in the interests of all concerned if we just did not have the private members' hour.

This does not mean that those hours will be lost to the private members. They will come back later on in the session.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves the adjournment of the House.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, may I, just before the motion is put, confirm an impression that I got from what the Prime Minister said? I take it that he does not envisage that we will return to the Budget Debate before Easter. Am I right in that?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, my great difficulty in conducting the business of the House is that I have no estimate as to how long anyone is going to speak on any particular topic. I would say that the Budget Debate, probably at this stage takes about third position.

In other words, I want to complete some of the legislation on the order paper. I want

to complete the estimates of the Attorney General and then—

Mr. Bryden: I can draw my own conclusions.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: —when that is done, we will examine as to how many hours are left and how we may best fill them in. We may have an opportunity to go into the estimates of another department but when I look at what is here in the legislative area of the order paper, perhaps we will not, because we will rise at six o'clock on Wednesday night.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1:05 o'clock p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, March 20, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1967

The House met at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: In the west gallery, Kent senior public school, Toronto; and in both the east and west galleries, students from St. Anthony's separate school, Toronto.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present the final report of the select committee on conservation authorities. The report concludes two years of review and inquiry and contains 127 recommendations designed to further the conservation of soil, water, wildlife and forests of this province.

It is not my intention to read all of them, but I would like to draw your attention to some of those the committee considers most important. They are concerned with The Conservation Authorities Act and its administration, with municipal representation and long-range planning, and with finance and land expropriation, water pollution and the use of resources for recreation. One in particular deals with the protection of the Niagara escarpment.

First of all, I would like to thank the 12 other members of this House who served with me on the select committee. I also want to acknowledge the generous cooperation we obtained from officials of Ontario and federal government departments and agencies and in particular the help of The Department of Energy and Resources Management. Many of its professional people and specialists provided most valuable assistance and advice. We were grateful too for the briefs we received from conservation authorities, municipalities and other organizations and individuals. They contained many useful suggestions which have been incorporated in our final recommendations.

Last but not least among those to be thanked are the staff of the select committee,

Mrs. H. G. Rowan, the secretary; Mr. James A. Taylor, the legal counsel; Mr. H. G. Hooke, the technical advisor, and Mrs. G. M. Beacham, who handled all the stenographic work.

I think it is only right and proper that I should at this time recognize over 100 members from 36 conservation authorities from across the province who grace our galleries here today. Mr. Speaker, these are the people who have done such a successful job in conservation in the province of Ontario.

Tens of thousands of miles were covered by the select committee and its staff. We visited a number of outstandingly successful conservation jurisdictions in the United States as well as many conservation authorities in Ontario. We are most appreciative of the assistance and attention given us by officials of the Tennessee valley authority and the Muskingum watershed conservancy district.

The select committee on conservation authorities was appointed in 1965 and re-appointed in 1966 during the fourth session of the 27th Parliament of Ontario. It was authorized to enquire into and review the constitutions and powers of conservation authorities, the system of financing, the administrative practices and methods of the authorities and their powers of expropriation.

The interim report of the committee was tabled during the fourth session of the 27th Parliament after 22 hearings had been held. During the two years of enquiry the committee received a total of 113 briefs and held a total of 99 hearings—77 of them after the tabling of the interim report. All who were interested were afforded an opportunity of appearing before the committee.

As many members are aware, conservation was already a grassroots movement when The Conservation Authorities Act was passed in 1946. There are now 36 conservation authorities in the province. They cover over 25,000 square miles and there are 853 municipal and provincial representatives who administer a combined annual budget of over \$28 million.

The select committee found that people today are more concerned than ever about conservation, floods, drought and pollution.

There is a feeling of anxiety about the condition of our natural resources as a growing population makes increasing demands upon them. Many of them are diminishing or are threatened with destruction. The need for effective conservation measures is more urgent than ever before.

For the most part the 127 recommendations of the select committee are aimed at extending the scope and depth of conservation activities in increasing the resources of the conservation authorities, whose work has all too frequently been hampered by a lack of funds. The committee proposes that The Conservation Authorities Act be renamed The Conservancy Act and that The Department of Energy and Resources Management be renamed The Department of Conservation and Energy. It recommends that this department have the responsibility of administering the parks integration board, the Great Lakes institute and the government farm pond assistance programme as well as 14 provincial Acts related to conservation. Only a few of these are now under its jurisdiction.

The committee believes that there should be broader representation of municipalities on conservation authorities—an increase of two people where the population is larger than 40,000, and one member in the case of smaller municipalities. We recommend, also, that the qualifications of a municipal appointee to a conservation authority be similar to those of a candidate for municipal office. The select committee was persuaded that careful long-range planning is essential to the success of conservation activities in any watershed. We recommend that every conservation authority be required to prepare a long-range conservation plan; that every plan should be approved by The Department of Energy and Resources Management; that land designated for acquisition in a conservation plan be purchased by authorities within three years of the date that the owner serves written notice that he desires to sell; that any phase of a conservation plan approved by the Minister of Energy and Resources Management (Mr. Simonett) can be implemented without further approval, except for the financing of the work. In the opinion of the committee, all approved conservation work, including maintenance and resource management measures and private lands should be eligible for grants.

We also recommend that steps be taken to expedite the payment of these grants to the authorities. The Conservation Authorities Act provides that the Minister of Energy and

Resources Management may approve grants up to a limit of \$10,000 without reference to the Treasury board. The select committee feels that in the light of today's costs this figure is unrealistic and recommends that the limit should be raised to \$25,000.

The committee also proposes that The Department of Energy and Resources Management provide the funds to match at the approved grant rate the money raised by authorities for approved conservation expenditures. Land expropriation was one of the most frequently discussed subjects at the committee's hearings. There was criticism of the methods used by conservation authorities and of the basis of determining compensation.

Conservation authorities, meanwhile, have faced a dilemma. They must designate land for long-range community and regional planning, and protect the public purse against speculation. At the same time, they must safeguard the owner against hardship and a drop in the value of his land. To ensure fairness and solve problems in the area of land expropriation, the committee recommends that owners of land expropriated receive 110 per cent of the appraised value, plus reimbursement for reasonable legal and appraisal costs.

The owners, in our opinion, should have access to the appraisers' reports on which valuation has been based. We believe that conservation authorities should obtain at least two reports from licensed appraisers on each parcel of land expropriated, and recommend that the authorities' offer shall be single and final. We further recommend that a development fund be established by the province to finance the acquisition of land by conservation authorities.

To conclude, here is a quick rundown of some other major recommendations in five important areas:

Recreation: We recommend recognition of recreation as a primary resource use and that adequate emphasis be placed on it in all new conservation plans.

Water pollution: Under the terms of The Conservation Authorities Act and in co-operation with the Ontario water resources commission, conservation authorities have the power to control pollution. We recommend that they exercise this power.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): That is some recommendation, that one!

Mr. Evans: The member should read the rest of the 127 recommendations.

Education programmes: We recommend that consideration be given to increasing the number of schools participating in conservation education, this to be done by modifying the limitation of an average daily attendance of 10,000 children.

The Niagara escarpment: The beauty of this geological phenomenon is threatened by urbanization and commercial activities. To protect it, the select committee proposes that the provincial government, local municipalities, conservation authorities and other groups get together and formulate a long-range policy and development plan. This plan will take into consideration the escarpment's aesthetic and hydrologic features, the economic importance of the limestone, shale, granular deposits, the local municipal by-laws governing the operation of pits and quarries, municipal land-use by-laws and the scientific, historical and recreational features of the escarpment.

In technical assistance, we recommend that the complement of field officers should be increased so that adequate technical liaison and assistance be available to the authority.

I have endeavoured, Mr. Speaker, to provide a summary of the highlights of the report of the select committee on conservation authorities. I believe that all of its 127 recommendations are in the public interest and worthy of consideration by the members of this Legislature.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister, can we take it that this report will be placed on the order paper and debated before the election?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the report, according to the practice we have established in recent years, will be placed on the order paper as a matter of business, and will be called in the natural course of events in this House. I have no idea of the other matter to which the hon. member refers.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Who has any idea if the Prime Minister has not?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: The member seems to have more idea than I have!

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Introduction of bills.

WHIRLPOOL RAPIDS BRIDGE

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Whirlpool Rapids bridge.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for a grant in lieu of municipal taxes for the land and structures required for the Whirlpool Rapids bridge.

LEWISTON-QUEENSTON BRIDGE

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act respecting the Lewiston-Queenston bridge.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Speaker, this bill provides a grant in lieu of municipal taxes for the land and structures required for the Lewiston-Queenston bridge.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Lands and Forests): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day—

Mr. Speaker: I have one question if the member would like to put it now please.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of University Affairs.

Would the Minister please indicate whether the recent advertisement describing the student awards programme for 1967 and 1968 was placed by The Department of University Affairs in the French student newspapers as well as the English student newspapers of this province?

Part two of the question: If this advertisement was placed in English student newspapers only, would the hon. Minister please explain the reason for not advertising also in the French-speaking student newspapers?

Hon. W. G. Davis (Minister of Education and University Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the alterations to the student award programme are now in the final stages. Some preliminary ads were put in both student papers and in the daily papers. I understand arrangements have been made to have an advertisement in *La Rotunde*, if I am correct, which is the Ottawa University student newspaper. I believe the space reserved there is for March 28 and it will be appearing in that particular student newspaper on that date.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Mr. Speaker, the hon.

member for Woodbine (Mr. Bryden) asked the hon. Provincial Treasurer a question last week when I was not in the House, and I have the answer to that now. I would like to give it to him.

His question was: Will the Provincial Treasurer elaborate on his statement of Monday last before the orders of the day by: (a) Indicating as to the 2,901 units stated to have been constructed or purchased in Metropolitan Toronto, how many were constructed and how many were purchased?

The answer to that sir, is: Newly constructed, 638; purchased, occupied and unoccupied, 2,263; total, 2,901.

The second question asked that we provide for the whole province, figures broken down in the same way as those given on Monday for Metropolitan Toronto; including the breakdown asked for in clause (a) of this question.

The answer to that is: Number of units constructed, 4,280; of this, newly constructed, 1,793; purchased, occupied and unoccupied, 2,487; total, 4,280.

Number of units under construction now, 2,721; contracts to be awarded within 60 days, 2,394; existing units approved for purchase, 433; preliminary planning or design stage, 5,368; existing units offered to be purchased within three months, 825; total, 16,021.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister let me ask a supplementary question, just to clarify what he said? Apart from the breakdown as between constructed and purchased houses, were the figures he gave now the same as those given in his statement before the orders of the day last week?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Yes, they were.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Speaker, I have a statement on new hunting regulations.

In 1960, hunter safety training was made compulsory for all new hunters. During that hunting season, before this requirement was fully enforced, there were 154 accidents involving the use of firearms in hunting with 36 fatalities. The average for the last five years has been 118 accidents and 14 fatalities. In 1966, it was 117 accidents and 13 fatalities.

There is some satisfaction to be derived from these statistics. Hunting is much safer, considering the many millions of man-hours involved, than many routine, everyday activities. I might add that this House—I think I should include everyone—in endorsing this

programme did not give The Department of Lands and Forests any significant amount of extra money to carry it out. It was done by organizing an army of instructors, persons who passed an examination showing that they themselves were competent, and who undertook to train our youth on their own time. We owe an immense debt to hunting and angling clubs, service clubs, cadet corps of various types, leaders of youth groups and many ordinary citizens who did the training. There are now almost 125,000 persons, mostly young people, who have earned certificates of competence in hunter safety since the programme was begun.

At the same time, we realize that this programme has inherent weaknesses. Although all the instructors have been examined, there is an enormous difference in the standards of instruction, and there are gaps in our instruction system in many parts of the province.

We would like to draw an analogy between the history of hunting licences and driving licences. For many years, as you know, new drivers with a variety of training or no training at all were examined by a large number of local citizens who served as examiners, but the result in terms of assurance of real competence on the part of the new driver was not satisfactory. Now we have a rigidly standardized examination given by uniformed officers of The Department of Transport. In the case of the hunting licence, there was another complication in that we retained a provision that was used only in the very earliest years of driving licences, namely that a licence was issued on the basis of a simple declaration of experience.

By virtue of a regulation passed on March 2, hunting licences are moving into a stage comparable to driving licences. They will now be issued only to persons who can produce a licence previously issued to themselves in Ontario or in some other competent jurisdiction, or who have passed a standardized examination given by a conservation officer trained for the purpose.

For the first year we will continue to accept the certificates of competence as a substitute for examination but there is a terminal date for this. The old declaration of experience has gone.

I should add that the examination, which consists of a written test of the "true or false" multiple-choice type, and a practical test to show knowledge of a firearm, is based on the hunter safety manual, prepared in collaboration with the Ontario federation of anglers and hunters, and the odds are very

much against anyone passing the examinations without having had instruction. The manual itself will be altered from time to time as it is our intent that the examination should cover the knowledge of regulations, of wildlife, and of what might be called the ethics of the countryside.

The instruction programme will be as active as ever. Certificates of competence will continue to be issued, and this work will now be in the safety section of our operations branch, whereas the fish and wildlife branch will carry out the work of examination. I might add that we propose in time to streamline and modernize our licensing system with modern machinery, to give us useful statistics and records that can be used in law enforcement.

In the meantime we are aiming—if I may use such an expression—at the plateau of hunting accidents which we now seem to have. They are all unnecessary. I should add that the Ontario safety league has unceasingly kept before us the fact that more hunters are drowned than killed by bullets. We see an urgent responsibility when we license a person to use a firearm, and perhaps less where boats are involved, and still less for the hunter as a motorist going to and returning from his recreation, but our safety programme is an integrated programme, and we see our direct contact with hunters as an opportunity for service which we will use our resources to meet.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to clarify Ontario's position in regard to a newspaper report in today's *Globe and Mail* attributed to the Hon. J. J. Greene, Minister of Agriculture for Canada, in which he compares Ontario's position in ARDA with other provinces, and states that ARDA—and I quote—"just is not catching on in Ontario". In this connection, Mr. Speaker, I wish to state that the full federal ARDA allocation will be used in Ontario in the fiscal year just ending and, Mr. Speaker, our Budget which this House just recently approved, uses the entire allocation for the next fiscal year.

I would like to say that the unused portion of the first year of the second ARDA agreement will be picked up in the next fiscal year. Now, Mr. Speaker, I can only say that if Mr. Greene did in fact make the statements that are attributed to him—

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): I heard him; I heard him!

Hon. Mr. Stewart:—he is very poorly informed on this matter and I would say, Mr. Speaker, that if the hon. member for Sudbury heard him make that statement and did not challenge him on it then he is doing something less than carrying out his responsibilities for Ontario.

Mr. Sopha: He said all you worry about is the golden horseshoe, and I would swear an affidavit to that effect.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Mr. Speaker, every dollar made available to this province by the federal government for ARDA grants is being utilized and matched on a dollar for dollar basis by this province. This currently involves \$43 million in 104 ARDA programmes either completed, underway, or approved. Now, when the Hon. Mr. Greene refers to ARDA funds being used in other provinces he should be fair enough to state that many of these funds are being made available from a special \$50 million ARDA fund administered by the federal government under the federal Rural Economic Development Act. Federal ARDA officials are not very optimistic about the application of this source of funds in the province of Ontario because the criteria that have been established by federal ARDA requires massive unemployment and low income before an area can be designated for such assistance. Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate more than anyone would ever know, that if Mr. Greene can get more money out of ARDA we will welcome it in Ontario and match it dollar for dollar with anything they can give. What is more, if we can get money from this \$50 million ARDA fund that they administer, and that they say does not apply in Ontario because this government has an unemployment rate in this province that is the lowest in Canada. Since we cannot use that money, then I would like to request the Hon. Mr. Greene to use his influence with his colleagues to increase Ontario's share of ARDA funds.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I know the Minister would like the record to be complete and that it should show that in the first ARDA agreement Ontario missed out on \$10.5 million.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any debate on the statement.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Do I have to call for order again? The Minister of Public Welfare would like to make a statement.

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to announce to the House that this morning I had the privilege of signing on behalf of the province and the government of Ontario the agreement under the Canada assistance plan. While I am speaking, I think it is finding its way to Ottawa to be signed by the Minister there, the Hon. Mr. MacEachren. In this respect I may say that Mr. MacEachren had written me a letter when he enclosed the agreement. Of course I am not at liberty to quote it, but I am delighted to make known the fact that he has in his letter to me commended the contribution that was made by—

Mr. Singer: I thought he was not at liberty to disclose it.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am going to—

Mr. Singer: He is going to disclose it in his own way and in his own words.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am going to paraphrase it. He has paid commendation to the contribution made by my immediate predecessor (Mr. Cecile), and in conjunction with him a gentleman who is extremely well known on a general and intimate basis to all members of this House, the Deputy Minister, Mr. James S. Band. I put on record, not only Mr. MacEachren's feelings but my own personal sentiments of the tremendous contribution that Mr. Band has made, leading up to the culmination of this signing by me as Minister of this agreement in his presence as a witness.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity of making known to the members of the House the same—and I am only able to make known some because of the extensive programme—details of the payments which will be made under the regulations to The Family Benefits Act. They will become effective on April 1, 1967, and the department is now engaged, and has been engaged, in the herculean task of converting the programmes to the new conditions to be spelled out in the regulations. Because I know that members have expressed an interest in these matters and will be called upon in the days ahead to give the details to their constituents and people who turn to them, I will be giving

some detailed explanation of this new and comprehensive programme that is being implemented.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that the Act provides that an allowance shall be paid to any person in need. The regulations state that a person in need is anyone who by reason of disability, age, loss of the principal family provider, or permanent unemployment is unable to provide adequately for himself and his dependants. This is a broad and generous provision that includes all those eligible under previous legislation and adds a sizeable number of others.

In recent years we have pressed the federal government for a revision of the definition of disabled persons and in the regulations the meaning of the term will have been widened significantly. For the purpose of assistance, we hope to recognize any person with a major physical or mental impairment that is likely to continue for a long period of time, and as a result is severely limited in activities pertaining to normal living, as being one in need.

In the same spirit a grant is being made to a person who is unable to engage in remunerative employment for a prolonged period of time.

These modifications will mean that many persons now dependent upon municipal assistance will now be accepted on a provincial programme, and others who were unable to qualify under the previous stricter definitions will now be acceptable for benefits.

Another notable point is that the Act and regulations express the principle that where a person is a member of a family, the needs of the household as a whole are to be considered. For example, instead of granting one type of allowance to a husband and perhaps another type of aid to his wife, they will qualify as a couple under the same programme. If a man, for instance, is eligible for old age assistance at 65 and his wife is only 62 years of age, their requirements will be considered as a family couple rather than as individuals.

I wish to point out also that several further classes of persons will become eligible for allowances and benefits. First, in certain instances the wife of a recipient of a federal old age security allowance will be eligible under The Family Benefits Act, whether or not her husband is in a mental hospital, sanatorium, or welfare institution. If the wife is in need and 60 years of age or over, she will qualify.

In the same manner the wife of a recipient or a former recipient of provincial welfare allowances will be eligible if she has attained 60 years, or has dependent children. This means that when a husband qualifies for any of our allowances, his wife and family, as I mentioned above, will be included as beneficiaries. It means further that should the husband die, his wife will continue without interruption on the allowance, providing she has children dependent upon her, or if she is alone and is at least 60 years of age.

Persons who require specialized attention and reside in any type of welfare institutions, including a home for retarded persons, will continue to be eligible for provincially paid maintenance allowance. One notable improvement is that disabled persons living in such homes will now be among those who will qualify when in need. The payment for residents of group homes and institutions may be increased from the flat rate of \$75 monthly up to the amount of \$105, which includes a comfort allowance of \$15 monthly. In all of these allowances under The Family Benefits Act we have got away from the old flat rate grants which were required under the former agreement with the federal government.

My predecessor and I have carried out negotiations with the federal government that resulted in this better type of shared cost programme than was available under the categories of welfare assistance. It was the wish of this government that cases be treated according to individual requirements of the persons rather than the method of a flat rate categorical allowance. The influence of our point of view was acknowledged by the federal Minister of National Health and Welfare—now the former Minister—at a federal-provincial conference in April, 1965. The Hon. Judy LaMarsh stated:

I think I am right in saying . . . a clear consensus [has] emerged. . . . Broad objectives in terms of the form of a new public assistance programme were stated by several provincial representatives. Mr. Cecile of Ontario, for example, expressed the view that "it is timely for the federal and provincial governments to proceed with all-inclusive legislation which will bring into reality a proper basis for the cost sharing arrangements in relation to the various welfare programmes that are essential to Canadians as a whole." He went on to suggest that "a new approach must be taken in serving those persons who have eligibility for public aid on a continuing basis; indicating the desire of his province,"

that is Ontario, "to be in a position to develop a budgetary approach to public assistance which would promote suitable standards of assistance as well as improved administrative practices toward meeting individual case requirements."

These were the remarks of that Minister of National Health and Welfare, and I am delighted to say that we now have the concurrence of the federal authorities to establish the shared cost allowances on a budgetary basis.

Under the Canada assistance plan, the federal government will reimburse 50 per cent of expenditures in the full range of maintenance programmes. The Canada assistance plan is unlike the former categories of welfare assistance or the old age security programme which is geared to earmarked taxes. The categorical flat rate allowances with their means test are replaced by a unified budgetary programme with an allowance calculated on an individual basis for each person, or couple, or family in need.

The basic system is to calculate a budget for each specific case, subtract any deductible income and pay the balance as a maintenance allowance. The budget consists primarily of two classes of items, first what we have called a pre-added budget item, and second, a shelter allowance. The pre-added budget is an amount designed to cover the costs of food, clothing, utilities, household supplies and personal requirements for a single person, or for various sizes of families. The shelter allowance is planned to meet the costs of rent, taxes, mortgage payments, or property upkeep of the recipients' premises.

The regulations are planned to permit, through the pre-added budget and the shelter items, an allowance for the single person up to \$105 per month. In addition, where extraordinary needs are evident, a supplementary payment of up to \$20 monthly will be available as heretofore. To this I should add another favourable provision, that where a person is blind or disabled he will be granted, in all cases, a further sum of \$10 monthly to meet the costs of transportation. The single disabled person living alone will in many cases obtain a monthly cheque of \$115. This is not the maximum obtainable, for in these remarks I am dealing in average allowances rather than in maximums.

In these individual calculations of need it is possible that a person, because he has special circumstances such as free shelter, or is boarding, would ostensibly require a lesser amount. In these cases we have set a minimum

figure on shelter costs of \$23 monthly. The amount of the pre-added portion of the budget for a single person is basically \$62. This means that no single person without income, even if he has exceptionally favourable circumstances, will get less than \$85 monthly in allowances.

A married couple, living together without children, may be eligible for an allowance that could vary between \$130 and \$203 monthly. If there were outside income, that might change the picture, of course. But we have allowed for what I believe are generous exemptions for earnings. A single person could earn up to \$24 a month and a couple, \$36 a month, and still receive the maximum in allowances.

In reference to the family with children, the allowance is, as I have mentioned, based on personal conditions and it also varies according to the number of persons in the household. I will not attempt to go into all the variations possible, but I should like to give the members some examples in order that they may have a clear understanding, Mr. Speaker.

We may take as one example, a family of four, which may be taken as an average family—the parents and two children. The case I will cite is an actual case which we have on the rolls and which is, as I say, representative of many cases. Here the pre-added budget for food, clothing and other household requirements is \$163 monthly. Shelter costs are \$95. An amount of \$10 may be allowable for transportation and \$10 for life insurance premiums. The monthly allowance therefore adds up to \$278. Other benefits are free Ontario hospital services insurance, free Ontario medical services insurance and free dental care for the family. In addition, of course, Mr. Speaker, \$16 is received monthly in family allowances.

If the children are of school age it is quite possible that the mother would take part-time work. At present, 15 per cent of the recipients of mothers' allowances are in fact earning additional money. We consider this to be a commendable effort on their part. Not only do they increase their income while maintaining a home, they also keep in touch with the workaday world, which is desirable psychologically and a preparation for the day when their children are grown and they are able to achieve economic self-independence.

We encourage part-time employment with generous exemption for earned income. Let us consider the family of four: the mother could earn \$60 a month without any reduc-

tion of the \$278 monthly allowance. If she earned more than \$60, as well she might, we would not deduct from the budget all the excess above that figure. A further sum amounting to 25 per cent of the excess would be exempted. Let us say the mother earns \$160 monthly, then \$85 would be the total exemption. Add this to the \$278 allowance and the net income could be \$363 monthly for the four.

Mr. Speaker, I have a number of instances here which I would like to cite quickly and this will give the members some idea of the broad range of people who are being affected under these new benefit payments. There is a case of a widow who is typical of the many single people who occupy rooms in the rooming-house area in downtown Toronto. He is aged 66 and in fair health. He pays a weekly rental of \$10 for his one room and eats most of his meals in small restaurants. No other income is available. The calculation of the allowance for food, clothing, utilities, household supplies and personal requirements is \$62, shelter \$43, which is a monthly allowance of \$105, Mr. Speaker. Then, on top of that he has free medical coverage which is calculated at \$5, free hospital coverage at \$3.25, which means a total allowance in benefits of \$113.25, as compared with \$83.25 formerly, an increase of \$30.

I have another instance here. A single man aged 40, who because of severe diabetes and Buerger's disease has been deemed disabled. He resides in the Kingston rooming house area, he pays \$10 a week for one heated room, has no other income. The calculation of allowance for those necessities that I have referred to is \$62, a special diabetic diet of \$10.30, travel and transportation \$10, shelter \$43, for a monthly allowance of \$125.30, with an addition of \$8.25 for those other benefits that I referred to. This makes an allowance payment of \$133.55, which is an increase of \$50 over his previous payments.

In the instance of a young lady, aged 29, who is single and resides in Ottawa, deemed to be a blind person, she lives in the home of her brother and sister-in-law and is required to pay board and lodging. No other income is available. The calculation of her allowance is for food, clothing, shelter and personal requirements \$85, travel and transportation \$10, medical coverage \$8.25, for benefits totalling \$103.25, an increase of benefits of \$20.

I would like to get into some family situations. A man aged 67 and his wife, occupying their own home in Georgetown, Ontario. He worked until the mortgage was paid off, but was unable to continue. She is 64 and is

not disabled. For food, clothing, those other items—personal requirements—total payment in the new programme of \$96, for shelter \$34, for a payment of \$130. Additional fuel allowance in addition in winter of \$29, so that the monthly allowance in winter time is \$159. The medical coverage and hospital coverage benefits total \$16.50, with total benefits under the new Act of \$175.50, compared with \$91.50, an increase of \$84.

Mr. Speaker, another instance I have here of a man aged 57 living with his wife aged 50. The man is deemed disabled by reason of his severe heart condition. They occupy their own five-room detached house in Oshawa. They are required to meet a monthly mortgage payment of \$60, plus taxes of \$12, no other income is available. Their personal requirements I mentioned total \$96, travel and transportation \$10, shelter—which includes mortgage, principal, interest and taxes—of \$72, for a monthly allowance in the summer of \$178, and a fuel allowance of \$24.65, which means a total monthly allowance in the winter of \$202.65. The medical benefits total \$16.50. So there are total allowances and benefits of \$219.15, an increase for this particular family from \$91.50 to \$219.15, an increase of \$128.

Mr. Speaker, I could recount additional cases that I have here before me, but as I say, the allowances are based on the variable conditions of personal circumstances. I have given you an idea of the variations, a fair idea what a single person, or a couple living alone, or a family group may obtain under The Family Benefits Act and the regulations.

I have avoided using maximum figures and have tried to illustrate what should be the average range. Certainly, in every case recipients would not reach the top levels of income, but we have established the minimum allowances and we have ensured that no one will fall below a certain level of maintenance.

Allow me to point out again that this legislation expresses the basic principle that allowances are to be geared to the specific need of the person or family, in contrast to the impersonal flat rate grants that we have had under the shared-cost programmes.

The legislation also expresses the principle that, where a person is a member of a family, the needs of his household as a unit are to be considered. This will avoid the complications of several members of the same family having to apply for different types of aid. This principle is of incalculable benefit to the family, and at the same time simplifies and facili-

tates our administration. It will, in many cases, relieve the municipalities of financial responsibilities and administrative tasks.

I should like to turn to a third principle, namely that in all types of cases there will be the same financial basis for granting a maintenance allowance.

Insofar as maintenance is concerned, there is basically a uniform test of need. We are no longer required to apply one standard to mothers' allowance applicants, for example, and a different standard to an applicant for old age assistance. We shall distinguish the reasons for eligibility, such as age, blindness, disability and the plight of the unemployable father or the mother with dependent children. But the budget set up to determine their needs, and the maintenance payable will be the same kind of budget in each case.

We shall be spending \$106 million in the coming fiscal year for allowances which, for the same type of cases granted assistance under the old categories, in the current represents an increase of \$20 million.

Other social legislation will be affected by the signing of the agreement to which I referred, but I do not propose to go into these aspects at this time. My remarks on this occasion are confined to the implications of The Family Benefits Act.

At this time again, Mr. Speaker, I should like to pay tribute to those members of the department within the public service who for the past months have been giving of their time and energy almost unsurpassed in the history of the department because of the time limits with which we were confronted in meeting the fruition of the plan as it was developed, and in the payment of the cheques.

I am hopeful, Mr. Speaker, that the initial cheques under this plan will be payable during the month of April—the plan goes into effect as of April 1. We hope that the cheques will be in the hands of the recipients during the month of April. When you consider the fact, I repeat, that this plan is geared to the individual needs of specific persons, single, and couples, and the family units, where each has to be converted to this programme, members can well understand the Herculean task that has required night work during the week, and weekend work, all in the interest of the recipients.

Mr. Speaker, when this legislation becomes operative a few weeks hence, at the start of this new fiscal year, we shall have, I am confident, a more generous, a more comprehensive, a greatly improved programme for

the benefit of the people of Ontario, when we speak of a province of opportunity, we mean not just opportunity for some, or opportunity for many, but of opportunity for all.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would permit me to ask one question with regard to his very interesting statement?

I would like to ask him what happens to people who do not fall into any of the categories detailed in The Family Benefits Act, but who would, I presume, continue to come under The General Welfare Assistance Act? How are they to be treated? Will the Minister have anything to say about them, either now or when the bill to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act comes up for second reading?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, The Family Benefits Act has been proclaimed as in effect. What I have delineated are the payments of the allowances under The Family Benefits Act, and I would ask that starting from now that the concept of even referring to the old categories be completely forgotten.

Mr. Bryden: Well they are all set forth in the Act—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That we now refer to payments under The Family Benefits Act.

Mr. Bryden: Will you change your Act?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: There is on the order paper the amendments to The General Welfare Assistance Act. That will be receiving second reading in due course, then there will be regulations which will be implementing that Act.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, but has the Minister planned to say what he has in mind with regard to this category of people who receive general welfare assistance? He cannot get around categories when he still has them in his legislation.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might ask the Minister, would those recipients now receiving assistance have to reapply for additional assistance, or will it come through automatically?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Their applications and their status have been examined and they will be going out in the ordinary course.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The third order; second reading of Bill 34, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES ACT, 1967

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare) moves second reading of Bill 34, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Speaker, on second reading of this bill, does the Minister plan to make any statement about it?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, at the time that I introduced the Act to the House, I commented that because of changing concepts in the area of human betterment a new emphasis was indicated in providing additional services to families and individuals. We are taking a broader approach to their problems.

I remind the House, Mr. Speaker, that The Department of Public Welfare came into being in September, 1930. In the three and a half decades since, there has been a tremendous growth both in the maintenance allowances and in the services programmes. This growth and change was in fact undreamed of during the first three decades of this century.

At the time the department was established, the responsibilities assigned to it under the statutes encompassed the operation of houses of refuge—a term long since a part of ancient history and orphanages also disappeared from our terminology—along with the boys' training school at Bowmanville, which has been replaced by a completely new name, some children's services, the soldiers' aid commission, the old age pension commission and The Mothers Allowances Act. At the present time the department administers 15 different Acts, many of which include multiple programmes.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I should like to pay tribute to some of my predecessors. There have been some 11 in number. I make mention of one whom I have known through the years, David Croll, now Senator David Croll. He was one of those who, in the very early beginnings of the department, played a very important role. I am delighted to recall the fact that the hon. member for Grey South (Mr. Oliver) was on two different occasions Minister of Public Welfare and it was he who had the responsibility along with Mr. Croll during, and I accept them as such—the difficult days—first in the 1930s and then in the days of wartime, for administering the programmes during that period of time, and I take this opportunity of paying tribute to those two members on the opposite side

of the political fence, for the contribution they made in the early days of the establishment of this department.

Of course, in recent times, I refer to the contribution made by two men well known to most of the members of this Legislature. Mr. William Goodfellow, who for many years was the Minister of Public Welfare, and then again, I have referred to him earlier, the Hon. Louis Cecile, as he was then known. In fact, I have come to the conclusion—in reviewing as a crash course the legislative programme of the department, and the extensive broad range that it has brought into being—that the significant thing is that really the history of the recent developments in the legislative and other programmes of the department, is the personal history of Mr. Cecile during the years that he was Minister.

We are preparing to advance to another progressive stage and to give greater emphasis to new functions and services. The work of the department at this stage might be explained as having these main aspects: allowances to individuals and families; subsidies and supervision for other public social services, such as those of municipalities and children's aid societies; subsidies and supervision for institutions for the aged, for the handicapped and for the children; and the operation or support of rehabilitative and auxiliary programmes.

The department is organized into a main office and two divisions, the two being the programmes division, and a finance and administration division. I have all the details of those divisions and branches here, Mr. Speaker. I shall just touch on them, so that I shall review for the members, some of the headings under which we carry on our work.

The family benefits branch directly administers a range of allowances paid to families and individuals. Each month more than \$5 million in cheques is mailed to an average of 100,000 beneficiaries. These income maintenance programmes assist persons who for a variety of reasons—I recited them earlier—are unable to maintain themselves. Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of this House as they review the Act and the statements I have made, whether there is anywhere in Canada a programme to compare with the allowances which we are paying and the exemptions which we will be providing for additional income to be earned.

The child welfare branch, Mr. Speaker, is primarily concerned with care for children throughout the province who require special services. The 53 children's aid societies and

some 42 institutions for children receive financial grants, supervision, advice and inspection through this branch. If a child has to be finally separated from his mother and father, or is voluntarily given up, or is an orphan, the children's aid societies find permanent homes through adoption. More than 6,500 boys and girls were accepted by adopting parents last year. This year again a new all-time record will have been reached.

Mr. Speaker, our child welfare legislation and services are the envy of authorities on the continent. Our Act and the services rendered by the autonomous children's aid societies are recognized everywhere. Again Mr. Speaker, I ask this rhetorical question: Where do you find the incentive to support private children's homes to the extent that we do in the province of Ontario?

Mr. Speaker, the child welfare branch also supervises the construction and operating grants for these privately operated children's institutions. We have maternity homes and institutions for children and youth which have been rapidly developed as modern well-staffed group homes. There is the day nurseries branch, whose primary function is the supervision of group programmes for pre-school children in nursery schools and children under nine years of age in day nurseries. This is carried out by licensing and inspection and the developing of programmes. There are over 120 day nurseries in the province of Ontario for young children whose mothers are working. A number of these receive provincial and municipal funds, the rest are operated by private agencies and individuals.

Ontario has the most advanced legislation of any Canadian province both for the protection of young children in day nurseries and pre-school education programmes and for the financial support of municipalities establishing public nursery centres of all types. Last year, I remind you, legislation was introduced increasing from 50 per cent to 80 per cent the provincial share of operating costs.

Homes for the aged have achieved an unprecedented growth in this province. As one travels the length and breadth of the province, as we in the Treasury benches have the opportunity to do, and I know the leaders of the Opposition have the opportunity, one cannot help but admire, as each member in his own riding admires, the tremendous advances that have been made in this regard. In the past decade and a half, the total accommodation has increased 300 per cent.

I remind the House, Mr. Speaker, that the home is no longer a house of refuge. "What's in a name?" Shakespeare asks. The home

for the aged has been transformed with a completely new attitude and approach both on those who live within those homes, and on the part of the public at large.

The very handsome contribution made by the province of 50 per cent of the capital costs to municipalities building homes for the aged, and the \$5,000 per bed to charitable organizations, the 70 per cent and 75 per cent operating costs reimbursements are what have been stimulating factors.

As of last October, in 1966, there were accommodations for 12,000 residents in 63 municipal homes and 66 charitable institutions with 5,500 residents, with seven new buildings under construction.

Last year the concept of rest homes was introduced in legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it is the homes for the aged branch which supervises and inspects these homes that receive subsidies. I recall for you, as members have noted, the excellent well rounded programmes that are in existence within these homes because we not only provide, as I have said, a place for living for our senior citizens, we have made and are continuing to attempt to make the living worthwhile.

Mr. Speaker, the office on aging is a recent development within the branch, and it is the one that will undertake the research, evaluation and distribution of data on aging and the aged in our society. It is this office that will evaluate for the main office the recommendations brought down in the excellent committee on aging.

The general welfare assistance branch, Mr. Speaker, is the branch that supervises the assistance to the municipalities in the operation of the local welfare programmes and, of course, where there are no municipal organizations the branch operates the direct administration of the welfare programmes.

The family services branch, a very recent development, is a new branch for the purpose of giving special attention to the social problems of families. This branch will be responsible for services to individual cases and it will also participate in the development of service programmes for families in local communities.

The services offered are to be extensive and varied. They include counselling, employment placement, rehabilitation and the treatment of other social problems such as marital discord, poor financial management, debts and housing difficulties. This indicates the direction in which we will be going.

Mr. Speaker, the vocational rehabilitation services branch exists to offer medical restoration and vocational training to handicapped persons to enable them to accept employment.

A staff of social workers are stationed throughout the province to assist those who apply for, or are referred to for aid. When one examines the full programme, the opportunities that are made available to those who need rehabilitation services, I ask you where else will you find a better programme for the handicapped in this regard?

It is this department which has under its jurisdiction the Indian development branch. As you know, the Indians in this province are entitled to receive the benefits administered under this Act on the same basis as any other citizen. The significant part of this branch is that the work it does is not the work of the department alone, but there will be extended a very broad interdepartmental programme, because the life of our province is becoming so complex—

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Did the Minister say it will be?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: It is being extended to include even a broader representation, so that every facet which might be called upon to serve the specific need of the Indian across the province will be made available. I think, for example, of The Department of Economics and Development which will have two aspects—the economic development of a community as a whole as well as the housing branch for specific locations. But government business is becoming so complex that the idea of the interdepartmental committee is a very effective way to ensure that all of the government services can be brought to bear for the need of either the specific communities or the specific individuals.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Does the department have the Minister of Energy and Resources Management helping with the Indians?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, we have a planning and research branch which is being formed to carry out surveys and information-gathering projects in all subjects relating to public social services.

Mr. Speaker, my personal position in this is well known to the department. I am a great believer in surveys and the gathering of information, in evaluation and research in order to re-confirm the validity of the programmes we are carrying on; to see if there are any shortcomings; and then, of course, to explore new avenues.

Mr. Speaker, there is the field services branch, which actually does the work throughout the field. Some 300,000 home visits are made each year. There is the soldiers' aid commission, to which I refer to only in passing. There is the finance and administration division which has the responsibility for the coordination of personnel and financial management on a very large scale. As I say, Mr. Speaker, in a department which has now increased, as the estimates show, from \$40 million of only a few years ago within our memory to a budget of over \$200 million, the significance of the financial division can be recognized.

This is the structure of growth which in the last 37 years has grown in proportion to the vast expansion of social services. There has been in this growth, this change in attitude and this change in approach which will bring into being the new Act. The first year of operation of this department when it received its original name was about \$12 million. It is now \$207 million, an increase of over 36 per cent over the current year. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the coming into being of this Act—a new aim—gives us a new plateau for services for the people of Ontario.

Mr. H. S. Racine (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, could I ask the Minister if this means that we will not need any debate on the estimates of this department because he has just made his speech from the estimates at this time?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, knowing the members of the Opposition as I do, I think that must be a rhetorical question. I am sure that the hon. member will have lots of debate in the estimates.

Mr. Racine: I certainly did not expect that the Minister would come along with the entire programme of his department in discussing this bill. In the explanatory note on Bill 34, all it says is this bill changes the name of The Department of Public Welfare to The Department of Social and Family Services. I would like to say that I personally, and I am sure that a lot of people in this House, are very pleased to hear that we will not have a Department of Public Welfare any more. I do not like to quote any of the things that I have said in this House, but I would like at this time to say that on June 21 last year I suggested that the very name—Department of Public Welfare—has a ring of the past.

I presume that the new Minister read that—or he probably read some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis). It should have a much more positive name and a much more positive programme to go with that name. I think it would be appropriate to call it the department of social services. Well it almost sounds like this—Department of Social and Family Services, or the department of human resources. This would emphasize the fact that the department's real function is to help people realize their full capacity; to free people to develop themselves as fully as is possible.

I am very pleased that the name has been changed, and I hope that just as soon as possible we shall never hear again this name of Department of Public Welfare.

One of my hopes, Mr. Speaker, is that not only the name of the department is to be changed, but the attitude. I hope that the attitude of this new Minister has changed from the attitude of this department over the last 24 years. If we have accomplished that, then I would say I am very happy and I am sure all the members on this side of the House will be very happy to see a change in attitude regarding the social services in this province. I think that the time has arrived when a change should be made. I hope it is not just propaganda that the Minister is giving us at this time, and that he and his department will change in their attitude and will see that the unfortunate people of this province get the best possible attention.

Mr. Speaker, my remarks will remain at this. I do not think that the time is opportune to discuss all the problems of The Department of Social and Family Services Act, but I hope that the opportunity will be given to us to discuss the programme of the department in the coming year and I definitely approve of the change. Possibly some other name would have been more suitable but I certainly approve of the change of the name of this department.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct just a few comments to the Minister about this bill on the second reading to change the name of the department. The Minister knows that since I came into the House I have been very much concerned about the fact that there was no central focus in the government on the question of the elimination of poverty, howsoever we may define that term in the province of Ontario on a planned basis over a specific period of time. It would appear to me—I think the Minister

will appreciate this—that in Canada there is no such thing as a federal war on poverty. There cannot be, because of the nature of our constitutional arrangement. There is no way in which massive funds can be directed from the central government directly into community action programmes on a local basis similar to the programme which has been adopted—or the method which has been adopted—in the United States of America, and from which the—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): The American federal government provides funds to junior levels of government.

Mr. Renwick: In substance it provides massive funds through to local communities without in any real sense the kind of intervention that the provincial governments perform in the provinces of Canada, and particularly in the province of Ontario.

Mr. White: I do not think that is quite right.

Mr. Renwick: This happens to be so and the hon. member for London South can enter the debate later on if he wishes to comment about the proposal I made. The fact of the matter is that in the constitutional setup in Canada, a provincial government—the government of this province—would be very reluctant to see the kind of attempt to divert funds directly through to localities for the same purposes as they are directed in the United States. Therefore, if in this government there is to be any place where there is to be a focus and an attention directed to the elimination of poverty—and I am speaking more specifically at the moment of material poverty in our society—it must be centred through this department.

What concerns me, Mr. Speaker, is that the whole tenor of the Minister's remarks, both in his statement before the orders of the day in relation to The Canada Assistance Act, and the tenor of his remarks in moving the second reading of this bill, tend to envisage a constant and continuing enlargement of his department. It seems that this department must grow and expand in an economy such as that of the province of Ontario. Mr. Speaker, I simply direct the Minister's attention to the proposition that if there is to be in fact a change in philosophy rather than just a change in the name of the department, it will be essential that this Minister direct and provide the leadership within the government for a self-liquidating operation so far as that part of his department is concerned which

relates to the adequate provision for people to meet the living standard, or to reach an adequate living standard, in our society.

The Minister, in making his statement, has certainly indicated that there will be a substantial change in the number of dollars that will be available to numbers of people in the province who suffer from disadvantage. But, Mr. Speaker, while we have moved in some small degree from something called a "means test" to a "needs test relationship" or from a categorical flat payment basis to a needs test basis, I am suggesting to the Minister that we must move as quickly as possible from the needs test of any kind, certainly up to a particular adequate guaranteed annual income for people in the province, so that people will not be required to have an individual assessment of either themselves as individuals or of their family unit in order to be entitled to receive additional sums from the government to enable them to live at an adequate standard in our society.

Instead of considering the needs test or the needs provision of The Canada Assistance Act and the needs assessment on an individual basis as something in the nature of a step forward, I would hope that the Minister would consider that that aspect of his department's function must disappear just as quickly as it possibly can, so that people in our society—by filing the most formal of information such as the income tax returns that people in our society are required to file—from that basis will be able to ensure that all people without any needs test, without any other proof of any kind, without any inquiring into their family circumstances, would be provided with the additional number of dollars which will remove the disadvantages that follow obviously from a simple lack of money.

I am not particularly competent, Mr. Speaker, to speak about the other aspects of the Minister's department—the counselling, the individual needs of a family, the individual problems which a person in a family, or a family as a whole, may have in accommodating to the society in the province of Ontario. It may well be that there are many, many areas where counselling services will be necessary, but I am suggesting to the Minister, I am suggesting as firmly as I possibly can, that he would be surprised to see how many of those services where his counselling will be required will in fact disappear if we solve the material problem—the problem of an adequate living standard, the problem of an adequate budget, the problem of an

adequate diet for people, the problem of adequate shelter for people.

In the Minister's statement, while there is certainly indication that additional sums of money are going to be available, I think however if you then ask yourself, will those numbers of dollars provide people with an adequate diet and with adequate accommodation and with the other peripheral advantages that we think of when we say that a person lives at an adequate standard of living, then I think the Minister will appreciate that we are still some considerable distance short of eliminating that level of material need.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that we have to be very certain that the concentration is on the elimination of that material need before we tend to focus on individual persons or families' problems in the society in which we live. If that adequate material level of subsistence and of living in our society is provided, then it would seem to me that all the other areas of the Minister's concern should be simply to make certain that those families and individuals are integrated to other government departments to have the benefit of the services which are provided by those departments.

For example, if there is a special educational problem in a given family, it is The Department of Education that should be able to subsume that problem within its department. If there is a problem of training or retraining of a person, that should be done through the facilities of the manpower services of The Department of Labour. If there is a problem related to adequate housing it should be because it is the overall policy of the government to provide the kind of housing, and not simply a question that this Minister should be concerned about, the adequacy of shelter.

If any individual in the society, regardless of the material level at which he lives, has a problem which is a health problem, then the facilities of The Department of Health should be adequate to deal with all the particular ailments or disabilities or pathologies which people may have. I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, that what we tend to do by having a department, even under the new name, is to continue in a sense to segregate people who require the services of that department from the general community of our society. I am suggesting, Mr. Speaker, that one of the important things which is required by this department in the work of this Minister is to make certain that as soon as possible any indication of segregation or barriers; any indication that people are com-

partmentalized in our departments because of any form of disability or any form of inability to cope in our society, should be eliminated just as quickly as possible. The extent that people are brought into contact with the community in which they live—whether we speak on a local basis or on a province-wide basis—then the sooner we are going to be able in substance to eliminate a substantial part of the Minister's department.

We welcome the change of name. My colleague, the member for Scarborough West, in the debates in this Legislature on June 17, 1965, foreshadowed the very change in name which the Minister has now seen fit to adopt. We think it is a wise change. We think it is a worthwhile change.

But unless it reflects, as the member for Ottawa East has said, a change in attitude and a change in philosophy, designed for the purpose, not of expanding and developing this department into a perpetual and permanent part of the government framework, but designed for the purpose of making certain that as soon as possible at least the poverty in the society to the extent that it can be eradicated by dollars will be eradicated, then we do not think that the department will fulfill what we hope will be the end result, namely in a very real sense the self-liquidation of that part of the department.

The counselling services of the department may very well be necessary, and for all time be necessary because of the fact that individual problems and individual pathologies both of individuals and families run throughout the society. I think that the Minister must direct and focus his attention on eliminating poverty by providing a level of living through the provision of dollars to the people in the society without expecting anything in return; without expecting them always to subject themselves to a needs test.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that if the Minister could set this goal and this objective for himself, then the change in name in the department would reflect a change in philosophy and would be beneficial to the whole society.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, may I on second reading of the bill first commend the Minister for the change of name. In the years that I have been in the House, doing as much constituent work as I possibly could, one of the big drawbacks in approaching a constituent always was, well you will have to have someone from The Department of Public Welfare visit

you. The mention of the name "public welfare" was abhorrent to the individual. Time after time I have heard them say: "I would rather have the local department of social services interview me than the provincial Department of Public Welfare."

The city of Windsor in years gone by saw the wisdom of the change of name, and it used the name "social services". I think the Minister here has gone one up on the city by inserting family services, because no longer can we look upon the assistance to individuals as an individual service. We have got to look upon it from a unit—a family unit.

I wonder whether the questionnaire sent around to the constituents during the past week is one from which the Minister is going to decide on the amount of financial assistance given to the individual receiving public services? Is that the purpose of that questionnaire recently, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: This is not a question period!

Mr. Newman: I thought the hon. Minister could clear this up, because I have received quite a few calls from constituents asking for assistance in filling out a questionnaire in which they have to state their financial abilities, plus other general questions. It certainly seemed to me that this was the idea—the idea of entering into the Canada assistance programme. This would make it a little more feasible for the provincial government to take its share.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly hope the change of name will mean that there will be a change of outlook on the part of the department. No longer will we look upon it as the need of an individual, but look upon it as a need of the whole family. I hope that in the change that we will not be penalizing the student who would like to continue with his education, but because he graduated from secondary school was told in the past: "You had better go out and work and help support your family".

I have had case after case where it was most difficult because the fellow graduating from grade 12 could not go into post-secondary education. He was required to help mother or dad or both in certain instances. I hope we do not deprive this youngster of continuing his education by requiring him now to assist the parent that is in need.

I hope these new changes will mean a better living standard because too many of our senior citizens who were on old age assistance and receiving \$75 a month in the past found that in my community as much

as \$55 of that was required to pay for rental accommodation and it left them only \$20 to \$25 a month to live, approximately 80 cents a day. Everyone in this House certainly knows that at 80 cents a day the best thing you can do is starve quickly, rather than slowly. I hope this no longer is by way of a means test, but that we look upon the overall need of the family as a unit, and by the changing of the name we have changed the complete outlook on the department. Those who were in need in the past will find themselves with a substantially raised standard of living.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, on second reading of this bill, as long as my voice holds I have one or two observations that I should like to make.

We of course concur in the change of name of the department and all that one hopes it will imply. We recognize that it has been a long time in coming but welcome its arrival. I might say, sir, that some of us on this side of the House have felt for some considerable time it has never been the department as a department in its civil service apparatus which has been the impasse in this regard. One has always had the profound sensation that the bureaucracy—if I may call them that, in the kindest possible terms—of the former Department of Public Welfare has indeed pushed this social principle, has fought for it valiantly behind the scenes and would have been happy to see it instituted many years ago. It has met the resistance of government, both provincial and federal, and it must be in a reasonably cheerful mood at the signing of the agreement this morning and the change of name this afternoon. One does hope that the impulse of the department, the thrust of the department, will in truth be altered by the change in name.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, that the statement of the Minister earlier, before the orders of the day, while it was significant in terms of its emphasis, was perhaps not quite as significant in terms of its substance and continues to cause some of us on this side of the House considerable worry. The Minister made much to point out what he called the average examples of recipients under the new Family Benefits Act with the moneys available from the Canada assistance plan.

In the instances he quoted, if my memory serves me correctly, the increases for those individuals ranged from 50 per cent to 130 or 140 per cent or more. But at the end of his statement, the Minister let slip that the increased apportionment by government would be \$20 million of \$106 million—something in the area of a 20 per cent increase

for The Family Benefits Act overall. So let us not play with the illusion of individual increases which will be 50 to 100 per cent; let us recognize that what the Minister promulgated earlier this afternoon—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

May I call to the attention of the member that I know this debate has been very wide-ranging, and in fact it has been a debate more on the statement the Minister made today rather than on the bill that is now before the House. But although I gave some of the previous members quite a bit of latitude in that regard, I would hope that perhaps the member could restrict his remarks more to the reorganization of this department under its new name.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, with respect, this is the most important part of the department's work. As the Minister himself pointed out, it is certainly one of the most significant parts of the department's work. I shall not dwell lengthily on it, I simply want to make the point that what the Minister was saying was that in this part of his new social and family services department, he will be distributing aid—albeit on a more equitable basis—to an extended increase of only 20 per cent over the next year, to an increased number of recipients, which means it is something less than 20 per cent in the overall.

That is a significant thing; it is a significant thing partly to take some of vigorous wind out of the sails of the individual examples which were cited. But it is significant also, Mr. Speaker, to point out that that is what gives so much relevance to what my colleague, the hon. member for Riverdale, was putting to the House—that as long as we continue to be hypnotized by means tests and needs tests, we will never solve the essential problem of income maintenance in this society, and the only way you can in fact solve that problem is by a guaranteed annual income below which no family shall be permitted to fall. The basis on which that income is computed can be left in the hands of government, whether it is the negative income tax to which the Minister himself referred or whether it is any other variety of application, but the basic social principle is the only answer to this kind of department.

Otherwise a fragmentation of needs tests—although a significant improvement over means tests—will simply mean a perpetuation of individual inequalities across the society. No one is going to pretend, for instance, that a 20 per cent increase across the board for

all the recipients would bring them to more than a subsistence level by present-day cost-of-living standards.

Thus, Mr. Speaker, we would advocate that this department in effect be a department of self-elimination and that the Minister be a Minister of self-elimination and I mean that in the best figurative sense. I think that all the income maintenance programmes should be brought together under a guaranteed annual income and that could be best administered by The Department of Labour or Economics and Development.

Then, when one looks at the Minister's other branches, it become obvious that significant areas of child welfare more properly belong in The Department of Education, that day nurseries imperatively belong in The Department of Education, that aging much more properly belongs in The Department of Health, that the effort to consolidate county units much more properly belongs in The Department of Municipal Affairs or Economics and Development, and that much of the planning and educational functions belong in other government departments.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, the relentless logic of this kind of bill suggests that the department should now be involved in the process of removing itself from the scene altogether, and with it, removing the inequity which the department perforce maintains. I think this would be the greatest social contribution the Minister could make to this province, if he set out under the guise of a temporary Department of Social and Family Services to dismember the department, break down the functions into the logical compartments where they more obviously belong in other areas of government, and in that way streamline them, regularize them and make them rather more equitable in terms of their distribution.

If he would continue to persist in this department for some little time, then one might be so bold as to say to him that the new emphasis, the new priority, should surely be in the area of family and counselling services. He has established a new branch, I think it is the family services branch, with a budget, if memory serves me, of \$300,000 for the coming year, which is one sixth of one per cent of his total budget in the entire department. If in fact family and counselling services are to mean anything in this society, as they must, they are the only viable function of his department in present terms, then I suggest to you strongly that they should be given 40 or 50 or 60 per cent of the budget,

because this is where the contribution can be made.

I think that every member of the youth committee that sits in this House and who has looked at the forlorn and woebegotten state of family and counselling services in this society that all of us would be inclined to put the emphasis in that area. I say, Mr. Speaker, that we will support what I hope is this temporary change of name. We urge the Minister to eliminate his portfolio, to eliminate his department, to dismember it rather more intelligently, and distribute it where it more appropriately belongs—in other departments; to remove all the needs test administered income maintenance programmes and combine them in a guaranteed annual income. Come back to this House two of three days after the Easter recess and say to us: Gentlemen, I have worked hard over the holidays; I have applied all my energies, and I wish to announce an Act to annul The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967."

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE ACT

Hon. Mr. Yaremko moves second reading of Bill 55, an Act to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister have any observations on this Act in second reading?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Following the words of the hon. member for Ottawa East I would refrain at this point, but the purpose of the bill is to bring The General Welfare Assistance Act into line with the requirements of the Canada assistance plan.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Would the Minister explain precisely how that purpose is being accomplished? It is by no means evident on the face of it that all of the changes you are making are necessary for the purpose you indicate, but this is the only explanation we have heard at any stage of the bill. I think on a bill of this kind we should have a fuller explanation of the explanation itself.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That is the basic principle. Mr. Speaker, what I have touched upon is the basic principle of the bill. We can deal with the sections on an individual basis in committee of the whole.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, then speaking to second reading of this Act, let me say at the outset that on this particular day in the life of this Legislature no more anomalous an Act could possibly be put before us. What this Act does is not to bring The General Welfare Assistance Act into line with the requirements of the Canada assistance plan—what this Act does is to violate every single social principle the Canada assistance plan promulgates. That is what this Act does.

It is astonishing, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister should come before the House, before the orders of the day, and make a major address on the noteworthy principles of the Canada assistance plan and then bring in a Family and Social Services Act and then ask us to participate in second reading of The General Welfare Assistance Act which is a seriously retrograde step. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, unless the Minister can adequately explain it later on, it is one of the most retrograde pieces of social legislation on the face of it in the last ten years in this province.

It places the Minister, if I may say to him kindly, firmly arm in arm with the Premier of Saskatchewan. It throws us right back to the work-for-relief concept which I thought even this government had repudiated some considerable time ago.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us deal exactly with the principles of the Act supposedly given in this brief introduction that the Minister mentioned. The Canada Assistance Act, Mr. Speaker, was designed to provide social assistance to people based on need, and need alone. It had another effect. It was meant to combine all eligible recipients, all those qualified, into one social assistance Act. It was meant to eliminate the categories; it was meant to eliminate the fragmentation; and it was meant to eliminate all classes of recipients. Those were the principles of the Canada assistance plan, Mr. Speaker, and I would challenge any member to suggest otherwise.

Interestingly enough, every province in Canada that I can think of—I do not know what is true of the legislation of all of them, but those I can think of that we in the youth committee visited, and certainly in western Canada—have maintained the principles of The Canada Assistance Act. They have brought in their equivalent to The Family Benefits Act—they usually call it a general social assistance Act—and incorporated within that Act are all the previous categories, plus the general welfare recipient.

All the other provinces, Mr. Speaker, have rejected as odious the principle that you con-

tinue to maintain separate Acts for general welfare recipients, and therefore, arbitrarily and unjustly to discriminate between different kinds of recipients. This is just what this Act does. It continues this unfair and arbitrary discrimination between classes of recipients, and it is sad indeed, Mr. Speaker, that the government did not see fit to incorporate this Act within The Family Benefits Act where it obviously belongs.

I must admit that one finds it difficult at times, one is hard pressed to enter the recesses of the Tory mind—that unfathomable labyrinth called the Tory mind—to try to find out what causes them to tick in the direction that they tick and at the rapidity that they tick. I cannot comprehend; I just cannot understand why the Conservative government in Ontario persists in this classification of the general welfare recipient; why they insist in this pernicious labelling of the largest group in society who receive some kind of social assistance allowance.

If, in fact, the attitudes that we talked about, the philosophy that we talked about under The Family Benefits Act, is to mean anything, then this most intolerable of all attitudes must be removed. You cannot continue to discriminate against people on the basis of invidious categories in this fashion which is what this Act continues to do.

It does more than that, Mr. Speaker. It contains by way of amendment, principles that have not been on the books of a statute and amongst the clauses of a statute in this House that any of my colleagues can recall. It sets out by way of principle, classes of assistance with special methods of computation so complicated that only the Minister of Education (Mr. Davis) could perhaps estimate what people will be entitled to receive. It prescribes classes of persons in need. Now how you divide a category of assistance into further classes of persons is something that I do not understand, but maybe the Minister can indicate.

It prescribes classes of municipalities to which grants or subsidies will be given, which suggests, Mr. Speaker, that some municipalities will receive certain grants and some municipalities will receive other grants, which again is a principle heretofore not incorporated in any other piece of government legislation.

So what do you have, Mr. Speaker? You have a separate Act which is invidious in principle; you have the persistence of an arbitrary discrimination against a certain group of people in this society; you have the maintenance of categories—categorical aid in

the face of a purported intent to remove that categorical aspect. You prescribe individual classes on breakdown within that category such as has never existed in legislation before; and you generally flout every viable principle of The Canada Assistance Act in so doing. So the Minister becomes the new Machiavelli and I see no particular reason for him assuming that stance in the face of the legislation which he has brought forward earlier this afternoon.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, because in fact The Canada Assistance Act is so unhappily abused by this piece of legislation, we in the New Democratic Party would like to move and I hereby move, seconded by Mr. Bryden, that the motion be amended by striking out all the words after “that” and substituting the following:

In the opinion of this House, tinkering with The General Welfare Assistance Act as envisaged in Bill 55 will merely perpetuate irrational and unfair discrimination against certain categories of people in need in a manner that is quite out of harmony with modern welfare concepts and the spirit of The Canada Assistance Act, and, therefore, instead of proceeding with Bill 55 the government should bring in a bill to extend The Family Benefits Act, 1966, to all those now covered by The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, in speaking to the motion and the amendment, I would have thought that it would have been sufficient for my friend from Scarborough West to indicate that he, on behalf of his group, was prepared to vote against this bill in principle. We would have been quite content in this party to support a vote against the bill in principle, but I can tell you, sir, that we shall support this amendment because, in the somewhat verbose way in which the hon. member for Scarborough West has phrased it, I take it that it amounts to the same thing.

I had thought before I read this bill after it was introduced that having got to 1967 we were pretty well into the 20th century, that we had almost completed seven decades. But when I read this, I realized that probably we have to wait until we are almost over the threshold in the 21st century, before we can be assured that we are in the 20th, because this one goes back to somewhere around 1895. I share the hon. member's views that the only really germane and vital question in matters of welfare is the one word, need.

Mr. S. Lewis: Right!

Mr. Sopha: I said some weeks ago in the House that after 42 years of living on this planet I have been impressed that the most profound statements and the greatest thoughts which I have ever encountered were put in the simplest language—that is, “Government of the people, for the people and by the people”—a simple statement—“Judge not that ye be not judged”—infinitely simple. The concept of need is infinitely simple.

For example, the telephone rings and there is a doctor on the other end of the line, a very reputable person, and he says, “I have this patient, a young Indian girl, and she has quite a tragic alcohol problem. I have been getting prescriptions for Antabuse for her, paid for by the local welfare office, and now the welfare administrator has said that they will not pay for any more of the prescriptions.”

Now there is where one meets the problem of need, stark and head-on. It only takes a telephone call from myself, happily, to the welfare administrator reminding him that the doctor is a very reputable man in his profession, well qualified to judge the medical aspects of the alcohol problem, and would the welfare administrator kindly call the drug store and tell them it is all right for the girl to get the prescription for Antabuse.

That is a very simple problem, and that problem of whether that Indian girl gets Antabuse to assist her by way of a crutch to ward off the temptation of alcohol, has nothing to do with categories. It has nothing to do with classes of persons. It has nothing to do with any complicated formulas that some ingenious civil servant might devise. Really, without criticizing the bureaucracy—and I use that term in its most salutary sense; that means people who work for government—sometimes I am almost minded, after eight years of experience, that we have a category of civil servant who burns the midnight oil thinking up obtuse and obfuscated formulas and for all I know, maybe in the civil service there is a prize, a trip to Jamaica, or something, in the dead of winter, for getting the most complicated formula.

Well, that is this bill, and indeed in one part of it the civil service is going to arrogate to itself the right to prescribe the classes of assistance, as it says, in the absence of parliamentary interference. All we could do is wait until they are promulgated, wait until they have been created, wait until they have been submitted to the Minister, in anticipation, to see what these classes of assistance

are. I do not like the word classes. I am against the word classes in principle, as a legal word, or as a word used in the writing of statutes. We have no classes in Canada.

The Minister of Health got his classes into the medical services insurance bill. He got his classes in and now he has had to add 40 more telephone lines to the switchboard to handle all the calls. Presumably many of those calls are from people who want to know what class they are in, in order to avail themselves. Well, I speculate, because I do not know what all the hundreds of thousands of telephone calls are to the Minister of Health, but as a matter of principle, I am against—

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): His trouble is he speaks without knowing.

Mr. Sopha: I beg the Minister's pardon?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: That is the hon. member's trouble, he speaks too much without knowing.

Mr. Sopha: Yes. Well, some trivia I do not have to know in order to form a judgment. I do not need to know all the details, but it is the Minister who is getting the phone calls. Not us. Not me. He is getting them, up in that fine new building that he paid the Macnamaras so much money for. They have had to allocate a large part of it for telephone answering.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Sopha: But without being deterred, I come back to this word, the classes of assistance. We in this party have a party whose reputation and record in the social welfare field needs no defence. It stands by itself and is well written on the pages of the history of this country, the part this party has played.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Your mind is made up; you do not want it cluttered with facts.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, and if he wants me to con them by rote, I will tell him some of the pioneering legislative enactments that the Liberal Party—

Mr. Singer: The Minister talked about one today.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, including that one.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Let us hear them.

Mr. Sopha: What an anomaly we saw in the House this afternoon. One Minister gets up and abuses a federal Cabinet Minister

about something he said, and he is followed right on his heels, snapping at the heels, by another one who is lauding another Minister for his initiation of a far-ranging plan of providing assistance to the people of this country.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): That shows the difference in federal Ministers.

Mr. Sopha: And let me say as a matter of principle, boy, they look great, Mr. Speaker, when they are spending federal money. Oh, they look great and they do not hesitate to take the credit for it either. We do not hear them being too forward, when they are spending that money like sailors on shore leave in Panama, in telling the people where it comes from.

Hon. Mr. Dymond: It comes out of their pockets.

Mr. Sopha: I would say that section three is just simply atrocious—for anyone to have the gall to come into a Legislature and ask us on this side of the House to support the genesis of a system like that and to give the power that is provided in the second subsection of that section to a new creation, a municipal welfare administrator. Let me say by way of interpolation, I thought every municipality had one now. The first subsection gives the right to create the post. May be I have been labouring under some kind of delusion, but I thought the major municipalities already had such an official. Certainly we do in Sudbury—a full-time person who is responsible for the administration of welfare. Albeit, it ought to be added, of course, that the municipalities have to pay the cost of that administration and all the employees who are involved in it.

But the second subsection, you will observe, sir, goes on to give that person power to receive applications for assistance and to determine the eligibility of each applicant for assistance. I do not want to debate the details of that, but implicit in the use of language in there is a means test—presumably that is the implementation of a means test, because how does one determine eligibility without the use of some measure of the person's capacity to assist himself?

I express grave disappointment, but I had really thought that all parties in Ontario—at least in Ontario, the banner province of this country—were all marching forward away from that concept of a means test, that we were going to lead that into atrophy and let it disappear. My friend, the hon. member

for Scarborough West, likens it to Saskatchewan, but it occurs to me that this type of legislation puts us just about on a par with Alberta. I would think this is more akin to the philosophy of Mr. Manning and some of his more unenlightened colleagues in Alberta where they are accustomed to talk in terms of the old shibboleths and the old aphorisms about individual initiative and the capacity of the individual to fend for himself.

Of course, in days of big government, big industry, big unions and everything else in the modern environment being of a mammoth quality, the individual grows less and less able to cope with the economic realities of his existence. I am content as a Liberal to stand here on the floor of this House and to say once and for all that as far as I am concerned, welfare statutes need only explicitly refer to the individual's need, and when that need is determined then the rest of us are in a very real sense our brother's keeper.

In that regard let me say I never understand the way this government spends the money provided under the disabled persons' allowances legislation, when they seem to categorize individuals according to their medical complaints. For example, a person has cardiovascular disease. If he has arteriosclerosis—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I do not want to—

Mr. Sopha: Well then, sit down. That is a good place to be—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has completely gone off on a tangent. This has nothing to do with this bill.

Mr. Sopha: I was using it only as an illustration of what I am talking about. And if I may pursue it, indeed they do categorize the various types of illness and they seem to say that if it is a vascular ailment there is no disabled persons' allowance granted. Now, there are exceptions; one does run into exceptions. But the person with the heart attack does not get it; the person with an amputated member, be it a leg or an arm, gets it. It seems to have something to do with the function—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No, no, on a point of order, if the hon. member was paying attention when I was making the statement in the opening remarks, I detailed for him that we have persuaded his friends in Ottawa to do away with the previous categories which were required by them. Now we have a flexible arrangement.

Mr. Bryden: Well now, just be reasonable. The Canada Assistance Act eliminates categories if the provincial government wants to do it. Unfortunately, they have not done it by any means. There is still one huge category here that is discriminated against.

Mr. Sopha: I know the hon. member for Woodbine is going to extend his remarks in this debate and I welcome his participation. I merely take the opportunity to put the position of this party that we support these observations made by the hon. member for Scarborough West, but we do not feel he had to go to the extent of doing it by his amendment. But it is all right the way it sets it out, and fundamentally in principle we are saying this is the wrong road, this is not the route to take that is suitable to the enlightened thinking of 1967, this is retrogressive and backward looking.

In that connection, I will say that sometimes I am too frank, but when I picked up the paper on November 24 and I read in it that this Minister had been shunted off into public welfare, well, that did not make me climb walls. I did not have great pains of euphoria about that, that there would be the dawn of a new age in public welfare, because one cannot expect that and I do not think he is really far-seeing in that regard—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of the hon. member but what this has to do with the bill? It is something he should tell me out in the corridor somewhere.

Mr. Sopha: It has something to do with an election, that is all. We are awfully sensitive this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: Does the member want to speak to the amendment?

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Yes. I believe on an amendment of this kind, both the main motion and the amendment are before the House simultaneously, Mr. Speaker.

It appears to me that the Minister himself is ashamed of this bill. He has resolutely refused to give any explanation of it at all except the cryptic explanation, so-called, which appears on the inside cover of the bill, as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to bring The General Welfare Assistance Act into line with the requirements of the Canada assistance plan.

This is the most that the Minister has been willing to say about this bill at any stage, first

reading or second reading. I think he should tell us why it is necessary to pass his bill in order to bring it into line with the Canada assistance plan. There are some clauses in this bill that seem to me to be at least backward steps. They purport to discriminate even among groups within this great group of the discriminated. They envisage the possibility that there will be discrimination among municipalities. These are new ideas that are at least envisaged in this bill which were not in the old legislation and I would like to know why they are made necessary by the Canada assistance plan.

The plain fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that the best way to bring the legislation into harmony with the Canada assistance plan, at any rate into harmony with the spirit of that plan, is to abolish The General Welfare Assistance Act altogether; that is the only way in which the government will get into harmony with the Canada assistance plan. Admittedly, the Canada assistance plan does envisage categorical programmes of this kind continuing in existence—it obviously could not wipe them out—but clearly the basic purpose of that plan was to eliminate categorical programmes.

The Minister, in his remarks before the orders of the day or rather after those remarks in answer to a question of mine, sanctimoniously stated that in this province we are no longer going to talk about categories of welfare recipients.

His legislation does not bear out his pious statement. Certainly we are going to have to talk about categories of welfare recipients because that is what the law requires. Last year The Family Benefits Act was passed. It lists two pages of categories of beneficiaries. We objected last year to that provision in the Act, but we could not persuade the Minister of the day to alter it. I will say this much in relation to the statement the current Minister made before the orders of the day today: At least those people are not being treated as categories for purposes of benefit. A number of categories are set forth in that bill but as far as those categories are concerned, benefits will be paid to them on the basis of need assessed according to certain formulas. This principle we agree with.

I cannot help but note the point made by the member for Scarborough West that the hon. Minister obviously, in his statement before the orders of the day and in talking about the benefits to be paid to these categories which come under The Family Benefits Act,

was engaging in the normal Tory window dressing.

He cited examples which he said were average examples, every one of which envisaged an increase in benefits for the people concerned of anywhere from 50 to 130 per cent. Yet at the same time he envisaged that the increased expenditures under the Act would only be 20 per cent. Some time the Minister should explain to us how it is that he can increase benefits on average by anywhere from 50 to 130 per cent and still only increase his expenditures by 20 per cent. It obviously is impossible.

It is obvious that the Minister in that statement was picking out some extremely favourable cases to make the whole thing look a lot better than it is. The fact of the matter is that even under his Family Benefits Act, as it is now to be implemented, there is going to be mighty little improvement in the benefits for most people. There could not be the huge benefits for some people which he referred to and still an overall average increase of only 20 per cent, without very meagre increases indeed for most of the people affected.

One can say that the new programme under The Family Benefits Act is a step forward. It institutes a new principle, an important new principle. It does provide for some increase in benefits, but it appears that for most people the increase in benefits will be very meagre indeed. It may bring them up from a sub-starvation level to a starvation level. That is about the most we can see in The Family Benefits Act as the Minister now envisages it.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the hon. member is getting into something which has nothing to do with this bill at all.

Mr. Bryden: It has quite a lot to do with the amendment, because we envisage in our amendment that instead of proceeding with this bill the Minister ought to bring in a bill to wipe out The General Welfare Assistance Act and apply The Family Benefits Act, 1966, to the people now covered by The General Welfare Assistance Act. I want to explain exactly our position on that point, Mr. Speaker.

When we propose that, we are not by any means suggesting that The Family Benefits Act as it is now being administered is anything like satisfactory. We do not by any means concede that the limited increases announced with a great fanfare by the Minister this afternoon are adequate. Nevertheless, the principle of that Act is a desirable principle, and we believe that it should apply to all

people in need. The principle which should be followed is that when people and families are in need they should receive assistance on the basis of their need and not on the basis of the cause of their disability; not on the basis of the category into which they have been assigned by some administrator based on the cause of disability.

The Minister need not bother telling us that he is not continuing this categorical basis, because he is. If a person falls into certain categories, based on the cause of disability—blindness disability, old age, certain other categories—then he will get one type of treatment. He will be covered by The Family Benefits Act. But if he does not fall into any of those categories, if he merely is in need, then he gets a different treatment, an inferior treatment. His needs as an individual, or his family's needs as a family of human beings, can be precisely the same as those of other groups, but they will get inferior treatment because they do not happen to fall into the categories to which The Family Benefits Act applies.

If the Minister can give any rational, logical or humane explanation of that discrimination, I would certainly like to hear it, because it certainly surpasses my powers of explanation. I could not under any circumstances justify that discrimination among human beings living in Ontario who, for one reason or another, happen to be in need. What difference does it make why they are in need, whether it is because of blindness or old age, or disability, or some other cause? What difference does it make if they are in need, legitimately in need? Surely they should receive assistance on the basis of their need. There should be no distinction between the people under The Family Benefits Act and the people under The General Welfare Assistance Act. No distinction at all. I am satisfied that neither the Minister nor anybody else can provide any rationality for any such distinction.

My friend from Scarborough West, and I believe also the member for Sudbury, suggested that they could not understand the workings of the Tory mind. My friend from Scarborough West said that he did not want to get into the labyrinths of the Tory mind, and I can sympathize with him in that. They professed to see no conceivable explanation at all for the discrimination which the Minister insists upon perpetuating. However, I think I can see the reason the government is doing this. It is not an explanation or justification, but I know why they are doing it. They are continuing to discriminate against the people who are now covered by The General Welfare Assistance Act and who constitute by far

the largest number of people receiving assistance in this province. They are continuing to do so because they want to charge some of the cost back to the municipalities.

Mr. S. Lewis: Shame!

Mr. Bryden: That is the reason. You see under the programmes covered—I hope it is now a unified programme as the Minister said—but under the programmes covered by The Family Services Act, the municipalities have no responsibility financially; 50 per cent is paid by the federal government and 50 per cent by the provincial government, as far as the cost of benefits is concerned. But under The General Welfare Assistance Act, the federal government continues to pay 50 per cent of the cost of benefits, but the province puts 40 per cent of its responsibility onto the shoulders of the municipalities. In other words, the province pays only 30 per cent of the cost of the benefits provided and the municipalities are stuck with the other 20 per cent.

It is quite easy to see the necessary consequence of this iniquitous practice, Mr. Speaker. The municipalities cannot afford even to pay the 20 per cent they are now paying. They obviously cannot afford to pay more. So if we were to put the general welfare assistance cases on the same basis as the people under The Family Benefits Act, the municipalities simply would collapse under the load. They could not carry it.

So these people, who are human beings with precisely the same needs as the people who are somewhat more fortunate and are covered by The Family Benefits Act, these people will be discriminated against. They will be kept at a sub-starvation level because the municipalities cannot afford to pay any more money for their assistance. That is the sum total of it.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that the municipalities should not have to pay any of the cost of welfare. It amazes me to hear Ministers opposite speak as if there was some law of God that said that municipalities had to assume certain burdens. The burdens that municipalities have to assume are burdens that are determined by this Legislature and by nobody else. Under The British North America Act as we know, welfare services of all kinds were considered to be within the jurisdiction of the provinces.

It happens that the federal government has taken over the lion's share of the cost of such services over a period of years, but constitutionally these services are under the

jurisdiction of the provinces. There is nothing in The British North America Act or in common sense which would suggest that the provinces should shift part of their responsibility onto the helpless municipalities who have no say in the matter at all.

If a provincial statute says a municipality shall be responsible for providing welfare assistance to certain people as provincial statutes have provided since 1935, if a statute say that, then the municipality is stuck. It has no option and the province is simply fooling it, or trying to fool everybody, when it suggests in taking back from the municipalities part of the burden that it imposed on them and that it is being generous in doing so. There is nothing generous in imposing a burden on a municipality which it cannot carry and then taking back part of the burden.

Mr. Speaker, the time is long overdue for the province to take over the full cost of financing welfare benefits and assistance payments of all kinds for which it is still responsible. In all cases it will be compensated to the tune of 50 per cent by the federal government. It can surely take over that remaining 20 per cent that is now in the hands of the municipalities as far as general welfare assistance is concerned.

If the province would do that, and it should do it quite apart from the arguments I have been making with regard to this bill, it should do it simply in the interests of justice to the municipalities. If it would do that, then there should be no serious problem in wiping out this General Welfare Assistance Act and bringing everybody under The Family Benefits Act. We would then have one statute covering all cases of people in need and providing, at least in theory although it is still not working out that way in practice, that assistance will be paid to them on the basis of their need.

That is the only sensible approach to this problem, Mr. Speaker. Furthermore it is the only fair approach. It is the only approach that is fair to the municipalities and to the recipients of general welfare assistance. I submit to the Minister that rather than pushing this matter to a vote at this time he should do what the amendment has proposed—he should simply withdraw this bill and bring in a bill to extend The Family Benefits Act to everybody.

As a matter of fact, he could shorten The Family Benefits Act. If he did that he could take out two pages of categories which he has listed in that Act which it was necessary

to list in order to exclude the people covered by The General Welfare Assistance Act from that principle of payment of benefit to those in need on the basis of need. The Minister is perpetuating an antiquated principle, a principle that is out of harmony with the philosophy that he himself expressed in moving second reading of the bill to change the name of his department.

I submit to him that he should wipe this ancient statute off the books altogether. He could make an important step forward if he would now broaden the principle of The Family Benefits Act to cover everyone in the province who is in need. I may say that in my opinion that would still only be an interim measure.

I am not for one moment suggesting that what my friend from Riverdale has said is not the basic answer to this problem, but still we can make progress one step at a time. The trouble is that the Minister comes in enunciating a principle out of one side of his mouth and then denying it out of the other side of his mouth so that even a half-way stage is not achieved. We get it only in part.

We get the principle of The Family Benefits Act inadequately applied only to a minority of the people affected, and we have the old vicious categorical, discriminatory principle perpetuated for the majority of the people. The Minister has a lot of gall to come here and say that he is perpetuating that discrimination in the name of the Canada assistance plan. Heaven knows, it took long enough to get the federal government to accept the forward-looking principle of the Canada assistance plan. The Minister should not desecrate that principle by in any way associating it with the bill we have before us now to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I want to make some comments in support of this resolution in addition to what the hon. member for Sudbury has already put before you. In the last session of the Legislature we were very much aware of a new tone in the approach to general welfare assistance, and this was very welcome as far as I was concerned. I know that my colleagues in the Legislature would agree since all of us have to deal with those who are responsible for welfare at the municipal level, as well as with those specialized persons who act on behalf of the Minister and who are employed by his department directly in the centres across the province, who administer the special provisions of the categorical pensions that he is aware of.

Many of us, in dealing with the Minister's employees particularly, have been very impressed with their forward-looking attitudes, and particularly their desire to accommodate the old legislation to what had really become situations that were not properly affected by the old legislation. This is why we were so keen on the introduction of The Family Benefits Act last year.

Then in addition to this, as I was saying, we do deal with those who have the responsibilities at the municipal level for administering The General Welfare Assistance Act. These people, men mostly and women too, have a different approach to this particular problem. Many of us have had to use everything in our personal capacity to urge these gentlemen to bring under the provisions of the Act those who perhaps in some marginal cases could have been excluded. It is the very area of need that we were most concerned with. The difficulties in dealing with the citizens and those with the responsibilities on the scene in this area made us welcome the provisions that were brought forward in the Legislature last year. Certainly, The Canada Assistance Act itself began these changes. Taking some issue with the hon. member for Sudbury, I cannot say that I felt a feeling of euphoria on the Ministerial changes, but I did feel that with the amendments of the Act and the changes in the administration, we could then go forward with a completely new look as far as the provision of welfare without categories and the provision of welfare based on need was so deeply concerned across this province. Now it becomes increasingly apparent that the legislation that the government is going to put before us at this session—embodied particularly in Bill 55—is not going to accomplish the requirements that those of us, as members out across the province, see as a serious and immediate need. It is for these reasons that we would support the amendment that is before us.

There is no doubt that when the estimates of the Minister come before us we will have an opportunity to question him very closely as to the cat and mouse game he has been playing with us as members of the Legislature in his comments concerning the implementation of the legislation that really has been before us since the Legislature adjourned a full year ago. I feel very strongly that the whole tenor of the comments at the end of the estimates of the department under the former Minister last year was in a very progressive vein. Speeches were made by people on all sides of the House bringing to the

attention of the former Minister the particular needs of those who had been under categorical pensions in years gone by, and looking forward to the time, which surely is now upon us, when we can abandon at least those categories and met the needs of blind persons and disabled persons and mothers who have been left without adequate support.

This certainly we welcome, but beyond that there is the general assistance that is required, when we look at those people who come to us as members of the Legislature, and who have not been adequately provided for by the areas of responsibility as they have been set out in the past and are going to be maintained under this legislation. So it is for these reasons, as we see the need that comes upon us as the members in the areas right across the province, that we are critical of what this Minister has brought before us at this time.

There was a feeling in those supporting him in his own department and those on this side of the House who have brought the need before him on many occasions—and certainly before his predecessor—that here is a new administration as far as this area of responsibility of government is concerned. We could have used The Canada Assistance Act, in its implementation through the responsibility of the provincial government, to meet the new requirements that are upon us to relieve the municipalities of the residual responsibilities, financial and administration-wise, on which they have not been adequately meeting the requirements of those people so deeply concerned with this across the whole province of Ontario.

For these reasons we support the amendment before the House and we hope the Minister will examine the possibilities for reconsideration that have been put to him by members of both parties.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Speaker, my comments will be very few and brief.

I would like to speak in support of the motion of the member for Scarborough West. I think that now the Minister is attempting to bring, or hoping to bring, The General Welfare Assistance Act into line with the Canada assistance plan, that this is the time when the department should go one step further by taking the cost of the general welfare assistance completely off the municipalities.

It should no longer be a responsibility of the municipalities. The municipalities should not be responsible for that 20 per cent for which they are now responsible. The prov-

ince should absorb that complete cost. This would enable the municipality to engage in other much needed public works programmes and assistance to education.

The bill we have before us does not eliminate categories as such, it simply changes the name from category to class. Whether it be class or category, it is exactly the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, you will notice that section 7(6)(va) and (da) has been used in defining persons in need or prescribing classes of such persons. Surely today, in the twentieth century, we should get away from the idea of classifying people. Assistance should be given to people solely because there is the need.

In addition to having classes of people, we have gone into classes of municipalities to which grants or subsidies are going to be paid. I think assistance to the needy should not require a classification of municipalities. If the province were to assume the complete costs of general welfare there would be no need for classes of municipalities. This Act should be withdrawn by the Minister and an Act presented that would fall completely in line with the Canada assistance plan.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I should like to touch on a point or two that has been raised by the members opposite.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, we should recognize this fact. The hon. member for Woodbine asked me at great length for the reason for the Act, then proceeded to answer part of it. These are two different Acts, because they cover two different types of programmes. One is a provincial programme, the other one is a shared programme; that is why we have two Acts.

Mr. Bryden: The Minister means he sticks some of it on the municipalities.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, when all the legislation has been implemented by the regulations, when the budget of this department is approved, a substantial burden will have been removed from the municipalities. I announced earlier to the House the switching of the 60/40 ratio in the child welfare. I announced this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, bringing in of family benefits. By virtue of the extension of the classes and the interpretation of disabled persons, substantial numbers of people will be taken out of this programme. We are enabled to do that to bring them into the family benefits programme.

I remind this House, Mr. Speaker, that there is under The Department of Municipal

Affairs, the unconditional grants through which municipalities do receive funds to make up for their portion of the welfare. And those members who have been in this House in the course of the history of the development of The Unconditional Grants Act know that the grants were brought into effect in order to be able to do this.

Now the members of the NDP seem to want to put all the welfare administration of this province out of my office, out of my desk, and I am surprised that the members of the Liberal Party are now falling in with that line, because it has yet to be proved to me that that is the best way to administer the type of instance where this type of assistance is required. The bulk of the people coming under the general welfare assistance are short-term cases quite unlike the people who come under the family benefits. There are a few, I imagine, a very small number, who are going to be there for extended periods of time, but ordinarily the average are on a short-term basis within the municipality and the huge bulk of the costs are picked up by this province. But I have yet to be persuaded—I speak to the hon. leader of the Opposition—that when he refers to certain of the administration at the local level, the answer to those problems in some situations in some municipalities throughout the province would be solved by transferring it all onto my desk. I have yet to be persuaded that that is the ultimate answer.

Mr. Speaker, some mention has been made of the specifics of section 7 in defining persons in need and prescribing classes of such persons. Those sections are made necessary in order that we bring ourselves into the terms of the Canada assistance plan in accordance with the agreement which I signed this morning.

I bring to the attention of the House that this is an extension of sections which are in the Act prescribing classes of assistance, prescribing classes of persons who are eligible for assistance. We now have used that terminology for whatever it is worth, in order to bring ourselves into line with the Canada assistance plan.

Mr. Speaker, I do say this, that it was not the intent of either myself or of the department to bring in amendments which would be by way of a complete review of The General Welfare Assistance Act; that will await another time and another day, but I know this will be done.

I want to divert my remarks to the hon. member for Sudbury. I am willing to debate

with him any place at any time within the province of Ontario the record at the provincial level of the Liberal Party and the record at the provincial level of the Conservative Party.

Mr. Sopha: For once, the banging of desks is even more foolish than the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes, the hon. member for Sudbury is the one who is going to go down to Ottawa and is going to change things. There were rumours, but when the chips are down he just backs right down. I wonder why he is not running—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, we are debating The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. Sopha: You know, Mr. Speaker, I predict the hon. member for Scarborough West is going to put this fellow in the hospital when he starts on him.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I am directing my attention to the remarks of the hon. member for Sudbury. You see, I am not familiar personally with the type of assistance that is being provided under The Family Benefits Act. My family never had a disabled person, we did not have any persons on old age pension, but I can tell you that I am deeply and intimately familiar with The General Welfare Assistance Act of this province.

Mr. Bryden: Well, why does the Minister discriminate against these people?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Because, Mr. Speaker, in 1934 to 1943, when the Liberals were in power at the provincial level, I got an intimate knowledge of The General Welfare Assistance Act and I am willing to debate the record of the Liberal Party up and down the streets of Hamilton in relationship to The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. Sopha: Will the Minister permit me to ask a question?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: No, the hon. member made his speech, I will make my speech.

Mr. Sopha: I just wanted to politely ask the Minister a question.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: If it is a polite question, it will be the first one in the history of his performance in this House.

Mr. Speaker, the record of the Liberal Party in general welfare assistance in this province is a shameful record. I can tell you—talk about—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I would like to get this debate back in order so I would ask the Minister if he would simply reply to the question.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I was asked—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I would simply ask the Minister if he would reply to the remarks made by the Opposition members on this amendment and to the main motion in general, so that we can conclude the debate.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I conclude my remarks by suggesting to the hon. members of the House, please vote against the amendment. Vote for the bill so that we, I, or the department can get ahead on putting more money and more assistance in the hands of the people that need it.

An hon. member: That is right.

Mr. Speaker: The member for Scarborough West moves, seconded by the member for Woodbine, that the motion be amended by striking out all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

In the opinion of this House tinkering with The General Welfare Assistance Act as envisaged in Bill 55 will merely perpetuate irrational and unfair discrimination against certain categories of people in a manner that is quite out of harmony with modern welfare concepts in the spirit of The Canada Assistance Act, and therefore instead of proceeding with Bill 55 the government shall bring in a bill to extend The Family Benefits Act, 1966, to all those now covered by The General Welfare Assistance Act.

The debate being concluded, I would remind the members that by reason of a return to the full adoption of rule 56 in the 1965 session, when a motion of this kind is moved, to strike out words, as in this recent amendment by the member for Scarborough West, the first question I must put is that whether or not those words shall stand.

The House divided on the motion to read Bill 55 for the second time and the motion was agreed to by the following vote:

AYES

Allan
Apps
Auld
Bales
Boyer
Brunelle
Butler
Carruthers
Cass
Cowling
Davis
Downer
Dunlop
Dymond
Edwards
Gomme
Grossman
Guindon
Harris
Hodgson
(Scarborough East)
Hodgson
(Victoria)
Johnston
(Parry Sound)
Johnston
(Carleton)
Kerr
Knox
Lawrence
(St. George)
Mackenzie
MacNaughton
Morningstar
McKeough
McNeil
Noden
Olde
Peck
Price
Pritchard (Mrs.)
Randall
Reilly
Robarts
Rollins
Rowntree
Spoonor
Villeneuve
Walker
Wardrope
Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Wishart
Yakabuski
Yaremko—52

NAYS

Ben
Braithwaite
Bryden
Davison
Farquhar
Freeman
Gaunt
Gisborn
Gordon
Lewis
(Scarborough West)
MacDonald
Newman
Nixon
Oliver
Paterson
Racine
Reaume
Renwick
Singer
Smith
Sopha
Whicher
Worton
Young—24.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 52, the "nays" 24.

Mr. Speaker: I declare the main motion carried.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Clerk of the House: The fourth order; resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

THE SECURITIES ACT, 1966

(Continued)

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I was more than a little surprised to listen to the remarks of the hon. Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree) in justifying the vague and uncertain fashion in which he brings Bill 54 before us.

In this bill he says: "Forgive me. We would like to give you details about what we are going to do to control finance companies, but we are unable to, so we are going to embark in broad general terms to give power to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to enact regulations. "Now I," says the Minister, "do not think that is the proper way to bring in legislation but this is the only way we can do it because we are not sure what we can do."

And then in a fit of anger, Mr. Speaker, he got up and hurled the challenge at us in the Opposition benches and said, in effect, "If you dare vote against this, this means that all you do is criticize, and that you want to prevent us from taking any positive action insofar as controlling finance companies is concerned."

Well fascinatingly, Mr. Speaker, the same morning that this bill was introduced for second reading, this Minister had two other bills, and if you accept his words at face value, one would think that the same kind of logic that he applied to The Act to amend The Securities Act would have applied to The Used Car Dealers Act. When we asked him, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure you will recall, what he was going to do about used car dealers, what his policy was, why he needed merely to extend powers to regulate, he would not tell us because I do not think he knew. There was no more justification for bringing in The Used Car Dealers Act in the vague and uncertain way in which it was introduced than to bring these amendments to The Securities Act before us.

Then, Mr. Speaker, the same morning as well, we had before us An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act, where he decided that he was going to give power to remove auditors if they were not deemed to be—I want the exact words because the Minister would—he was going to give power to the registrar to remove an accountant who was not deemed to be competent.

This Minister is a very exact Minister in his use of terminology and phraseology when it suits him, Mr. Speaker, and only when it suits him. One would have thought that he would have had the same principles in mind when he came before us insofar as Bill 54 is concerned, but I am afraid that we have to come to the conclusion that it is his attitude, as it is the attitude of this government, that the less they tell the Legislature in the form of legislation, the less they tell the public, and the better off it is to everyone's good. Big brother knows better. Big brother is going to look after you and you just trust us.

This government has become very expert in identifying the problems. They are expert in identifying the problems and then bringing in bills that have all the right names in them. They go along with that identification of the problem. And every now and then, they fool the public and they fool the public sufficiently so that those gentlemen who write editorials for the Toronto *Daily Star* seemed to be led completely astray in one of their editorials in the newspaper today. They said in an editorial in that paper today that in one sense the Ontario government's new security legislation on finance companies is a case of locking the garage door after the car has been stolen.

I wish it was at least that, Mr. Speaker. I wish it was, but unfortunately we do not know whether the garage door is locked or not. Nor does the Minister know, because the Minister says this is going to enable us to embark on a four-month study or a six-month study to determine what we really must do. Having reached that point, Mr. Speaker, one must inquire, where is the report on the Prudential examination that the Minister said would be produced on March 10? Today is March 20. We do not know if they have locked the right door or not because we do not know what that investigation is going to reveal.

You remember, Mr. Speaker, the investigation behind closed doors was conducted by unnamed people. Apparently it did not need the watchful eye of the chairman of the Ontario securities commission because when

we asked that question, the Minister blithely told us, oh no, he had nothing to do with the investigation so it was all right to let him go to the stock exchange. But here we are, ten days after the Minister's announced date and we do not know really to what extent the barn door was open. Why does the Minister hesitate in bringing that report before us, or is there trouble? Is that one of the reasons, perhaps, why the chairman of the Ontario securities commission left—because there was trouble in that investigation?

Mr. Speaker, I only use this as an illustration to point up the real problem in this Act. This Act is at least premature to the extent that the Minister has not had the good sense to bring the public of Ontario and this Opposition into his confidence. Let us see the full extent of sins of omission and commission that caused the Prudential affair. This House denied us and the Prime Minister denied us the opportunity to have this matter examined by the legal bills committee. This House resisted the important demand for a public inquiry, so we do not know what has gone on, nor do we know what the Minister has in mind when he brings this statute before us.

As I say, sir, this is perhaps one of the most blatant examples of giving big brother the power. Let us be confident that having given big brother the power, everything is going to be all right. One would have thought that this government would have learned its lesson when Bill 99 was introduced into this House and withdrawn with such shame and chagrin. One would have thought at that time that the government would have learned the lesson that it is important when they are introducing new and far-reaching and important legislation that they must do more than give the Lieutenant-Governor in Council power to make regulations. But unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this is not the case. This is not the case at all.

The key section in this Bill 54 is section 2, which gives the Lieutenant-Governor in Council a whole new flock of powers to enact regulations. And the Minister calmly admits on the floor of the House that while they do not really know what they want to do, they are going to find out soon, they are going to start another study.

As my colleague, the hon. member for Sudbury is wont to say, they are the world champion studiers. Without question of a doubt they have more investigations and studies and reports and commissions that produce absolutely nothing except further

identification of the problems. There is no satisfaction in this at all, Mr. Speaker, to those small investors—those immature investors, to borrow the Attorney General's (Mr. Wishart's) phrase—who lost their money in Prudential Finance.

Unsophisticated! I am sorry; unsophisticated investors who lost their money in Prudential Finance!

There is nothing here, Mr. Speaker, not a word here in Bill 54 that gives one word of encouragement to people who might find themselves in the same position in the event another such tragic incident occurred.

I listened very carefully to the remarks of the hon. member for Riverdale, and while I agree with him that it would be advantageous if we had a new Act called the finance corporations Act or something along that line, I do not think the rose by any other name is going to smell any sweeter. I would like to see meaningful laws, and I do not really care what title you put on them as long as they are there.

But I think it is wrong; it is wrong in principle, it is wrong in democratic principle, Mr. Speaker, when the Minister comes before us without any formed ideas, merely to rush into the breach with a vague, airy-fairy piece of legislation that in fact means nothing but merely an announcement of another study.

At the same time as this series of laws comes forward from this Minister, one would have hoped to have heard that there is going to be a real change in the setup of the Ontario securities commission. When this department was within the control of the Attorney General, he tabled before us a management report showing what increases in staff were going to be required. To really inspire confidence, Mr. Speaker, I would have thought that as the Minister began to unfold his new and face-saving legislation, he would have been prepared to announce at the same time that at least the recommendations of the management consultants were going to be adopted, that at least the Ontario securities commission was going to be given the money and the bodies to carry on their job competently.

Because even if this was a good piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker—and it is not, it is a poor piece, a second rate piece of legislation—even if it was the best imaginable, it is worth no more than the paper on which it is written unless this government is determined to make it work. And we have seen no indication, Mr. Speaker, as the government has nibbled away at the various financial laws,

that they are determined to make them work. There has been no indication whatsoever that there are going to be moneys made available to the Ontario securities commission to hire competent lawyers and competent accountants so that the proper type of enforcement can take place.

I say, Mr. Speaker, nowhere could this be better highlighted than the fact they are sitting so cosily on the report of the Prudential investigation. Not only are they sitting so cosily on that report, Mr. Speaker, that one must become suspicious of its delay; but they are unable to tell us who is conducting it, nor are they able to explain to us how government people can properly investigate their own action. So one must need be very suspicious, Mr. Speaker, in this whole programme as the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs brings it before us.

Finally, sir, I say this: If the government is at all serious about giving these new and important responsibilities to the Ontario securities commission, one must again wonder how long it is going to be before they give the Ontario securities commission a sufficient degree of independence to allow them to carry on their job; clear from even the suspicion of government interference and government control. Because you will recall with me sir, that every report that came forward recommended that the Ontario securities commission be given that degree of independence that would be necessary to allow them to function as a completely free, independent body removed from political suggestion or political influence.

None of that do we see at his time, Mr. Speaker. I unfortunately have to come to the conclusion that the learned gentleman, as I say, who wrote his editorial perhaps missed the boat and got caught up in the hon. Minister's excellent PR work. Let us not be fooled in the province of Ontario and let us not believe that the mere identification of problems brings a solution. Let us not imagine, Mr. Speaker, that the introduction of a bill written on a piece of paper, merely because it is headed An Act to amend the Securities Act is going to be a cure all or an end all.

Let us look at this bill. I am sure as we look at it we will recognize it is a pale shadow of what is required. Not only that, Mr. Speaker, it is an excuse for new studies and new reports and new committees. Not only that, Mr. Speaker, there is no guarantee of any staff that will make it work. And not only that, Mr. Speaker, there is no guarantee that the Ontario securities commission is going

to be given sufficient independence to allow it to do the job that the various investigating bodies have recommended.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

ST. CATHARINES CLUB

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland) moves second reading of Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

TOWN OF BLIND RIVER

Mr. S. Farquhar (Algoma-Manitoulin) moves second reading of Bill Pr30, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

CITY OF OTTAWA

Mr. A. B. R. Lawrence (Russell) moves second reading of Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE CITY OF LONDON

Mr. J. H. White (London South) moves second reading of Bill Pr35, An Act respecting the board of education for the city of London.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

Clerk of the House: Second order, committee of the whole House; Mr. N. Whitney in the chair.

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

House in committee on Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the town of Burlington.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill Pr14 reported.

TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

House in committee on Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill Pr17 reported.

BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

House in committee on Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

On clause 1:

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, on clause 1 of this bill, can we get any explanation from the Minister of Municipal Affairs before this bill goes through as to why he will not put this type of amendment in the general legislation. I do not suppose it is necessary again to point out that this House saw fit to grant the township of North York, as it then was, this privilege in the last session of this Legislature. There is a bill before us from the borough of Scarborough asking the same thing; there is a bill before us from the borough of Etobicoke asking for the same thing.

Why should all the time and legislative process of the House be wasted in this repetitive legislation when the House has obviously approved the principle over a year ago? Now it is necessary to put the borough of Scarborough and the borough of Etobicoke to the needless expense, and to take up the time of this House needlessly, to authorize for two specific municipalities out of the thousand-odd that we have, this sort of privilege. Surely the House deserves the explanation of the Minister as to why he will not extend this type of legislation to all the municipalities in the province of Ontario.

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): Mr. Chairman, in answer to the hon. member's question, there are no amendments to The Municipal Act dealing with this matter before the House at the present time. You either deal with this bill or you do not.

Mr. Singer: Why is it not done in an economical and businesslike way?

Hon. Mr. Spooner: Because I do not want to be economical and businesslike in respect to this matter, so there now.

Section 1 agreed to.

Sections 2 and 3 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill Pr29 reported.

THE CANCER ACT

House in committee on Bill 33, An Act to amend The Cancer Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 33 reported.

THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS ACT

House in committee on Bill 49, An Act to amend The Public Hospitals Act.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 49 reported.

THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS ACT

House in committee on Bill 50, An Act to amend The Private Hospitals Act.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 50 reported.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs) moves that the committee of the whole House rise and report certain bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed, Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole House begs to report certain bills without amendment and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will concern itself with what appears on today's order paper under "other motions" on page 7 as item 16 standing in the name of the hon. member for York South (Mr. MacDonald). Thereafter we will consider bills, both readings as well as House in committee and estimates.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, March 21, 1967

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1967

The House met at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests students from the following schools: in the east gallery, Alexander Muir public school, Toronto, and in the west gallery, St. Gabriel's separate school, Willowdale and St. Timothy's separate school, Willowdale.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Motions.

Introduction of bills.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ACT, 1964

Hon. J. R. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Ontario Energy Board Act, 1964.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

THE ENERGY ACT, 1964

Hon. Mr. Simonett moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to amend The Energy Act, 1964.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): **Mr. Speaker,** I wonder if the Minister would indicate the purpose of these amendments?

Hon. Mr. Simonett: **Mr. Speaker,** under the amendments to The Energy Act, we are changing some of the definitions and under The Energy Board Act it will just bring it in line. It is more or less housecleaning.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): **Mr. Speaker,** today I am pleased to announce that the regulations required pursuant to The Securities Act, 1966, have been completed and will be available for general distribution early next week.

Hon. members will recall that late in January I announced that an intensive programme to complete the regulations would be carried out with a view to having them available as early as possible. The regulations have been approved and will be available at nominal cost either through the Ontario securities commission or the Queen's printer. This I believe will enable all interested parties to familiarize themselves with the regulations in plenty of time for the May 1 effective date of the legislation.

The regulations provide the details of additional financial disclosure required for all filings, and the form and detail of filings of the prospectuses for mining, industrial, investment and mutual fund companies.

In addition, the regulations provide for the statement of material facts required to be filed with both the commission and the Toronto stock exchange as it relates to primary distribution through the exchange.

There are also a variety of additional forms specified, including those for insider trading reporting.

Mr. Speaker, during the federal-provincial conference on securities regulations in August of 1966, consideration was given to the regulation of mutual funds and investment contracts. Following a proposal by Ontario, it was decided that the available information relative to the operation of mutual funds and investment contract companies in Canada was not sufficiently detailed; and that a committee should be appointed to consider this and related matters with a view to seeking recommendations as to the possible enactment of legislation.

I am pleased to announce today, **Mr. Speaker,** that in accordance with this decision the Canadian committee on mutual funds and investment contracts has been established. My committee will conduct an extensive study of mutual funds and investment contracts in Canada. Its purpose will be to obtain complete information concerning open end mutual funds, including funds sponsored by trust companies and investment contracts.

On this basis it is hoped a determination may be made as to whether legislation in addition to the existing legislation is required for the protection of the public interest in Canada. The committee has appointed Mr. James C. Baillie, of Toronto, as director, and Mr. Claude Bruneau of Montreal, as associate director of the study.

Mr. Baillie graduated from the University of Toronto law school as a gold medalist. After his call to the bar, he attended Harvard law school where he studied securities regulations and was awarded an LL.M. degree. His thesis, "The Protection of the Investor in Ontario", has been published. Mr. Baillie is associated with the law firm of Tory, Tory, DesLauriers and Binnington, in Toronto, and lectures in securities regulations at Osgoode Hall law school.

He has previously worked on special studies for the Ontario securities commission, the Royal commission on Windfall and the federal task force on securities regulations and corporate disclosure.

Mr. Bruneau, who is also a lawyer, is a former special assistant to the federal Minister of Justice and worked on studies relating to federal regulation of securities. He is assistant secretary of Steinberg's Limited, in Montreal.

Additional persons are being added, and will be added to the staff of the study as circumstances dictate.

Apart from the structure of mutual funds and investment contract issuers, the scope of the study will extend to such matters as the relationships of the issuers with management and selling companies and investment dealers, and also to any problems arising in the sale to the public of mutual funds shares and investment contracts.

The study, Mr. Speaker, will in large part be conducted through research projects in specific areas to be undertaken by individuals and institutions qualified in those areas. Organization work in this connection has commenced.

Written briefs will be solicited from the industry and interested persons. Consideration will be given to holding public hearings at a later date.

The study is being financed jointly by the federal government, which is contributing one half of the cost, and all of the provinces of Canada, which are sharing the balance. It is anticipated that it will require at least a year to complete the study.

Now if I may, Mr. Speaker, while discussing this general area of mutual funds and federal-provincial cooperation in the public interest, I would like to touch briefly on a related matter.

As you may be aware Quebec's Prime Minister, Daniel Johnson, has suggested to the federal authorities that a federal-provincial conference on the whole question of financial institutions and securities legislation should be convened. Mr. Johnson has gone so far as to propose to Prime Minister Pearson that he use his good offices to convene such a conference in the immediate future.

A little more than a month ago Mr. Johnson pledged the full participation of his province in such an undertaking. I wish to point out at this time, Mr. Speaker, that we in the Ontario government strongly support, and have supported from the beginning, the position taken by Mr. Johnson. Ontario is on record as wholeheartedly agreeing with the observation of Mr. Johnson that the urgency surrounding these matters makes an early conference appropriate.

We are anxious to see federal initiative and federal leadership in this area which we believe to be of vital importance to the public interest across Canada.

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Sir, there was a question asked during my estimates concerning the filing of the names of the milk producers who had received quotas during the period March 22 to May 18, 1966. At that time I promised to refer this matter to the Ontario milk marketing board. The matter was discussed before the standing committee on agriculture with the quota committee of the milk marketing board. We were advised at that time by the chairman of the milk marketing board that he would refer the request to his board, and if they agreed with the request he would have no objections himself to tabling the names of those who had received the transfers of quotas.

Yesterday I received from the Ontario milk marketing board the following letter, signed by the chairman of the board, Mr. George McLaughlin:

Dear Mr. Minister:

The members of the board at the meeting held yesterday agreed to release to you to table in the House, the list of milk producers who were involved in quota transactions through the board during the period March 22 to May 18, 1966.

The board instructed me to make the point that this list contains only those whose quota transactions were made according to the board's policy. It recognized that many other such transactions may have taken place without board approval and that the board's only recourse under such circumstances was to refuse such transactions in any of its future policies.

The board's policy on quotas during this period was communicated to all county and district milk committees, to distributors and to transporters in documents dated March 23, 1966. The list contains the names of 251 producers to whom quotas were transferred on board approval during the period in question. Only 13 of these producers were members of the milk committee in 1966.

The transfers involved milk being supplied to 52 dairies and 33 markets as follows:

Mr. Speaker, with your permission I would table this report and information in the House.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, refer to an item that I think will be of interest. Knowing the interest of the members of the House, on the progress of the federal-provincial ARDA programme, I am sure they will be interested in the fact that a rural development training conference will be held in Belleville from April 3 to April 8, at which the application and uses of ARDA will be studied in depth.

An intensive programme has been prepared which will bring together some 35 representatives from both levels of government, as well as experts in the various fields coming within the orbit of the legislation. In addition to the Provincial ARDA staff, the field staff of the Ontario federation of agriculture, and the Ontario farmers union will be represented. The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests and The Department of Energy and Resources management will also participate.

The purpose of the training conference is twofold: First, it will review the policies and programmes of ARDA and the manner in which it works in a number of government departments; and, secondly, it will give professional instruction on community resource development. Special attention will be given to the expansion of the farm consolidation programme and the rural retraining programme for farmers. Instructors will include representatives of the federal ARDA, The Ontario Department of Education, the federal Department of Manpower, the University of

Toronto and The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. Topics to be discussed in addition to policies and programmes will include the role of responsibility of rural development officers, the participation and role of field men of agricultural organizations, the work of the farm forester, the retraining projects for farm people and problems encountered in land use and farm adjustment.

Mr. Speaker, I would say this is just another step forward in this government's programme for the rural development of Ontario.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I have a question of the hon. Minister of Economics and Development. He has received a copy of the question.

Would the Minister advise the House what advertising agency is handling this year's "Buy Canadian" campaign?

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Foster Advertising Limited of Toronto.

Mr. Newman: May I ask the Minister a supplementary question? Does he in all seriousness think that the advertisement that has been published in papers throughout Ontario recently—the one that I hold up here—is really "shop Canadian" when you can only see "shop Canadian" in two small words in two different places? Surely this is not shop Canadian, it is pre-election propaganda.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Randall: I just simply say that we find out on as big a picture as we possibly can where the money has to come from to build these universities and schools. It does not grow on trees, it has to come from people who are working and from corporations who are making money.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, are we to assume that what we have just been told by the Minister is news?

Hon. Mr. Randall: To some people it is.

Mr. MacDonald: My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

When can the report on Prudential Finance Corporation be expected?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It will be tabled in the House tomorrow. I had hoped to be able to table it today, but it was not possible.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Highways.

The township of Rayside having complained to the district engineer at Sudbury about the state of gross disrepair on Highway 144 in Rayside township and Dowling township, does the Minister contemplate taking steps to bring the highway to a normal condition at an early time?

Hon. G. E. Gomme (Minister of Highways): Mr. Speaker, the department is aware that the condition of Highway 144 has deteriorated greatly in the areas of Rayside and Dowling townships. A continuing maintenance programme is under way to keep the driving conditions as reasonable as possible until reconstruction can commence.

A contract has been recently awarded and work will commence in May for grading, granular base and paving from secondary Highway 544 westerly to Windy Lake park entrance, a distance of 2.8 miles. This work should be completed by the fall of 1967.

Another contract will be called later this year for grading, granular base and paving from Azilda westerly to the CPR crossing at Dowling, a distance of 9.2 miles.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond), although he is not in his seat. I will give it and he can answer it tomorrow.

What policy, if any, does the government have or contemplate with respect to the control of LSD or in the area of acquainting teen-agers with the dangers of this drug?

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Health, too.

What, if anything, is the department doing to encourage more doctors into general practice to meet the conditions outlined in this week's *Toronto Star*?

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The 15th order.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree moves that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and that the House resolve itself into committee of supply.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald moves, seconded by Mr. F. Young, to amend the motion that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair and the House resolve itself into committee of supply by adding thereto the following:

That this House regrets the government's failure to take forthright action to deal with the high and increasing cost of living and in particular its failure to:

(a) eliminate trading stamps and other promotional gimmicks in retail merchandising and to ensure that resulting savings will be passed on to the consumer;

(b) to establish a public automobile insurance plan so as to reduce the exorbitant and rising rates now being charged in the province;

(c) to undertake a large scale programme for increasing the supply of public housing so as to reduce the present pressure on the rents and prices of homes, and at the same time make adequate housing available to those who now cannot obtain it;

(d) to establish prices and rental review boards to inquire into, publicize and make appropriate recommendations regarding any increases in prices and rentals that appear to them to be unwarranted.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. D. C. Macdonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, in the new pattern that has been restored in the House, this provides the Opposition with an opportunity to express its want of confidence in the government, and in my view the issue which this resolution focuses on is an area of where this government has failed more completely than anywhere else. Nowhere is its range of failure and neglect greater than its failure to come to grips with the high and the increasing cost of living.

What we have attempted to do in this resolution is to list four of the major areas.

The list is illustrative; it is not complete. Indeed, if I might just make a passing reference, obviously another major item of concern in the rising cost of living for people today is one which was considered in a resolution in a comparable debate a week or so ago in regard to municipal taxes, with particular reference to educational taxes.

The point in this issue is that the individual is relatively helpless to cope with the cost of living. And the only competent agency to act on behalf of the individual is his government. It is true that voluntary organizations spring into being to protect one or another area of the cost of living, the excessive claims on the family budget, but in the final analysis the only agency that is big enough and powerful enough to cope with those forces which have managed to control the market today is the

government. And therefore in the government's failure to act, you have a pretty complete abrogation of the protection of the consumers' rights.

And the attitude of this government to my mind is the most disturbing aspect of the whole problem. The government from its rather doctrinaire, free enterprise approach to the operations of the market, proceeds on the assumption that it is not its responsibility to intervene except under the greatest pressure, except when the greatest public outcry forces it to move.

The result of this is, as far as the people are concerned, a calculated and a callous impact on their limited means to cope with the needs of a family in case of rising costs.

Now what I want to do, Mr. Speaker, is to deal with these four areas. One of my colleagues will touch on one or two of them later in greater depth.

The first one has to do with the cost of food. Undoubtedly, this is an area which is the most worrisome to the housewife whom we are told is responsible for the spending of the greatest proportion of the family budget. I will be the first to acknowledge that the point on which we have focused attention is not the whole answer to the problem of the cost of food. Indeed the investigations at Ottawa by the joint committee are somewhat inconclusive as to exactly where you should fix the responsibility, but it is my view, Mr. Speaker, that the whole question of trading stamps and promotional gimmicks, while not the complete reason for the cost of food, are a symptom of the problem. What is more important, Mr. Speaker, they are something which lies completely within the control of this government. Therefore if this government wanted to give some evidence of its goodwill, of its intentions to grapple with this problem, here is an area where they could move.

In spite of the fact, Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated, that trading stamps and other promotion gimmicks for the retailing of food do not represent the whole problem, I think it is well, Mr. Speaker, to note what exactly they do represent by way of an addition to the food bill in this province. Calculations from authoritative sources indicate that the amount of money that is spent in trading stamps in the province of Ontario in one year approaches \$30 million. Now, Mr. Speaker, \$30 million is not an amount to be sneezed at, and it is an amount which could be eliminated.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, I am a little puzzled by the interjections of the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Sargent); is he in favour of trading stamps? Is he in favour of trading stamps, the way the Liberal Party used to be, and therefore out of step with the rest of the party now, or what?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. MacDonald: I think, Mr. Speaker, he should be given an opportunity later if the speakers' list permits, to indicate whether he is with the party or against it in their vacillation on this issue.

An hon. member: He is against you.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask members to desist from interjections.

Mr. MacDonald: The second point of significance in trying to assess the size of this burden or excessive claim on the family budget, Mr. Speaker, was pointed out to the Minister's (Mr. Stewart's) conference in Vineland. Experts have made a thorough study of this both in the United States—and I think by general agreement the results of their study would apply in Canada—to the effect that 40 per cent of the advertising and promotion costs of the supermarkets today go to the trading stamps and other forms of gimmickry in the merchandising of food. Once again it is a sizeable figure, obviously approximately the \$30 million figure that the consumer ultimately has to pay. In other words, Mr. Speaker, action in this area would be a symbol of this government's goodwill and intentions to grapple with the problem. The results of their failure to do so have been most illuminating in terms of indicating the motivations of this government.

On January 17 this year, the Canadian association of consumers made representations to the Attorney General of the province. They were supported by some 20 different organizations and as this House has been reminded many times, Mr. Speaker, these organizations were as representative of the people of the province of Ontario as it would be possible to find. They included not only the federation of agriculture and the farm union, not only the federation of labour, not only the women's institute, not only the Ontario council of women, but they moved into areas of business concerns such as, for example, the Canadian association of retail merchants. In other words, here you have

a group of 20 trade, ethnic, church, women and economic organizations, who were solidly in support of the representations of the Canadian association of consumers.

One would think, Mr. Speaker, that a government whose proud boast is that they are a "people's government," would be immediately responsive to that kind of representation. Yet the fact is that despite what may have been its original intention—as indicated by the action of the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) in placing a notice of motion on the order paper for a bill to deal with trading stamps—as soon as the lobby from the four or five trading stamp companies and the few manufacturers—of what the CAC in its rather unkind way refers to as "junk"—moved into action, it was obvious that the government had made its choice—a narrow group of private interests on one hand, a broad group of public interests representative of the whole of the people of the province of Ontario on the other. This government had its choice and it chose the narrow group of private interests.

I was very interested, Mr. Speaker, to notice an observation attributed to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Robarts) following that morning coffee meeting that he and I and others attended on the twentieth birthday of the Canadian association of consumers over on Bloor Street the other day. He was quoted as saying that a ruling on trading stamps might encroach on the personal liberties of people who want to come to their own decision about choosing "to collect stamps, envelopes, and so on".

Mr. L. Letherby (Simcoe East): That is right.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker, if I ever heard a more specious argument I have forgotten it. This is about the equivalent of saying that the government, for example, is not going to move in and clean up the used car field—something they ultimately did—because if they moved in, they might deny the people the personal choice of being rooked or not rooked by the racketeers. This is in essence the kind of argument the Prime Minister has been forced to advocate in defending his indefensible position.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): And pulling the rug out from under his Minister.

Mr. MacDonald: Indeed, Mr. Speaker, if I may just illustrate the kind of atmosphere that has been generated among those who feel strongly about this issue—a couple of

first-page articles appeared in succeeding issues of the *Rural Cooperator*. They are rather revealing.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): The member is reading that paper all the time.

Mr. MacDonald: I always read the paper, it represents a lot of good folk in the province of Ontario and as a matter of fact, it gets down to some basic issues that some other farm papers tend to ignore.

In the issue, for example, of February 28 there is a story headed: Back Stamp Ban. Here was a group of people who finally were enthusiastic about this government because it was going to take action on the problem, concerning which they felt strongly. Let me read a few paragraphs, Mr. Speaker:

Warm approval by leaders of farm and consumer organizations has greeted the announcement that the Ontario government plans to outlaw trading stamps. Charles Munro, president of the Ontario federation of agriculture—

I suppose the hon. gentleman will say "nonsense" again—

—said last Friday that the planned legal measures follow closely the recommendations of all farm groups in the province. Banning trading stamps was one of the principal recommendations of the Vineland conference, Mr. Munro noted. "These stamps have added to the cost of food without returning any money to the farmer".

He added that stamps give consumers the wrong idea about food costs. The same goes for other gimmicks which also should be outlawed.

Mrs. William Brechin, chairman of the Ontario section of the consumers' association of Canada, said she and her members were delighted by this announcement. "We are grateful to the OFA, the farmers union and Mr. Stewart for their wholehearted support in backing us to get rid of these stamps."

Well, Mr. Speaker, their gratefulness could last for approximately two weeks because the truth of the matter, in face of this government's insensitivity to an issue like this, was found on the front page in the next issue: Scuttled Stamp Ban. And the story reads rather sadly:

Last week's announcement by Premier John Robarts that the Ontario government would not go ahead with plans to outlaw trading stamps has sparked unrest among

farm and consumer groups. Spokesmen for both the Ontario federation of agriculture and consumers' association of Canada (Ontario branch) voiced concern over the Premier's decision. It is no secret that the Cabinet members held strong views on the legislation. Economics Minister Stanley Randall 'favoured retention of trading stamps.

Apparently he expressed these views from his hospital bed.

Mr. Bryden: He is nodding his head now.

Mr. MacDonald: He is nodding his head? Pretty powerful figure. From his hospital bed he was able to veto and scuttle this whole thing.

Hon. S. J. Randall (Minister of Economics and Development): Months before I went to the hospital.

Mr. MacDonald: He was supported by some of the Ministers. On the other hand, says the story, Agriculture and Food Minister William Stewart and Attorney General Arthur Wishart wanted strong measures to curb stamps.

Hon. Mr. Randall: That shows we have a democratic government.

Mr. MacDonald: And yet, Mr. Speaker—oh, they were voted down, were they? You had better be silent because you are going to get your chief into a little bit of trouble. He came over complete with the Attorney General to the CAC meeting the other day and he tried to assure all the good ladies—"My good friend, Mr. Wishart, there are no differences between us—we have no differences." Just the difference between yes and no.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Keep trying.

Mr. Speaker, on a point of order if, I may, I am enjoying the hon. member's comments very much—but I did not make a statement regarding trading stamps to the effect that this government was going to change its course at all. I was questioned in the course of a press conference for my opinion and I pointed out certain facets of the situation and simply said the government was studying the whole question. Now it is very seldom I ever comment on what the press says, because I think that this is one of the hazards of public life. And I had not read this particular article in the *Rural Cooperator*. But I just point out to the House that it is quite

erroneous to say that I made a statement that the government was not going to abolish trading stamps. What in fact I said was—

Mr. Bryden: You are on both sides of the fence, are you?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, I will say right now that the matter is still under very close consideration by this government. This is all I have ever said about it at any time.

Mr. Bryden: Is that right?

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, that was one minute and forty-five seconds out of my time. I trust you took note of that.

However, Mr. Speaker, what really is this government attempting to do? Why are they speaking out of both sides of their mouth at the same time?

A few years ago we had a problem on the farm front of vertical integration and they set up a food council. In some strange way—it always mystified me—this food council, so called, was going to cope with the basic problem of agricultural economics. But involved in the food council were consumers, so it was going to look at the opposite side of the problem—the cost of food to consumers. Fair enough, Mr. Speaker.

The man who heads the food council is Mr. Douglas Williams, appointed by this government. And what are his views on this issue—since presumably he is this government's expert in coping with the protection of consumer interest? Here are his views, Mr. Speaker. I put them on the record before, but obviously they have not had any impact.

I do not know why they keep a man whom they disagree with so much. I do not want the man fired because he is doing a good job and his head is in the right direction; but obviously he is headed in the opposite direction to this government, though the Prime Minister now contends that they are still making up their minds. They are sitting on the fence; they are in that rather "mugwump-tious" position.

These are Mr. Williams' comments given last fall ten days before the Minister's conference in Vineland. He said:

We are trying to help consumers become more knowledgeable about the real problems which exist. Consumer thinking will have to go back beyond many of the retail practices of today—extravagant promotion, the mad rush for trading stamps, the premiums, the so-called advertised specials,

the games, the contests, the cents-off deals; the gimmicks in all of their forms, all designed to entice the gullible consumer and all of which she pays for out of her pocketbook.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that is the chairman of the Ontario food council—this government's organization.

Mr. Bryden: Too sensible a man for this government.

Mr. MacDonald: And what is his conclusion, Mr. Speaker? Mr. Williams predicted: that consumers would demand the return to selling merchandise on the basis of quality, utility, and true value, instead of trying to buy the consumers' affection with gimmicks, prizes and come-ons.

Mr. Speaker, there is a voice of sanity, if I ever heard one. And I wish this government would respond to it instead of trying to be on both sides of this issue, because I do not think you are going to fool these 20 organizations who are genuinely representative of people in this province.

Hon. Mr. Randall: How did you buy your last car? Pick a number out of a hat or pick a car that was advertised?

Mr. MacDonald: That is irrelevant, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Randall: No it is not—not at all.

Mr. MacDonald: If I want to buy food I will buy food on the basis of the advertisements on food, not whether there are going to be green stamps or a Pontiac car. That is the very point Mr. Williams says you are missing.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me move on quickly because my time is fast going. Cars, automobile insurance. Mr. Speaker, cars are a necessity for people today in our modern society, and therefore the cost of car insurance is one of the inescapable factors in the cost of living. We have seen that recent premium rates have gone up—

Mr. Letherby: They will still go up.

Mr. MacDonald: Sure they are going to go up, basically because of the increased frequency of accidents—everybody will concede that. However, Mr. Speaker, there are ways and means of reducing this cost because of inadequacies in the structure of private car insurance. Insurance covers only a small proportion of the loss that the consumer has to meet.

For example, in the study to which attention has been drawn in this House before by Professor Linden when he was at Osgoode, he points out that the amount received through car insurance for all of the accidents in the county of York in the year 1961 when he made a detailed study of every one of them, the total amount of money the people were able to get from all of those accidents from car insurance coverage was 37 per cent. Some 23 per cent of it came from other sources such as medical insurance, hospital insurance, and so on, and 40 per cent of it drivers had to sustain themselves.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, from this detailed study the record indicates that car insurance is covering only about one third of the complete outlay, the complete loss, that people have to face when they have accidents. If one examines, for example, the study that was made in Alberta, a place where they are very interested in private enterprise—I was interested to note recommendation 13 of the report that became available last year from the province of Alberta. With reference to the practice once again of adding to the cost of living by unnecessary increases in car insurance, this recommendation 13 stated that:

the objective of the assigned risk plan be adhered to, namely to provide insurance for those who cannot secure same on the open market, that is those with irresponsible records.

Fine so far, Mr. Speaker, but listen to the rest of their comments:

Information supplied by the assigned risk group indicates that more than 2,000 policies were written last year under the plan for persons who have clear records.

That is, no accidents and no convictions.

Mr. Speaker, here is documentation, from a study that this government never will do in the province of Ontario, of the kind of thing that we have given isolated examples of in this Legislature—of people who suddenly get a letter from the insurance company saying that their insurance has been cancelled. They are forced to go onto the assigned risk plan. Then they find they have accumulated three or four demerit points, but they have had no claims on their insurance; they have had no convictions.

It is just that the insurance company comes to the conclusion that these people are going to be a bad risk and out they go. They are forced onto the assigned risk plan, with payments, as is pointed out in this Alberta re-

port, that sometimes go up to as high as \$1,000 for a year's insurance. That is infrequent, I would concede, but in many instances as high as \$500 or \$600, and certainly thousands of instances of assigned risk plan with \$200 or \$300, many times what would be normal.

Mr. Speaker, clearly without going further into the details, car insurance costs are going to mount because of the greater frequency of accidents. But one way in which we can reduce the cost of living for people who today need cars, is a public insurance plan which will eliminate the excess of administrative costs in the dog-eat-dog competition of some 200 companies in the field. It will eliminate the necessity of frittering away a good deal of the premium dollar in legal costs that achieve nothing. My authority is as estimable a person as former Chief Justice McRuer who has stated that never, sitting on the bench, did he feel that he was rendering justice in trying to come to a decision with regard to an accident that took place in a split second some two or three years before, and in which all evidence was at least rather questionable in terms of getting the full truth.

We in the New Democratic Party have supported public car insurance for years. The government has sought, and has given consideration in a report, of at least broadening the coverage beyond the traditional public liability and collision, to meet many of these other losses sustained in a car accident. But, interestingly enough, even this has not been implemented across the board. On the basic issue of a public insurance plan which will provide basic coverage to everybody at cost, the government does not move and the Liberals, the so-called free enterprisers along with them, stand with the Tories in opposing this kind of measure.

Mr. Sopha: Well, we are free enterprisers.

Mr. Nixon: We do not stand with you in this.

Mr. Sopha: Not with you in this.

Mr. MacDonald: Well, Mr. Speaker, let me move on to point three, and that is with regard to the large-scale programme of public housing. The government—and this is a point Mr. Speaker, that should not be missed in all the deluge of figures which the hon. Minister of Economics and Development is supplying to the people in the province at the present time—the government has not added appreciably to the stock of housing in the province of Ontario. When we finally were able to get a breakdown of that 2,900 figure

that was given to us with regard to Metro a few days ago, we discovered that only 638 of those were new houses. The rest of them were houses that the Ontario housing corporation had bought from existing property holders, so that they were not in addition to the stock.

Now, sir, the HOME programme which the government has presented, by its own admission, in face of the average cost of a home in the metropolitan area today, is going to be restricted to people of over \$8,000 income who have \$1,250 for a down payment. In the metropolitan area of Toronto these are the costs of homes and you simply cannot escape that basic fact, Mr. Speaker. In other words, the government has shaped a programme which is designed to meet the upper 20 or 25 per cent, and I am being very generous. What about the other 80 per cent of the people?

Yesterday I had an opportunity of visiting the armouries down on Richmond Street, the emergency housing shelter where some 60 to 80 children are housed with 15 to 20 families all the time, as they move out of burned homes to get a roof over their heads until they can find another. The shocking thing, Mr. Speaker, is to talk with a mother and to discover that she was turned out of an apartment building—why?—because they discovered she had five children. The landlord said, "If you had only three children, we would be willing to let you stay," and she asks rather pointedly and rather appropriately, "What is the difference between three and five children as far as the house is concerned?"

This is not rare, Mr. Speaker. I was talking to somebody today who was doing some political canvassing in an apartment on 43rd Street in Long Branch last night. They discovered that everybody in this apartment building has been given notice that, as of the end of April, they must move out if they have got more than two children. Eleven of the 28 families in that building are now going to be forced to move out. This is the kind of thing that is going on in the metropolitan area of Toronto.

There is only one answer to it, Mr. Speaker, and that is that we should have a massive public housing programme. Not toying with the problem but a massive programme of at least 10,000 homes a year for the foreseeable future in the metropolitan area of Toronto, and at least another 10,000 across the province of Ontario, so that you will be able to build up something of a kind of a proportion that has been revealed in other instances in Europe where housing programmes have been

more effective—where, for example, some 30 per cent of the stock is going to be in public housing as contrasted with the province of Ontario where there is only one per cent of the stock in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, this government, behind the façade that it is creating for election purposes, is ignoring some of the inhibitions that have frustrated an effective housing policy. For example, at the municipal level the government has not yet faced up to the fact that 7.5 per cent of the operating costs for a geared-to-income housing project in a municipality has to be met by that municipality on a continuing basis. The result of course is, with the kind of burden that municipalities have at the moment, that they are not going to move into this kind of a programme, because this is going to be the final straw to break the camel's back.

Furthermore, in the metropolitan area of Toronto I am told that many of the municipalities regard \$30,000 homes as the break-even point in terms of which that home is not going to become an added burden on education costs. In other words, Mr. Speaker, the failure of this government to assume an adequate proportion of the education costs simply means that there is a disposition, there is an inclination to oppose the construction of homes that cost less than \$30,000. Anything beyond that might be something of a help to lessen the burden; anything below that becomes an addition to the burden. And that, Mr. Speaker, is certainly not going to make it possible for us to solve this problem.

We in the New Democratic Party have called upon this government to establish a Ministry of housing, not because we want another Ministry, but because this is the only way in which you can draw together all of the various government services that are necessary for the effective, massing housing programme, including the building of satellite cities, including transportation, education and highways, all the other ancillary services. You are not going to get it, you are not going to break through the red tape and the road-blocks that have made our programme ineffective in the past unless the government is willing to move in that pattern.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I want to touch briefly on point four in our resolution and that is the establishment of prices and rental review boards. I was very interested yesterday to notice in the Toronto *Telegram* an editorial with regard to the hike in the price of paper. The concluding paragraph says:

This paper will continue to seek consumer sovereignty from newsprint manufacturers who pay allegiance to private enterprise but do not practise it in their newsprint pricing system.

A very noble sentiment and very understandable. I can quite understand why newspaper editors and publishers are disturbed. What worries me, Mr. Speaker, is where were the *Telegram* editors and everybody else in the same category when comparable kinds of exorbitant and indefensible price increases occurred across this economy in recent years and they were silent? They place themselves in a very invidious position when they raise their voices only when it happens to affect themselves.

Where were they, for example, when the government at Ottawa presided over the establishment of a Canada-U.S. auto pact, which brought benefits to the manufacturers, and which was supposed to have brought benefits to the workers—I will not go into that—but it was supposed also to bring benefits to the consumers. The consumers put \$50 million into this deal and the fact of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that the consumers have reaped no benefit at all.

The prices have gone up, and at Ottawa, this true big enterprise friend, the big business government that we have there, raised their voices in protest last September. But when the automobile manufacturers defied them and raised the prices again, they did nothing about it. Mr. Sharp lapsed into silence, there was not even a whimper of protest. Well, where was this government? Here in the province of Ontario 96 per cent of the cars are manufactured, and this government could have moved in terms of examining the price structure and the profit structure of the automobile industry and done a service not only to the people of Ontario, but to the whole of the people of this nation. But the government is silent, it has not moved.

I was very interested, Mr. Speaker, a month or two ago, to send a report from Queen's Park to constituents throughout my riding, and I asked them five questions. The first was with regard to the question of whether or not they would favour the establishment of a price and a rental review board. I am not suggesting this was a scientific survey; only those who wanted to reply did so. But, Mr. Speaker, I was interested to note that 386 replied "yes", 21 replied "no" and 42 had no opinion on the subject. I suggest to you that

that is a reflection of the concern on the part of the people of the province of Ontario, of a government that has neglected the protection of their interests when it is the only agency which has the power to protect their interests.

My final word, Mr. Speaker, would be to say this: Our concern in the New Democratic Party for the problem of consumers is not one that we picked up in the present crisis. Four or five years ago when the Conservative and Liberal Parties did not even know there was a consumers' problem, the New Democratic Party fought an election—and maybe this is the reason why its stock is surging in this Centennial year—we fought an election which was consumer-oriented in terms of its programme. I invite hon. members to read it, to find it is not a Johnny-come-lately approach:

As consumers, we are at once the most vulnerable and the most unorganized people in our society. We are besieged with advertising on every hand, we are pressured by salesmen, we are victimized by monopolistic prices, and yet we are virtually defenceless against this onslaught on our pocketbooks.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we mapped out a programme, some of which the government has put into effect since, such as the establishment of a consumer protection bureau. At least they have put it on the statute paper, if it ever gets—

Mr. Bryden: It is not established yet, but they are recognizing it is a good idea now.

Mr. MacDonald: Other things such as the prices and a rental review board we have added, but I say, as I take my seat, Mr. Speaker, that this government has lost the confidence of the people of the province of Ontario because they have failed to protect the interests of the people in an area where the people are defenceless and cannot protect themselves. When the government has to choose between the narrow interests of a private group, such as the stamp companies, and the broad interests of the people, you have made your choice, even though the Prime Minister indicates he is still contemplating it. You have made it in favour of the private interests.

Hon. I. Haskett (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, in arguing his amending motion, the member for York South has repeated many of the specious claims his party has used in support of its case for government-operated

compulsory automobile insurance — claims advanced in the NDP's discredited booklet: *Crisis in Car Insurance*.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: The insurance industry has pretty carefully documented the many false and erroneous points that are raised in that booklet. My initial interest in that propaganda booklet, Mr. Speaker, was aroused when I ran across its reference to the unsatisfied judgment fund, an operation that had ceased some four years before and was succeeded by our motor vehicle accident claims fund. It was just a simple error but it drew my attention.

The booklet was put out by the NDP, a group under the presidency of Mrs. Kenneth Bryden, with Mr. Kenneth Bryden, MPP, listed as a consultant. I say to you that that kind of simple error is just indicative of the uninformed position of this group in this vital area. Either that or else they just do not care about giving the public the truth.

Mr. Sopha: They misinform each other.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Hon. members are well aware that insurance companies and automobile insurance premium rates are not within the purview of The Department of Transport. They come under the superintendent of insurance in The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs. But I have interest in it because of its relationship to our motor vehicle accident claims fund. The motor vehicle accident claims fund is Ontario's answer to the problem of the uninsured driver. It endeavours to put the innocent victim of a collision caused by an uninsured driver in substantially the same position as he would be had he had a collision with an insured driver at fault.

In the four and a half years since it became effective, in July 1, 1962, the motor vehicle accident claims fund has paid out about \$16 million, and together with the operation of the unsatisfied judgment fund in preceding years, has been able to pay to the victims of collisions with uninsured drivers, a total of about \$41 million.

Compulsory insurance appears to offer a magic panacea, the complete formula to cure many of the ills related to the use and operation of the automobile. Most people reach this conclusion after a superficial examination of the uninsured driver problem. However, a study in depth usually results in a quite different conclusion. Nevertheless, the question is often asked, why bother with the

accident claims fund, why not make insurance compulsory?

The answer is, I think, a very logical one. Compulsory insurance sounds like a neat and simple solution, but in practice it has many drawbacks. We believe our motor vehicle accident claims fund and related legislation does the job more effectively, and that is why we chose it after a careful study of all the systems and alternatives that were available. It works better. In Ontario today we figure that about 97 per cent of all vehicles on the road are insured. And I say to you that no other jurisdiction, including those with so-called compulsory insurance, has been able to achieve a higher percentage.

Why is this so? People often ask, "If you were to have compulsory insurance would it not mean that 100 per cent of all the drivers were insured?" The answer is "no", of course. Even with compulsory insurance, there are uninsured vehicles on the road and there are uninsured vehicles involved in collisions. They fall chiefly into five categories: vehicles from outside the province or the jurisdiction, which do not have adequate coverage; vehicles that have been stolen or are being used without the owner's consent; vehicles on which insurance has lapsed or has been cancelled; vehicles that have been sold without a record of the transfer—and that often happens in deals between private individuals and often involving older cars; and fifth, vehicles that are not identified, that is, those involved in hit and run.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): There are a lot of people who cannot afford insurance.

Mr. Letherby: Well, they had better get off the road.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: The accident claims fund does not provide any protection for the motorist without insurance. It does provide an effective stimulus for such person to get insurance. It does protect the innocent victims of accidents they may cause. And it does provide an efficient means of handling cases that would be awkward under other types of systems.

The accident claims fund provides the people of Ontario with the best protection anywhere against accidents caused by uninsured drivers.

The success of our Ontario accident claims fund has spread across the continent. I am sure many members will remember some two years ago I had the privilege of introducing to the House a number of members from the select committee of the Legislature of Michi-

gan who had come here to study our system. They were interested in it. They learned about it. They went back and reported and it was decided in Michigan to adopt it. We loaned them people who had been associated with our operation here to set up the Michigan motor vehicle claims fund, a copy of the Ontario system.

I understand that since that time the state of Illinois has copied the Michigan system, and so the fame of Ontario's good system has spread.

Last year we had a visit from that very sophisticated state of California and the deputation from the Legislature of California said they were looking for the best possible system anywhere, and they understood that Ontario had it.

Mr. Sargent: Who told them that?

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Last year members of the California Legislature came to Toronto to examine our fund operation, which they said was reputed to be the best on the continent.

I want to tell you now that the state of Massachusetts has had compulsory insurance for about two score years, but the limits there are \$5,000 for one person and \$10,000 for two in an accident and there is no payment for property damage. Just last year, after that long experience with compulsory insurance, Governor John A. Volpe recommended to the Legislature of the commonwealth of Massachusetts that it repeal the compulsory insurance law and replace it with a financial responsibility law supplemented by an unsatisfied claim fund.

This determination, he said, flowed from the high cost of insurance in the state and the inadequate protection it afforded to the public. If the coverage in Massachusetts under their compulsory insurance law was equated with the coverage with a similar passenger car in Toronto, on our \$35,000 minimum, where the premium in Toronto would be about \$60, the premium in Boston, a city of comparable size, would be over \$200.

There is no convincing basis to substantiate the claims of the advocates of compulsory insurance that it will increase benefits or reduce costs. In actual experience, costs have risen under compulsory insurance.

Now I would refer briefly, sir, to the question of car insurance operated by a government agency, or a public automobile insurance plan as the mover of the motion has termed it. The usual basis on which it is advocated

is that it will reduce the cost of writing insurance by eliminating the payment of premiums to agents. To extol the virtues of the Saskatchewan scheme, after vilifying private enterprise insurance, a favourite device was to claim for it certain exclusive merits, especially that it costs less to buy insurance in Saskatchewan.

In fact it does not. Saskatchewan has long enjoyed one of the lowest accident frequencies in Canada. It has always had low rates even in the days when private enterprise did the business. It has a sparse population and long winter periods when many motorists lay up their cars.

Further confusion is made possible by the fact that the Saskatchewan scheme produces what is called "the premium," and it is that premium that is glibly compared with premiums in other provinces. I ask you to consider that in addition there are licence fees charged every driving member of the family, depending on the age and record of the driver.

These charges range from \$4 to \$5 through to \$30 and \$60 per person and all of this goes into the insurance fund. For an average family the bill can be high, with all these licence fees added to the premium rate, which for a late model average car is now set at \$67.

Still further confusion as to the cheapness of insurance in the Saskatchewan scheme was created by the activities of the government of Saskatchewan prior to the present administration taking office. For the benefit of the House, I want to acknowledge that I am going to read briefly a passage from a paper prepared by the All-Canada insurance federation; in fairness to the House, I give them the source of this information:

According to an official study made public by the government of Saskatchewan in the *Financial Post* as well as in other newspapers, evidence has been uncovered of a device used to quietly pump \$3.5 million of tax money into the Saskatchewan scheme. Despite this, the government operation was on the verge of financial disaster with its surplus reduced to less than 20 per cent of what was regarded as a safe level.

Another argument is that the Saskatchewan scheme costs less to operate. Even the shocking financial situation of the scheme was used to advantage by its proponents. It was claimed that more than 90 cents out of every insurance dollar went to the payment of claims. The inference was

that only the few remaining cents in the dollar were required for expenses.

Let us look at the facts. It costs money to run an insurance shop. This scheme has approximately 750 employees. Their offices, salaries, etc., do not come out of thin air. Acquisition costs and overhead must be paid for. Government operated or not, it takes money. It is a dream and a mirage to pretend that it is otherwise. The figures I am about to give you were derived from the annual statements published by the Saskatchewan government insurance office.

In 1950, 89 cents out of every dollar earned went to the payment of claims. Now, the inference is that it took only 11 cents on the dollar to operate the Saskatchewan scheme. In fact, the scheme had a deficit that year of approximately \$250,000, so that it took more than 21.5 cents out of every dollar collected to operate it.

And here is another point: The applications for insurance are handled by the motor vehicle department. I have been unable to discover any record whatsoever of the motor vehicle department being reimbursed for the handling of these applications. It cannot be done for nothing, but so far as the Saskatchewan government insurance office is concerned it is done for nothing, the actual cost being borne by the taxpayers.

Remember, not only are the "premiums" collected by the department, additional funds for the scheme are secured by the department through the licensing fees to which I alluded, which ranges as I have said from \$3 to \$5, \$30 and \$60 per driver. This again involves hundreds of thousands of separate dollar costing transactions. All the proceeds are turned over to the scheme at no apparent charge.

Let me give you another example of the inferential argument that because so many cents on the dollar are paid out in claims, therefore the cost of administration is so much less than under private enterprise. In 1952, an election year, the Saskatchewan scheme paid out \$1.28 for every dollar collected. That is financing. The inference we are supposed to draw is that in that year there were no administrative expenses whatsoever. This makes almost a better showing than the showing of the bread and the fishes. The deficit that year was more than \$1,250,000.

According to the official figures, in every year the scheme paid out 90 cents or more

on the dollar there were very substantial deficits, ranging from the \$250,000 already mentioned, to well over \$1,250,000, a total in fact of over \$5,500,000.

To switch the inferential argument, though, against the proponents of the scheme, there were two years in which less than 50 cents was paid out of every dollar, so it is perhaps allowed to suggest they required in the scheme more than 50 cents of every dollar for administrative purposes.

Mr. Bryden: That is the voice of the insurance industry.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I acknowledge the source of my information honestly:

It is not practical to compare Saskatchewan and Ontario. There are more cars in a few square miles in Toronto than in all of Saskatchewan's 250,000 square miles, and accidents increase with the density of traffic. However, under substantially similar conditions that exist in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, private enterprise insurance companies provide better coverage in Manitoba (with only \$50 deductible) at cheaper premiums than the Saskatchewan government scheme (with \$200 deductible).

According to the Toronto *Star* of March 7 last, Robert Gowe reports that last year Saskatchewan settled its more than 50,000 claims for an average of \$291, whereas our Ontario motor vehicle accident claims fund settled its claims for the first nine months of 1966 with an average payment of \$1,298.

Mr. Bryden: Well, that is only a small percentage of the claims.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: Though governments from all over the world have studied the Saskatchewan government system, no other jurisdiction has seen fit to adopt it.

I say, Mr. Speaker, I am not here to plead the cause of the insurance companies.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Haskett: I am interested in seeing that the motorists of Ontario enjoy the benefits of the best possible form of automobile insurance.

In any fair overall insurance assessment I believe that it is safe to say that the cost of writing automobile insurance under a government scheme such as that operated in Saskatchewan has been no less than in Ontario while the benefits for the motorists have been considerably less.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the last member who took part in this debate indicated that he did not want this to become simply an automobile insurance debate and I agree with him. We are here concerning ourselves with the cost of living in general and with our concern for the consumers in general. It is in this regard that I would like to say to you, sir, that we on this side heartily support the basic premise of this amendment which says that the House regrets the government's failure to take forthright action to deal with the high and increasing cost of living.

In support of this particular premise the mover has given us four particulars and I feel that these four particulars do not by any means offer us a complete list of those things that have made the role of the consumer increasingly difficult in these modern times. As a matter of fact the mover of the amendment, himself, admitted a few moments ago that it was definitely incomplete and they had failed to list some of the very important areas that are concerned with consumers' expenses. I hope that he would not backtrack on that at this time.

The reason I particularly emphasize this, Mr. Speaker, is that, as you know, the rules of the House do not permit a second amendment. This has been said by other speakers on other occasions, and so, although we support the basic premise of this no-confidence motion associated with the lack of leadership in this government in providing for the consumers, and legislation to assist the consumers in this province, we take very definite exception to some of the particulars as laid out in the background in support of the amendment that is before us.

So I would like to deal with them somewhat specifically, beginning by talking about the general cost of living associated with food. This, of course, is of importance to all of us as consumers, and of particular importance to those of us who come from the rural areas of the province, because it is sometimes very easy for those who are misinformed to put the blame for the increasing cost of food in the cities, and in the other areas of the province, at the door of the primary producer. I feel sure that those who investigate this matter carefully—and this would include the Canadian association of consumers who have been supported, as has already been indicated by the various farm organizations—that no one who is giving this any intelligent investigation at all would for a moment indicate that the farmers are even getting their fair

share of return for their investment and labour under the present circumstances.

The farmers are very anxious that those people most deeply concerned with consumer problems become aware of the difficulties in the agricultural industry and for this reason the farm community has gone on record very definitely, as has the Liberal Party in Ontario, favouring legislation that would do away with the use of stamps as a trading gimmick in the province of Ontario.

In this particular connection, Mr. Speaker, I know that it is obvious to those who have looked into this matter that stamps are simply something that lies on the surface of a very difficult problem indeed—a problem that might well have been faced for this past year, and for a longer period, not only by the food council that has some responsibility in agriculture but more specifically by the consumers bureau that was enacted by this Legislature almost a year ago and has as yet done nothing useful in the furtherance of its particular responsibility.

It has just been in the past few days actually that the government has announced that they are going to proceed with this bureau even though they have had exhaustive studies made by a select committee of this Legislature that would indicate that they could be very useful along specific lines that would reduce the difficulties which all of us as consumers are meeting in financing our family requirements in these very expensive days.

So, to speak very briefly about the cheap food policy that has been accepted by the consumers of this province, and which has been largely financed by the primary producers, I would say that the government itself, particularly through the Ministry of Agriculture, that is so well represented in the Legislature here today, has the primary responsibility for seeing to it:

That the producers are adequately recompensed for their investment and their labour, and more than that, that the general public—all of us as consumers—are aware of the increasing difficulties in the agricultural community in meeting their own requirements and in carving out their fair share in the economic community of this province.

There is a tendency for misinformed people to look at the statements and some of the actions in the agricultural community here, and in recent days in the milk producing areas in the United States, and brand them as irresponsible. Nevertheless, it must be obvious

to us all that these are manifestations of a deeply held feeling by the agricultural community in this province and elsewhere admittedly, that in the present development of the system as we recognize it and support it, they are not getting their fair share of the good things of this life, nor the opportunity to proceed in the expanding economy of this province. This is not what we are here to dwell on in detail. We are concerned with the consumers and the lack of leadership that this government has shown in years gone by in dealing with this problem effectively.

I do want to deal very specifically with the problem of automobile insurance which has been settled upon by the first two speakers as the major contention this afternoon. We in the Liberal Party have taken the broad and responsible middle road between the two untenable positions.

Mr. Bryden: You are trying to be on both sides of the fence.

Mr. Nixon: Not at all. Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me I would like to say very definitely that we in this party do not favour the nationalization of this industry. We feel that it can be adequately served, as it has been so well in years gone by, by private enterprise. We would say further, Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me, that it is quite obvious that there are severe shortcomings in the way the industry is presently controlled. Here is where we take issue with the present government who have been emphasizing their laissez-faire attitude in this area of the economy to a ridiculous extreme. In my view it should be necessary—and with a Liberal administration it would become necessary—for any new rate increases, or rate changes, in this particular industry, to be justified before the appropriate committee of the Legislature or committee of government; and that the appropriate parts of the legislation which presently would permit the government to control these rates would be proclaimed and would permit the government to move into an area of control that is required in this modern day.

It is obvious, of course, that one of the real areas of difficulty in this particular problem lies with the reduction of accidents themselves, with government regulations that will no longer permit used cars that are obviously unroadworthy to go on the highways of Ontario; to embark on a programme, then, that will have teeth in it and that will remove from the roads those drivers who have indicated without any reason of doubt the fact that they are irresponsible, and should not be the hazards that they are on the roads of Ontario.

I want to go on, Mr. Speaker, as my allotted fifteen minutes is rapidly evaporating, by saying that in the area of housing, which is the third specific matter listed as a back-up paragraph to the basic motion—we will have an opportunity to discuss this in detail in the future but surely the government programme which is before us was based on an idea that could be viable and useful, and that is the provision of serviced land with government subsidy, in the beginning, so that the building trades can go ahead with the construction of the housing that is so sorely needed in this province. My own feeling is that the programme as outlined by the Minister a few days ago is definitely inadequate.

He is looking at the problem with tunnelled vision. He is not seeing that, associated with the provision of housing, there must be taxation reforms dealing with the cost of education. There must be reforms doing away with the red tape that presently restricts the private enterprise builders from having access to serviced land. The problem is much broader than the one he has described in the Legislature in days just gone by. I do believe that the basic charge of \$190 per month for at least the \$15,000 dwelling that is described in his particular brief is well beyond the range of the general citizens in their crying need for housing, and this very matter has produced one of the problems that the leader of the NDP has indicated in the fourth section of his amendment—and that is the difficulty with rising rents in the community of Ontario. Because of the lack of proper housing many of our families and those with a large number of children have had recourse to apartments because nothing else is available to them.

It is tragic indeed to see the pressure brought upon these people as even the availability of the present apartment is being removed from them by high rents and by decisions made by the owners that couples with large families will not be permitted to move in.

On the other hand, the proposal that has been put forward by the NDP that we have rent and price review committees must obviously be leading in the direction of rent and price control. I would not for a moment say that the Liberal Party would support this particular proposal. Depending upon your viewpoint, this would set up either a commissar or a czar who would have the responsibility of the individual communities, to sit in judgment over what the owner of the particular property is doing.

Now, I am quite prepared to support general legislation of an anti-discriminatory nature—

Mr. Bryden: As long as it does not work.

Mr. Nixon: We in this province have had registration suggested by the Liberal Party in years gone by and it has been enacted by the present government. But certainly we do not want to set up in each little area some committee which through its own particular prejudices would be in a position to pass a unilateral judgment on what is being done in that particular community.

I have gone on record in my remarks in response to the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, in saying that the public interest must be served and it must be served by this Legislature acting in its proper capacity; that we have the membership here; we have the facilities and we have the funds to see to it that the great changes in the economy of this province, as indicated by changes in the cost of medical services and other professional services, the costs in food, the costs in insurance, would all be reviewed by the appropriate committees of this House. And we could provide ourselves, if necessary, with control legislation. We would then be doing this in the very best democratic way as the representatives of the people.

I would say, Mr. Speaker, in closing my remarks that we in the Liberal Party along with all the other members in this House are deeply concerned with the plight of the consumer. We on this side join with the NDP in criticizing the leadership of the present government in not taking adequate steps to provide relief for the taxpayers at the local level, to provide leadership in the provision of housing in the areas where it is most severely and desperately needed by communities, not only in the Metro area but right across the province.

With this in mind, we will vote in favour of the basic premise of the amendment with the limitations and exceptions that I have put before you, sir, in the specifics that have been listed in the wording of the amendment itself.

Mr. MacDonald: He is going to be on both sides again.

Mr. H. J. Price (St. David): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to speak on the motion introduced by the hon. member for York South. I listened with interest to the remarks the hon. member made about trading stamps.

In the first place, his premise that the elimination of trading stamps will result in a saving to the consumer which can be passed on to the consumer, has not been established. He has never demonstrated to my satisfaction that there would be any saving whatsoever by abolishing trading stamps. Certainly the hon. member for York South has not done so in his speech this afternoon.

Mr. MacDonald: You had it written before you heard my speech.

Mr. Letherby: Certainly—

Mr. MacDonald: How can you say that; you had your speech written.

Mr. Price: I am sure you will agree with me that in some instances consumers may pay a higher price in stores that do not provide trading stamps. Yes, Mr. Speaker, in many stores the consumers pay less when stamps are provided.

Mr. Bryden: Now we have the voice of the trading stamp companies.

Mr. Price: Let us not suppose that the grocery stores have not carried out their own experiments concerning the preference of their consumers in this matter. Where experiments have been conducted, usually the trading stamps have been reinstated by popular demand.

What does this mean to the economy of our province? I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that trading stamps are big business in Ontario. Millions of dollars of wealth are created by this industry, to say nothing of the thousands who are employed by it. To discontinue this so-called promotional gimmick would result in loss of employment and orders for the companies manufacturing and distributing products made in this province.

Do you suppose that the wives of the men who are engaged in the printing of these stamps want to see their husbands out of work? Not likely. Do you suppose, Mr. Speaker, the wives of the husbands engaged in producing the merchandise distributed in this way would want to see their husbands unemployed? Not likely.

Do you suppose that the thrifty housewives enjoying economy prices and trading stamps for additional merchandise want to see them discontinued? Not likely.

This morning I received a letter from the Dominion Luggage Company Limited, which I should like to read to the House:

March 20, 1967

Mr. Henry J. Price,
27 Bloor St. East,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I would like to draw attention to the comments of Donald MacDonald, leader of the New Democratic Party, as quoted in the press on March 17.

When talking about trading stamps at a CAC meeting he termed it incomprehensible that the government does not move to support the bill against trading stamps, instead of listening to "four or five stamp companies and a few manufacturers of junk."

It is time Mr. MacDonald stopped making such irresponsible and ridiculous statements. As the vice-president of Dominion Luggage Company Limited, who supply quality luggage to the stamp companies, may I say that the stamp companies do not offer "junk" from four or five manufacturers.

Mr. MacDonald: I was quoting the CAC.

Mr. Price: I continue to quote:

But rather, merchandise of the highest quality from name brand Ontario manufacturers. The stamp companies make purchases from well over 200 manufacturers in this province whose names are recognized as the standard of quality and dependability. We have won many design awards for our luggage and our Jetliner series is currently included in the Canadian design index.

The stamp companies also purchase from another well-known international luggage supplier. In appliances, all the big name companies are included in the stamp company catalogues, as are the best Canadian manufacturers of a multitude of other lines.

I would suggest to Mr. MacDonald that it is time he started dealing with facts, not fancy.

Yours truly,
(Signed) LEON J. SLAN,
Vice-President
Dominion Luggage Co. Ltd.

I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) had a hand in drafting the motion before us. I seem to detect his fine hand here though I may be wrong.

Mr. MacDonald: You are.

Mr. Price: But let me say that this grab bag of high sounding socialism will easily be seen through by the people of Ontario. They are not easily fooled. There is only one real alternative to the government of the day, and that is the party led by the hon. member for Brant. And if I do say so, it is a blessing. God forbid that the evils of socialism be the lot of the citizens of this province.

Mr. MacDonald: How about hospital insurance; who brought it in?

Mr. Price: Now, Mr. Speaker, let us turn to the second part of the resolution dealing with the high cost of auto insurance.

We have heard many times in this House about the Saskatchewan government's auto insurance plan and what a great plan it is.

Mr. Bryden: It is still there.

Mr. Price: This is just so much eyewash. If it were true would it not have been adopted in many other places? It has not. Nowhere in the world has the Saskatchewan plan been adopted nor is it likely to be. This is just more unadulterated, socialistic slop.

Under the assigned risk plan, young inexperienced drivers or persons just learning to drive pay ordinary insurance rates. If they have a record of violations or convictions or accidents, of course, they must pay more. This is just common sense. I might mention too that only a small number of accident cases ever reach the courts. As you know, the lion's share are settled out of court. In many cases the injured party is advised by his lawyer not to settle his claim until he is completely well or recovered. This delay is obviously not the fault of the insuring company.

I will not bore the House unduly with figures or statistics. But if we analyze the cost of automobile insurance in comparable American cities and states, we will find that they are much higher; double and triple the premiums of our own in some cases.

One major contributor to the rate problem of automobile insurance in Ontario is the so-called direct writers. They should have been barred from operating in this province. They skin off the cream of the business and employ so-called agents at what amounts to their being salaried employees. They are endeavouring to destroy the independent agency system as we know it.

My hon. friend, the member for Sudbury (Mr. Sopha), has on numerous occasions docu-

mented the sad plight of his clients or constituents who have become the victims of direct writer auto insurance company practices. They are sometimes pretty tough on the policy holders who, like the young man on the TV ad for hair cream says, "I came back". They are mighty glad to get back with the independent agent and one of his companies.

A few years ago, the companies reduced the auto insurance rates in this province. Then an unforeseen series of heavy losses forced them to increase their rates sharply. I am sure it is the hope of all concerned that we will reach a plateau and that auto rates will be stabilized.

I do not deny, Mr. Speaker, that there have been problems but I believe that solutions can be found.

The alternative to our present system is the adoption of a plan similar to the compulsory auto insurance plan in force in New York state. This I should not like to recommend except as a last resort. Under a compulsory automobile insurance plan, we could look for rate increases from 50 to 300 per cent.

A government-operated automobile insurance plan, I feel, would be totally unacceptable to our people. What we need is less government in business and more business in government. Under the Robarts government, this is what we are enjoying and will, I predict, continue to enjoy for many years to come.

So in closing, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say "Forward Ontario, let Robarts show the way".

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Speaker, the leader of the Opposition has set the tone for the participation of this party in this debate in saying that this party will vote for the amendment. I must confess that I have such high respect for the leader of the Opposition that I will support him but I do so reluctantly.

This resolution would be all right if it stopped at the first paragraph and left off what the hon. member for St. David has so aptly called the grab bag of the (a), (b), (c) and (d), subparagraph 2. And it might well be called Pandora's box or a box of goodies sold at a church social.

The point I would like to make at the outset is to the Minister of Agriculture and Food through you, that here was a remarkably apt opportunity for our friends in the

socialist party, in moving this amendment, to make an expostulation of the philosophy of government upon which they allege to be founded.

The House might have been treated to some description by the leader of the New Democratic Party of the basis upon which a socialist government would proceed to bring the affairs of Ontario into order. But no matter how long we sit in this House—and I have been here a mere eight years—we wait in vain for such an expostulation of philosophy. On the contrary, and seizing the remarkable opportunity that was given to him to amend the supply motion, we see that he preferred to indulge in demagoguery. Oh yes, nothing short. He seizes four items which are consistent with his eternal vote-catching techniques. He is the man who, if you keep your ears open, you will hear from time to time—he has said it to me when I sat along this row, I have heard him say it this session to others—his favourite expression is “how many votes will that get?”

Mr. Bryden: He has never said it yet.

Mr. MacDonald: I never said it at all.

Mr. Sopha: That was the barb that he directed at me and I will never forget that one. In other words, every activity in which he is engrossed in the House must be correlated at all times to the number of votes. Now that is what this trading stamp issue is; that is the trading stamp solution; that is the public automobile insurance solution; that is the public housing and that, as my leader aptly pointed out when the hon. Prime Minister was away, that is the commentariat in item (d). So, in the vacancy of some expostulation of the philosophy upon which they would proceed if they had the range of government, he and the other member of the Bobbsey twins have sat here throughout the debate. While the Minister of Transport was speaking, while the member for St. David was speaking, the canard is hurled across the floor, the little innuendo, the laughter, and sometimes the member for Woodbine—

Mr. MacDonald: Which side is the member on?

Mr. Sopha: I am not on the hon. member's, Mr. Speaker. There is nothing more clear than that.

Mr. Bryden: That is good.

Mr. MacDonald: When the member is down to specifics he is on their side.

Mr. Sopha: The motion overlooks the basic problem but I will try to put it in philosophic terms as well as I am able, to attempt to elucidate just the basis upon which I as a Liberal approach a motion of this nature. It overlooks the basic problem that in this society the worker is in a constant struggle to try to ensure or try to bring about that state of reality where his share of the items of production bear some close relationship to the prices which he must pay for them. The fact is that in this system the capital that the worker, who forms the greatest number of the bodies of consumers—his capital, that is, his energies, his abilities, his aptitudes, his capacities, his ingenuity and all the other things that make up a human being, when he applies them to the economic system he never gets a fair return for his application.

On the contrary, I say to the Minister of Mines (Mr. Wardrope), when it becomes capital in terms of plants or buildings or money supply, an acquisition of a large amount of money, then the return on the application of that capital is at any point of time in this society incommensurate with what is contributed. Another way of putting it—you cannot put it any better than Frank Underhill put it a number of years ago, and it bears repetition. Just let me interpolate. Who was he? He was one of the writers of the Regina Manifesto back in 1932. Where has he gone now? I would like to hear some day when I invite this disquisition on their philosophy; I would like to hear them say once and for all, is the Regina Manifesto still part of their platform?

Mr. MacDonald: No.

Mr. Sopha: No. I am told by other socialists it is.

Mr. MacDonald: It was 30 or 40 years ago.

Mr. Sopha: I am told it is. Frank Underhill put it very aptly, “In this society the lion's share goes to the lions.”

Mr. MacDonald: That is why he is in favour of the American corporations now.

Mr. Sopha: That is the kind of people that are so well known to the Minister of Economics and Development. In the Treasury benches he is probably closer to those people who are the recipients of privilege than any other member in the House. And those are the ones on whose behalf he continuously speaks.

To be a Liberal and to get at this problem of consumer prices, is to believe that the

equitable distribution of the goods produced should be as equitable as possible among those who produce them. That is what we strive for, that is the Liberal philosophy that has attended the Liberal Party since well before Confederation, that goods produced should be equitably distributed among those who produce them.

Now I can put it another way and I can use the words of a great leader of the Conservative Party, who said it slightly differently, Arthur Meighen. And I expect he is still one of those persons—he ought to be—who is revered by any person who truly would call himself a Progressive Conservative.

He said at one time, “the activity of government ought to be directed to the bringing in of legislation that is in favour of the man behind.” That is the consumer. That is the worker. That is the large mass of the unprivileged group and that is the proper direction of government. We as politicians, if we are worth our salt at all, must direct our efforts at all times to the maximization of the share of what we produce in the hands of the great mass of the people who produce it.

Mr. Bryden: Just as long as nothing is done.

Mr. Sopha: When of course we reach that Utopia, and we recognize the fairness of that principle which has really been the underlying, driving force of the 20th century governments in all the western countries, trade unions will disappear. We will never have any use for them.

The member for Scarborough West (Mr. S. Lewis) yesterday was telling the Minister of Public Welfare (Mr. Yaremko) to liquidate himself, eliminate himself. I use this line of thought in the same direction, that we will not have to be worried about strikes and industrial disharmony and all the rest of the incidents of an economic system where the great mass of the workers at all times are struggling to keep up. There is the point. They are struggling to keep up because they are always behind. They never have enough.

Their lives often are fraught with anxiety about where the mortgage payment will come from, what will happen if the job is lost, what is going to happen if sickness hits the family. That is the story of the struggle, Mr. Speaker, in the economic system in which we live.

Now it is not the matter of trading stamps, looked at that way. It is not the matter of

public ownership of the insurance companies. It is not the matter of harrying a government to build houses. A government that founded its activities upon that principle would be building houses, or would be persuading others to build them. The government would not have to rely on the Minister of Economics and Development wandering in here on a Friday morning with nothing better to do than reading a lengthy political argumentative statement to a House that had not the patience to listen to him.

It is not the matter of the last item of the resolution, establishing some board of commissars. When the Minister of Agriculture and Food says that the member for Woodbine is a Marxist, he is right. Of course he is a Marxist. I have heard him say, and he has told me, that the only important thing in life is to make sure that workers get more money, the wages the—

Mr. Bryden: That is an important matter.

Mr. Sopha: The only important thing. He said that to me. That is the doctrine of Marx. But I would like for one of them to get up here and extend it and reveal it to us instead of the *ad hoc* doctrine that we see—

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The hon. member for Sudbury seems to be making a profession of quoting alleged private conversations with people in which he certainly grossly misquotes what they say, and as far as I am concerned I have never made any such statement in my life. I believe getting better wages for workers is very important. But I certainly do not think, and I doubt if anyone would believe, that I consider that it is the only important thing.

I would suggest that he cease quoting these imaginary private conversations he has had.

Mr. Sopha: It is not imaginary, Mr. Speaker. But I never thought in 1967 that it is a slur to be called a Marxist. I thought that was perfectly all right.

Mr. MacDonald: He did not say that.

Mr. Bryden: I was correcting the other.

Mr. MacDonald: He was just correcting the quotation.

Mr. Sopha: Because Karl Marx has had a profound influence on the way you and I live, Mr. Speaker, and I do not see that that is an innuendo. But I will leave it.

Mr. Bryden: I did not say anything about Karl Marx.

Mr. MacDonald: It was your misinformation that was the innuendo.

Mr. Sopha: But I will just leave that. And finally—I suspect my time is about up—I want to just refer to a very dramatic and a very challenging environment in which I found myself a few months ago when I and other politicians, indeed the federal member for Nickel Belt, a socialist, was there, and we were invited to a meeting of a ladies consumers' group. That was a very enervating and a very stirring occasion to see these several hundred women who had come to the point of frustration and anger about consumer prices.

They met in a very large hall in Sudbury and they wanted to give voice to their anger about the prices they had to pay. They had my greatest sympathy because I am one of those blessed with an income above the modest proportions of people in my community who moil in the ground for the base metals.

So help me, Mr. Speaker, I do not know how they do it, in going through the turnstiles in Loblaws or A & P or Dominion Stores. I do not know how they do it; how they are able to stretch that weekly stipend to buy the necessities for themselves, their families, clothe them and give them some of the amenities of life.

Well these people felt they could not do it and several hundreds of them met in a hall to complain about it. I went and watched the mental environment and the emotional disquiet that preoccupied these ladies and I think it was a much more sensitive atmosphere, I take it, from the tea party that the leaders of the three parties went to somewhere in this city a few days ago.

Summed up, that meeting might have been repeated all across this country and it is nothing more than the expression of people who work for a living, that if this country is going to be truly democratic and we are all going to share in its wealth and bounty, then we must move forward to an understanding of the principle that the great wealth we produce must be distributed fairly and equitably. And until now that is not a reality in the real world of democracy and I might mention to my friend from Riverdale that a great Marxist, a great thinker, Crawford Brough MacPherson, pointed that out.

Mr. Bryden: Brough.

Mr. Sopha: Crawford Brough MacPherson pointed that out in the Massey lectures of 1965 on the Canadian broadcasting corporation, and as long as I am in politics, I say, Mr. Speaker, that the maximization of the satisfaction of those wants of which I speak will be the object of my activity. And when we reach that point in the recognition of this principle then we will see a situation where the owners of privilege, right now the greatest owners of privilege, I say to the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner), and he well knows it, are those who control large amounts of capital. They are the privileged people in this country and they get far more than their share of the goods produced in the country.

I might have said something about this public automobile insurance business; this nonsense in this paragraph (b) had I but the time, but I can only say that one alone would make me vote against the resolution because—

Mr. Bryden: Well vote against it.

Mr. Sopha: —our system in Ontario is infinitely superior to the one in the province of Saskatchewan. Because in Ontario at least, under our system if you sustain serious injuries, say quadriplegia, or paraplegia, you have a chance of getting an adequate judgment. Under that system they throw you a mere pittance.

Mr. Bryden: Why has the Liberal government not abolished it?

Mr. Sopha: Well, I do not talk to Mr. Thatcher. I would not know why he has not.

Mr. G. R. Carton (Armourdale): Mr. Speaker, I enter this debate this afternoon to expand a little more fully the matter of trading stamps, because I have not heard, quite frankly, one valid argument against them.

In order to discuss this matter intelligently one must assume that the purpose of those who wish to ban trading stamps is to lower the price of food costs. Thus, it must follow that although we are specifically debating the trading stamp issue this afternoon it is in order, and is in fact necessary, to state a few basic premises on this entire topic.

In this discussion there is no doubt in my mind, and I am sure that all hon. members of this House will agree with me, that the increase in consumer food prices has been mainly due to the higher marketing costs rather than the higher farm prices. This was pointed out by the hon. leader of the official Opposition.

If anyone doubts this, I point out that the prices received by the farmers are only 15 per cent above the 1949 level while the prices paid by the farmers for work, services, and so on, has increased by 55 per cent in the same period. This has been made possible by the increased efficiency, and I take my hat off to them, by the increased efficiency of the Ontario agricultural industry.

Rising food costs have been part of the whole inflationary process presently occurring in Canada, and it has been brought about by such things as the Pearson formula of allowing 30 per cent wage increases, and the federal Minister of Labour talking wage parity between Canada and the United States—a country which has a much stronger economy and a much more productive and better educated labour force.

It has been brought about by all governments piling welfare on top of welfare and it has been brought about, in my opinion, by the failure of government at all levels to help correct inflation by curtailing expenditures. Mr. Speaker, I will now make four or five observations on the food costs in general.

Only in Canada, the United States and Denmark is food expenditure below 25 per cent of all living costs, and in Ontario it is slightly less than 20 per cent. I further point out that ironically enough those countries who pay the most for food often receive a diet which is substandard in quantity and in quality. I point out that expenditures on food in Canada on a percentage of disposable income has dropped from 24.7 per cent in 1950 to 21.2 per cent in 1964.

In terms of earning power, practically all Ontario-produced foods have become less expensive during the last 15 years. For example, an average hourly rate of the factory worker in Ontario in 1949 allowed the purchase of six quarts of milk. In 1965 it allowed the purchase of nine quarts of milk. In 1949 it bought 1.2 pounds of sirloin and in 1966 it bought two pounds of sirloin.

The Ontario food council study shows that 18 cents of the family dollar in Canada is spent on food; 29 cents in Britain and 53 cents in Russia. Thus all is not necessarily gloom and doom, Mr. Speaker. But by the same token we must examine, we must continue to re-examine, all areas to ensure that those of our citizens who are on a fixed income, or on a non-hourly rate of work, do not suffer.

Mr. Speaker, in the good old days the chain system competed by offering lower food prices. Now they operate on gimmicks to en-

tice the innocent housewife into the store, content in the knowledge that having accomplished this, they have a captive customer subject to the razzle dazzle of price specials, beautiful packaging, and other merchandising tricks.

One of the most deadly practices, in my opinion, and one which should be legislated out of existence even more than trading stamps, is loss leader selling. This is a damaging practice and is primarily responsible for putting some small businesses out of business as well as bankrupting some small farmers. Loss leaders cause marked fluctuations in prices because obviously other prices must be increased to compensate.

Another area needing attention, Mr. Speaker, is packaging. Standard size should be compulsory as we have in Ontario through The Farm Products Grades and Sales Act, which regulates fruits and vegetables according to weights. How can the housewife compare prices when we have small size, medium size, large size, king size, giant size and super size? It is a fact and a well known fact, Mr. Speaker, that baby food and soft drinks have recently increased in price because of the new type of container. The consumer should demand packaging of two types only—a bulk size which they may purchase for a lower price, and a convenient size. In reality, over the past years the consumer has not really been the boss. The consumer has only the selection of what the stores provide. Another deceptive, misleading and annoying practice, Mr. Speaker, is this sign on articles that says so many cents off—so many cents off what? Even if you buy two for a certain price I myself have seen where you could buy singly for less. Buying brand names can be costly because I am also informed that the same quality exists in many non-name brands which can be bought much more cheaply because there are no advertising gimmicks and no selling costs as it is done under contract. Now, Mr. Speaker, let us turn to the more specific question at hand and I ask your indulgence while I state a few propositions that I have found in my research.

Canadian Facts Limited during January of this year made a survey and their findings—and I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that surveys can be geared to certain groups of people, but this works on both sides of the ladder—their findings are that 70 per cent favoured the stamps, 18 per cent opposed the stamps and 12 per cent had no opinion. Now, Mr. Speaker, there are 450 employees working directly for the trading stamp companies and there are 3,550 employed by companies sup-

plying the merchandise. This figure of 3,550 is attributable to the merchandising that is done for the stamp companies. This was done on a survey of the industries involved. More than 100 secondary industries in Ontario supply merchandise premiums to the stamp industry, having a wholesale value as was stated earlier this afternoon of more than \$20 million. In fact, 80 per cent of the merchandise premiums supplied by the stamp companies in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes, and Newfoundland are manufactured by companies with their plants in Ontario. This \$20 million market would be lost if trading stamps were banned, for they are additional sales not replaced by sales through ordinary retail sales outlets. Ninety-eight per cent of all trading stamps issued are redeemed. This figure is accepted by the federal income tax authorities in dealing with companies in that field.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Department of Labour studied the impact of trading stamps on food costs over the past 15 years and concluded that any price changes resulting from stamps are so insignificant that they do not even justify inclusion in the consumer price index. Indeed, here in Canada, the food prices of those provinces out west where the ban is in effect are higher than they are here. A study of the United States Department of Agriculture, which traced the price trends of stamp and non-stamp supermarkets in 21 cities, found a tiny gap of six tenths of one per cent in favour of the non-stamp supermarkets and their report concluded that the value of premiums that customers get with stamps is 2 per cent and therefore there was a saving to the consumer of 1.4 per cent. If trading stamps were abolished no one would gain. Not the producer, for certainly the farmer would not get any higher prices, nor would the consumer gain. Trading stamps are part of the promotional and advertising budget of a retailer. If he cannot have trading stamps, he will divert this money to radio, to television, to magazines, newspapers, billboards, bingos and give-aways and like games.

If this form of promotion, that is, trading stamps, is to be singled out and discriminated against, then all forms of promotion are bad. And we might just as well outlaw all forms of advertising and promotion. Trading stamps, Mr. Speaker, are in effect a discount for paying cash. It is no different from the ancient baker's dozen which we have all heard since childhood, when one extra item was included for the regular patrons.

Now, Mr. Speaker, having outlined briefly a few practices that I consider more costly than trading stamps, and having outlined a few facts concerning trading stamps, I would like to conclude by stating my own personal views on the proposition put forth by the leader of the New Democratic Party.

A few months ago I served on a panel with the hon. member for Downsview (Mr. Singer) and the executive assistant to the New Democratic leader and I must confess that at that time I was slightly inclined in favour of banning trading stamps, as were the other two panelists. It is so easy to delude oneself into categorically stating that trading stamps are a form of merchandising promotion, it is a form of expense and therefore *a fortiori* must add to the cost of food. Since then I have taken every opportunity to discuss this whenever I had occasion to meet housewives. Quite frankly the average housewife in my riding is not excited one way or the other. More often than not they have stated that the Legislature surely had more to be concerned about than trading stamps.

Indeed, outside of my New Democratic opponent in Armourdale, a very fine gentleman, I do not recall having heard from more than one constituent on this issue who wanted them banned, while I have had two telegrams, two letters and three telephone calls favouring their retention.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to read an excerpt of one of the letters received by me. I will not mention the name. It says:

Dear Sir:

I am taking the opportunity of writing to you after reading that you were helping the lower-income people in their fight to retain our right to continue the pleasure of still being able to have the use of trading stamps. They do not raise the price of food as I tour all the stores to shop where I can get the best bargains. And I have to shop on foot but I do not mind a little walking. I find the stores that do not give away anything charge just the same for their groceries. They might knock off a few cents on one article but they add it on something else, so you go to the stores where it is cheaper. But with most of the stores being in a combine, most of their products are the same price anyway.

The people who are making such a fuss about the stamps are people who are in the bigger money brackets, who love to talk of their big clubs but are too lazy to lick a few stamps. It is a case of the

poor people being discriminated against. They are the ones who get the benefit from the stamps. If you were to go to the place where they get the merchandise in exchange for the stamps, and just see the pleasure on the people's faces as they come out with all the nice gifts and toys for their children at Christmas time.

I am a widow of ten years and have very little to live on. I have nine grandchildren and they are very happy, especially at Christmas time.

And so on, Mr. Speaker. In other words, this is a letter from one of my constituents, one of the so-called, in her own words, "poorer constituents", and she ends it up by saying:

So please do all you can and let us keep our trading stamps and be able to at least get something out of life besides having to pay taxes on everything you buy which goes to the government.

So, Mr. Speaker, knowing that this was coming up for discussion, I wrote an article—I write a weekly article in the local paper up there—I wrote an article specifically on trading stamps which concluded as follows:

This problem will be discussed quite thoroughly in the immediate future and I would appreciate hearing from my constituents in expressing their views pro and con, so that my contribution to discussion will be based on an informed opinion having regard to the expression of opinions of the residents of Armourdale.

Mr. Speaker, I did not receive one reply and I would deign to suggest that any of the members for North York would state that it was not because the paper does not have wide circulation; it does. I would like to suggest that someone does read my column.

In addition to the column, I have a weekly clinic and I have not had one person come to me on this particular matter. Government involvement, Mr. Speaker—and I conclude now—in certain areas should be kept to the minimum and it is only when the people of the province make it abundantly clear that they want action in these areas, that the Legislature should take this action. This has not been indicated in the area of the banning of trading stamps and until it is or until I have heard more convincing arguments than presented in this debate, I am opposed to the ban. I am speaking for those people who are not organized, I am speaking also for those people in my riding.

Let the consumer, let the citizens in this province be the jury and the judge on the principle of trading stamps. That is where the decision properly lies, not with this Legislature.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to take this moment to recognize a distinguished visitor in the Speaker's gallery, the honourable Reginald J. Holzer, judge of the circuit court of Cook county, Illinois. We welcome Mr. Holzer to the Legislature.

Mr. Sargent: Kelso Roberts, too.

Mr. F. Young (Yorkview): Mr. Speaker, I want to take the time at my disposal to deal with one particular aspect of the increased cost of living. I cannot let this occasion go by without calling to the attention of the hon. member for Armourdale that if people need luggage or any other particular item, they are going to get it at one time or another. It is not going to result—if trading stamps are banned—in luggage companies going out of existence, and the other companies going out of existence. If the people need the items, they are going to get them by buying them in the regular way rather than by buying them through trading stamps. I just pass that along for his information.

I was also very interested in the vision which was put before us by the hon. member for Sudbury. One thing he forgot, I think, in that vision, which we all share, is that his party holds the levers of economic power in Ottawa where they can be exercised to advantage to bring this vision to reality. He should recognize this fact and he should realize that that party has held power now for a long, long time in the federal field, where the fiscal powers are exercised and where this vision can be realized in a real way. I cannot understand either—

Mr. Sargent: That is right.

Mr. Young: I cannot understand either why, if car insurance has proved such an awful experience in Saskatchewan, why that man, who is now the Premier, and who fought against car insurance all those years, while the CCF and New Democrats were in power, why he has not abolished this terrible thing. He does not abolish it because he knows that people would not stand for that abolition because their experience with it is good. They know that they are getting car insurance far more cheaply and far more effectively than private enterprise could possibly supply it.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Young: I notice this, that my friends to the right, when the chips are down, opt for public control and public action in various fields and yet they try to keep the illusion of an undying allegiance to what they call free enterprise or private enterprise, whatever it may be. I wish they would come down on one side or the other of this fence. We at least know, except for perhaps trading stamps, exactly where the people on the opposite side sit. Certainly if the hon. member for Sudbury had bothered to read the programmes of this party he would realize we know where we stand. But from month to month the programme of this party to the right seems to change and we never know exactly what side of the fence they are going to come down on.

An hon. member: Shame.

Mr. Nixon: Why do you not pay attention?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr, Speaker: Order.

Mr. Young: All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that if they want to be honest in this matter according to the speech of the hon. member for Sudbury, they had better vote against this amendment instead of for it as the leader said. This is a choice they have to make and have to make soon.

Mr. Speaker, I want to speak this afternoon on one of the great factors in the higher cost of living today—the matter of housing. The heavy pressure that the housing shortage is exerting on the cost of living was figured out by the economic council of Canada, which issued this warning in its last annual report:

In the absence of an early up-turn in new residential construction, a severe housing shortage could emerge very quickly in Canada and rent increases could become a powerful new factor accentuating the rise in living costs and in wage demands.

In the face of such warnings by this, and other authorities, one would think that at last the government would be galvanized into real action. Instead it has taken refuge in yet another cruel hoax to go along with all the cruel hoaxes it has inflicted on the people of Ontario over the last twenty years. It has come up with what it chooses to call Home Ownership Made Easy, a slogan and not a programme. I would say that HOME stands for a couple of things, the Hopes Of

Millions Exploded, with a Hoax Of Major Extent. That is really what it adds up to.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Young: The *Toronto Globe and Mail* hit the nail on the head in an editorial February 10 dealing with this matter, when it said:

One cannot in fact escape the suspicion that HOME and the Oakville project are the socialist products of Conservative minds that are unacquainted with socialist philosophy. Real socialists would have done it more logically.

As one looks over the history of housing in the northern European countries how true that is, where these countries have tackled this with a real outlook on what is needed by the people of those nations, uninhibited by the old cliché of private enterprise.

To be logical one must firmly identify the problem and then find out how to overcome it. Such an analysis would lead inescapably to two basic conclusions, which have been emphasized over and over again by every authority in the field but which this government so far refuses to accept.

First, there must be a dramatic increase in the construction of housing units. Estimates vary.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Young: But there is little doubt that housing starts in Ontario in 1966 were 10,000 short of meeting the current needs without cutting into the backlog at all. Moreover in Metro Toronto, where the shortage is more acute, there was actually a 59 per cent decline in starts in the first month of 1967. And again I point out to my friends on the right that the major cause of this was the tight-money policy of the federal Liberal government in trying to curb what they called an inflationary trend.

Mr. G. A. Kerr (Halton): And the federal sales tax.

Mr. Young: And the sales tax, sure. It was federal action in any case which was primarily responsible for the downturn, but you have not helped it a bit.

Second, since the housing shortage hits harder at those families in the lower half of the income scale, top priority and public policy must be given to gearing to income rental housing. It is time the government stopped leaving most of the poor and the relatively poor to the slum landlords.

Mr. Bryden: Hear, hear.

Mr. Young: *Good Housing for Canadians*, published in 1964 by the Ontario association of housing authorities, estimated that a million housing units would have to be built between 1961 and 1980 to meet the needs of low income families and senior citizens, the two groups whose housing needs are greatest. Ontario's share would be 350,000 units. From this it would seem that we ought to be building 16,000 to 17,000 public housing units a year, in addition to those built by private enterprise. Clearly we have been falling far short of this target, and in the meantime more and more people are being priced out of the private market. Therefore the target which was valid when *Good Housing for Canadians* was published is now completely out of date. A more realistic figure now would be about 20,000 units a year, both to meet current needs and to cut into the backlog.

Now let us place the HOME programme alongside these requirements. In more than two years of its existence the Ontario housing corporation has constructed or purchased 4,280 units in the province as a whole, including 2,901 in Metro Toronto. The pitiful tale told by these figures was fully revealed yesterday when the Minister was forced to confess, in answer to a question, that more than half the units in the province as a whole, and more than three quarters of those in Metro were purchased, not constructed. Now, units purchased by OHC add precisely nothing to the critical short supply of housing. It is true it may make money available for private enterprises to go ahead and build more houses, but what we need is an addition to what private enterprise can construct at the moment.

Moreover, they add very little even to the stock of geared-to-income rental housing except over a long period of time, and then only as the people already living in the purchased units are turfed out to fend for themselves in a desperately tight market. To get to the core of the Ontario housing corporation performance, one has to eliminate the purchased units and look at the number of units constructed over the last two years. There were only 1,793 in the whole province, or an average of 800 or so a year, as against a need of 20,000 per year.

In Metro Toronto only 638 units were constructed or about three hundred a year. Put that beside a waiting list of almost 7,000 applications, 6,792 for public housing and about 3,760 for senior citizens' housing as of February 28, 1967, not to speak of the

thousands who know it is useless to apply. It is obvious that the Ontario housing corporation has just not been with it.

Now I want to say here that I take off my hat to the job that is being done by the civil service in this field—in doing its utmost to find housing for people. But they are just not being given the tools to work with by this government and they are asking desperately for better tools and the time is here for this government to face facts and to provide those tools.

Moreover there is little indication that this government is going to get with it in the days to come. At present it has only 2,721 units under construction in the entire province for all purposes, although the Minister has said that he hopes to award contracts for an additional 2,394 units within 60 days. No indication is given of when any of these units will be available for occupancy, but the previous performance of the government leaves little doubt that on the most optimistic guess we have been presented here with a two or three year programme. The servicing of land and the problems of getting subdivision land processed will guarantee that.

Apart from a few minor fringes the only really new feature of HOME is a land assembly scheme. The Minister apparently told the press that 6,000 to 7,000 lots would be available within the year, 4,000 of them in Metro. I will not take the time to question the accuracy of these figures, but they have the earmarks of a wild over-optimistic stab in the dark.

But even if they are taken at face value, it has been noted they refer merely to lots that might be available within a year. In other words it will probably be close to two years before there will be houses on many of them. The processing, as I said, of subdivision plans, of servicing of lots and all this sort of thing, will slow it down. This will not even come close to compensating for the present shortage of construction for the private market alone.

Moreover, it will contribute nothing at all to the needs of those who cannot afford to get into the private market.

Where a \$15,000 house is built on a HOME lot, and mighty few houses will be built for less than that in Metro, only those with incomes of about \$8,000 a year will be able to afford the deal offered them by the Minister.

The 1961 census showed almost two thirds of Ontario's non-farm families with incomes of less than \$6,000 a year. Though incomes

have risen since then it is quite clear that more than half of our people are still going to be left completely out in the cold. HOME will not meet the housing crisis in 100 years, and in a year or two it will undoubtedly be phased out; just as Mr. Drew's second mortgage plan and Mr. Macaulay's rent certificate plan were phased out—not because they had no merit, but because they tackled only the fringes of the problem facing us.

The real problem from a governmental point of view is to meet the needs of those in the lower half of the income scale. These cannot possibly get into the private housing market even with the help of NHA loans or home land assembly. To do this the government should set itself an objective of constructing 20,000 geared-to-income rental units a year for the next decade.

Unfortunately housing projects cannot be brought into production overnight. And in view of the government's past neglect, it will probably be three to four years before they can hit the 20,000 target even with a most determined effort. Thus, we will have to set a higher target for the year following that. This will gradually meet the needs of the lower half of the income scale.

I was interested to see last fall the city of Rotterdam. There that city alone is building 130,000 housing units a year until the year 1980, with 30,000 of these in new towns surrounding that city. When we put that goal of one city against what we are accomplishing here, we can see the shortfall in Ontario.

If the government would accept the challenge of at least 20,000 homes a year, then private enterprise can probably be relied upon to meet the needs of the other half, the upper half, especially if it is assisted by government in obtaining mortgage money and assembling land; and this should be done. The Minister constantly displays a neurotic fear of interfering with private enterprise. Well, he need not worry here because both private enterprise and all the public can do over the next 10 years will be needed. Both can go flat out and work as hard as they can in the housing field and still we will not be caught up. Anything less will result in ever-worsening housing crises, Mr. Speaker, which not only will place intolerable pressures on the cost of living as the economic council has warned, but even worse, will confine more and more of our people to the rat-infested slums.

And so, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would simply say that we must, as a people

in Ontario, face this challenge. We must go all out in providing houses, private enterprise and public houses, we just cannot afford to delay one moment longer.

Hon. T. L. Wells (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, my first words in taking part in this debate would be to say that what we see on the other side of this House reminds me of the story of the fellow who went out for a date with Siamese twins. When he came home, someone asked: "Did you have a good time?" and his answer was, "Well, yes and no." We have a kind of yes-and-no attitude, I think, from the members of the Liberal Party. What we are waiting to see, Mr. Speaker, is how the member for Sudbury stands up when the vote is called.

Mr. MacDonald: He is going to stand up on both sides.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Perhaps he will have one leg on one side and one leg on the other.

Mr. Sargent: Who is the Minister going to attack?

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am not going to attack anybody. I am just going to try, Mr. Speaker, to bring a little light and reason to this whole subject. Because, you see, I think we have seen here today, Mr. Speaker, another example of our friends on the other side trying to create this grey, gloomy picture. Everything is grey and gloomy. They present a motion here which suggests 19th century solutions to this vibrant 20th century in which we are now living, they want to set up a commissar to control things when living in an economy that is moving ahead and must be left to move ahead under its own impetus.

Mr. Sargent: What is the hon. Minister doing about housing?

Mr. Bryden: Nothing!

Hon. Mr. Wells: They are suggesting a lot of 19th century remedies. Why are we enjoying such prosperous times in Ontario today? We are—

Mr. MacDonald: Certainly in spite of this government.

Hon. Mr. Wells: We are enjoying them because more than 800 new industries have established in this province in the past five years. We are enjoying them because in the past five years 371,000 new jobs have been created.

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. Minister should deal with the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am going to get to the resolution, but this just shows you the kind of vibrant, moving economy we are living in, the kind of economy for which the hon. member would suggest 19th century methods to harness it down.

I think the fact is, Mr. Speaker—and I would agree with the member for Sudbury in this—you cannot have such a thing as a wage and rent review board, you have to go all the way. You either have what we have now or you have a wage and rental control board and history shows us this.

Mr. Bryden: Oh no; there is doctrinaire inflexibility if ever I heard it.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right, the member can get up and prove to me that you can have something different, because history shows that this is all you can have. Even then, Mr. Speaker, history shows to us that these types of control boards are only really effective in stress times such as war times. There are a thousand ways of evading this type of thing, they stifle the economy. Let us get to the root of this problem. What did we have? We had a wage, price and rental control situation during the last war.

Mr. Bryden: We have wage review right now, through conciliation boards.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right, we had this during the last war. How many people were employed in this area? I am told about 6,000 civil servants were employed to operate the wartime prices and trade board—6,000 employees. Think of that, Mr. Speaker, think of the kind of bureaucracy we would have to set up if we brought in a price and wage control board. Think of the bureaucracy. And what does this mean?

Mr. MacDonald: The Minister has not read the resolution.

Mr. Sargent: You have 58 commissions now.

Mr. Speaker: I would remind the members that each speaker has an allotted time, so he would have more time to speak if there were fewer interjections. I would ask the Minister if he would return to the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Wells: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, but my premise is that you cannot have such a thing as a wage and rental review board; it would eventually be a control board.

Mr. Bryden: So you set up your own straw man just to knock it down.

Hon. Mr. Wells: A review board or control board would mean a greatly increased government bureaucracy and that in turn would mean greatly increased spending. And listen to this editorial from the current issue of the *Financial Times*. It is commenting on Louis Rasminsky's recent message, which is reported in the pages of the *Financial Times*. It says:

The main burden of Mr. Rasminsky's message reported on previous pages is that Canada is heading for real trouble whenever its costs per unit of output get out of line with the United States, as they are now doing. This is a lesson that needs to be pounded into all sections of the community, including the politicians, for it is a lesson that applies to government as well as to labour.

Government spending at the rate which we are reaching in Canada is too large a burden to be carried on the backs of those who are producing goods and services. It saps the resources of business and individuals. Directly or indirectly it adds to the cost of all our goods and reduces our ability to compete with producers in other countries who are bearing a small burden. We must in all sanctity now call a halt in new government programmes until the economy has grown enough to sustain them.

And yet our friends over here are suggesting a vast new government programme that would increase spending, increase taxes, and in turn increase costs to the producers.

Mr. MacDonald: You have extra portfolios in the Cabinet.

Mr. Bryden: We could cut out some of those extra portfolios.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Mr. Speaker, turning to the prices section of this resolution, I think we have to take a look and try and get at the bottom of this situation. Are prices really higher today than they were 10 or 15 years ago?

Mr. Sargent: Ask the housewife.

Hon. Mr. Wells: All right, fine; the member for Grey North says "ask the housewife". That is what I did. I asked the housewife and what did I find out? Here is what I found out, Mr. Speaker, and let me just show you something here. Here is a package of oatmeal, a package of ready-to-serve sugar

and spice instant oatmeal, which sells for 37 cents. This is what my wife buys today and this is what many housewives buy.

Look at this, here is a package of the good old-fashioned oatmeal; it is still on the shelves of every store today and it sells for 22 cents. 22 cents and you get 10 or 12 servings out of this. But what happens? Half the housewives buy the ready-to-serve oatmeal today. Why do they buy it? They buy it for convenience and in order to save time.

Mr. Speaker, 33 per cent of the provincial work force today is now female, and we find that there are more and more working housewives—full time or part time, and in order, Mr. Speaker, for these women to earn the extra income that they want, they have to take time that they would normally spend working in the home to go out and work. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, when these housewives go into our supermarkets what do they do? They pick up items like this: They pick up frozen TV dinners; they pick up cake mixes; they pick up a whole variety of pre-packaged convenience foods. They buy these, whereas their counterparts 15 years ago were buying a sack of flour, rolled oats that had to be boiled all night, and so forth.

What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that really what is happening is that because—and I am not against these women working—because they are working they do not have the time to spend in the home doing the things that women 20 years ago did, like baking all their own things themselves, boiling oatmeal all night, and so forth. They want convenience. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, they are willing to pay for it just the same as they might be willing to pay for a servant to come in and do these jobs for them.

What I am suggesting is that this resolution is completely meaningless because when you analyze the situation, do we really have increased prices in many areas? If we do, Mr. Speaker, why would our friends over here suggest that there will only be a price and rent review committee? Why did they not include, Mr. Speaker, a wage review committee? Why would they not include that?

Actually in those items where there is a price increase, like clothing, those items where there has been a marked increase in the past few years have been those items where the largest content is labour. In these, Mr. Speaker, in the commodities and services where the highest content is labour there has been the most marked increase.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Wells: Let my friends get up and disprove this, Mr. Speaker. Let them get up and say why there should not be a wage review board if they are so adamant about having these other types of control. There is no wage review board now and they know that the highest cost in many of these items is wages and that they all must be reviewed together if you are going to review any. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think that the idea of a price and rent review board is completely unacceptable. It would turn into a price and wage control board and this is the kind of thing that the people in this province do not want. It is the kind of thing this government would not do.

We do the real things that help the consumer. We are the government that established—while they are still talking about it in Ottawa—we are the government that established the consumer protection bureau. We are the government that have established and passed the consumer protection legislation and we are the government that is going to solve the housing problem, as the hon. Minister of Economics and Development with his HOME programme will tell you in a few minutes. So, Mr. Speaker, rather than listening to all these gloomy, pious statements, and these gloomy, pious resolutions, let us get ahead with our business and live with a vibrant government in this vibrant province.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have just been informed that time is running rather close so I do not intend to take too long because I am afraid that much that I would say would be repetitious. Nevertheless I wish to go on record as certainly supporting the first paragraph of this resolution that this House regrets the government's failure to take forthright action to deal with the high and increased cost of living.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Armourdale, who gave a very informed speech, in my opinion, this afternoon, quoted some figures about the cost of living. One of those that he used was that in the province of Ontario today less than 20 per cent of the income is used for food. This figure, of course, is correct, but I may remind you, Mr. Speaker, and the members here, that one third of every dollar that is made in the province of Ontario today goes in the form of taxes, either municipally, provincially or federally, and nobody nor any organization has any more to say about the cost of living than the government here in

the province of Ontario or for that matter, the government in Ottawa.

I might say this to show that I intend to be completely fair, that if this resolution were dealing with the government in Ottawa as far as the first paragraph of this resolution is concerned, I would give exactly the same speech. I am going to attempt to be fair and play no favourites. But surely, Mr. Speaker, it is an absolute fact that the cost of government, not only in the province of Ontario, but in the whole of Canada for the number of people that we have living here is just reaching out of all proportion. Is it not an acknowledged fact that we in Ontario or in Ottawa, or in the municipalities, are spending money like a bunch of drunken sailors?

Somewhere, some time, this bill is going to have to be paid and, as a matter of fact, I think personally that we are fast approaching the point of no return. We are acting as if taxes must continually go up. Nowhere do I hear a suggestion on the opposite benches that some time in the future—one year, five years, ten years from now—there will be a possibility that instead of the provincial sales tax going to seven or eight per cent that we might be able to reduce it to three per cent. This, Mr. Speaker, shows a decided lack of leadership, it is a lackadaisical approach or a lackadaisical point of leadership by those gentlemen who are sitting opposite to us now.

As a matter of fact, we in the province of Ontario, and we in Canada, are trying to keep up with our neighbours to the south and, Mr. Speaker, it is an absolute impossibility that 20 million people in a country that is larger than the United States can have the same standard of living as a country with 200 million.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Whicher: Because we have too many thousands of roads to build in this country, too many thousands of miles of railways to keep up, too many thousands of miles of telephone lines and hydro lines, and so on, with not enough people living in the country to support these things. This is why I think that some time this government is going to face the actual reality that there is a breaking point; that some time or other, instead of continually saying "yes" to the cries of the people, we as politicians—all of us—that some government is going to have to stand up and say "no", that we simply cannot afford it.

Mr. Speaker, because of the many services that governments have given to people—in my opinion it is encouraged by a certain small percentage of Canadians, a certain small percentage of people living in the province of Ontario, of the lackadaisical effort by our people. People are looking for too many services that are incorrectly called free and we as politicians in many instances, in order to buy votes, give it to them whether we can afford to give it or not.

Mr. MacDonald: What has this got to do with the resolution?

Mr. Whicher: Surely there is nobody in the province of Ontario, certainly among the politicians of Ontario, who would not like to see our old age pensioners get \$150 a month. Of course we would, because many of us have mothers and fathers who are recipients of those pensions and the many other services that governments give. But nevertheless somebody is going to have to say: can we afford to give all of these services? Can a large country such as ours, stretching from Halifax to Vancouver, with only 20 million people, afford to give all of these services?

Mr. Bryden: Here is the authentic voice of Toryism.

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Chairman, I hear many rumblings to the left but I just simply say this: In Canada and in the province of Ontario today our taxes are higher than they are in the United States. And if they continue to go up then we are going to drive more of our people, and many of them are going now, to what they regard as higher salaries with less taxes. Let us be brutally frank in this—in California, with more sunshine.

Now, we have to do something; we have to provide leadership; we have to come to the point of reducing taxes at least to the level of the various states of the United States in order to keep our people here.

When we consider that one-third of all the money that every wage earner makes in this country goes to look after governments that are sitting opposite and in Ottawa, then we see that the cost of food, which is less than 20 per cent in the province of Ontario, is really a minor item compared to taxes.

If you wished to get to the real points of this resolution, one of the real points is this—that the cost of living is formulated by government more than anything else through the use of taxes.

Mr. MacDonald: Nonsense.

Mr. Whicher: This is not nonsense at all, because one-third of the money that is made in this province goes to taxes, whereas only 20 per cent goes towards the cost of food.

Mr. Bryden: What government programmes are you against?

Mr. Whicher: I am not against government programmes at all.

Mr. Bryden: Just against paying for them.

Mr. Whicher: I am not against government programmes but I am asking the government opposite to give us programmes that we can afford to get.

Mr. MacDonald: Which ones have we got that we can afford to cut down?

Mr. Whicher: I am not suggesting that we cut them down. I say that we have to look into this matter very, very seriously, and if we wish to bring the cost of living down no organization, or no corporate body, can do it in a more effective way than governments themselves. So, Mr. Speaker, I would say that this government has increased the cost of living many times over to the citizens of the province of Ontario.

Not once have I heard one of the government members say that we cannot afford it. We would like to give it to you, we want to have all of the things that they have anywhere in the world, to have the highest standard of living of any country. But can we, a small country with only 20 million people afford it? And, Mr. Speaker, in spite of rumblings to the left or maybe in my own party for all I know, or maybe in the Conservative benches, sooner or later—and it is going to be sooner in this particular instance instead of later—in the next five years I prophesy that governments in Canada, including the one opposite, whoever it may be—if it is my own party or the one sitting there now—are going to have to sit down and say this: Can we afford not only the demands of the people in the future but can we actually afford many of the services that we are now giving—

Mr. Bryden: This is one of Barry Goldwater's old speeches.

An hon. member: Or Ronald Reagan's.

Mr. Whicher: —unless we get more people in this country in order to pay for these services. These are the things that we need,

Mr. Speaker. The hon. Minister of Economics and Development, under whose department immigration comes, should have a meeting, in my opinion, with the Ministers in other provinces who look after the same departments and with the Minister of Immigration in Ottawa.

The main thing that we need in this country today, beyond any other, is people. If we are not going to get them by our own natural birth—and we certainly are not going to do it, because the province of Ontario in the last year, in the last four years has decreased in population by natural birth by 17 per cent—therefore, the only answer is through an immigration policy. This is crucial. It is suicidal if we do not get many, many thousands, many more millions of people into this country to develop it.

How many times have I heard, Mr. Speaker, in Europe when I visited there; that they do not know anything about Canada? Immediately the conversation goes to the south to the great United States. Why? Because of the fact that there are 200 million people there and they can afford things that we in the province of Ontario, and we in Canada, cannot afford.

Mr. MacDonald: What about the resolution?

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, the government opposite must take the leadership in order to do these things. They have not taken it. Taxes continually have risen. There seems to be no possibility that they will ever come down. Even in talking to the members of the government or to the members—so-called back benchers of the government's side—there is a feeling that taxes continually are going up.

If this happens, more and more doctors are going to leave for New York and for California; more engineers and more teachers, after we educate them, are going to leave for the so-called sunny south. Governments are going to have to take a stand, they are going to have to get more people here to pay for the things that you and I now regard as our natural right.

Mr. MacDonald: What about the resolution?

Mr. C. H. Peck (Scarborough Centre): Mr. Speaker, I would like to get back to the question of the resolution that we have been discussing here this afternoon and particularly as it applies to section (a) of the resolution regarding trading stamps.

The question to ban or not to ban trading stamps is one that has been discussed during the greatest part of this 20th century in Canada in both the House of Commons and in various Legislatures in the provinces. The Canadian Parliament legislated against trading stamps back in 1905, an Act that was revised in 1954.

In 1901 the province of Ontario legislated against them and in 1903 the province of Quebec enacted similar legislation. The Ontario Act was sustained by the court of appeal in Ontario but held *ultra vires* by the Quebec appeal court. Both were referred to the Supreme Court of Canada, but the decision of that court as rendered does not appear to have been recorded. The Ontario Act was repealed in 1913 and omitted from the revised statutes of Quebec in 1909. The reason these Acts were repealed at the time was that the stamp companies of that day were somewhat less than ethical in their approach to this business, in short, they were rogues and not the responsible, respectable businesses that the stamp companies are today.

British Columbia and Alberta have both within recent years enacted legislation to outlaw the use of trading stamps and many court cases have ensued and many loopholes have been found to circumvent the legislation which just plainly has not worked in those two provinces.

As a merchant who has spent most of my life merchandising I personally dislike the use of trading stamps and have always resisted the blandishments of the purveyors of the various types of stamps. My objection is that once you get into them, once a merchant gets into them, it is very difficult to get out, he is sort of locked in. But at times I have used other types of gimmicks and promotion. It is almost a requisite for anyone in the merchandising field today.

However, I do feel that those who wish to use trading stamps in preference to some other types of promotion should be allowed to do so. The ultimate consumer should decide whether to patronize an establishment that issues trading stamps or to go to another that does not. It is difficult, if not impossible, to differentiate between the various promotions that are used by all aggressive merchandisers. Premium plans, give-away schemes, and gimmick advertising are commonplace promotional devices in Canadian merchandising, particularly in the grocery trade. These devices range from gifts of towels and dishes with soap, to toys with breakfast cereal, and contests and lucky

draws to special offers of non-grocery products.

There are also the bingo games, and the promotion that certain service station chains use, where you pull up a tab and if you get two or three tigers you get a TV set or a trip to Jamaica, or something similar.

Almost all merchandisers budget, Mr. Speaker, a certain percentage of their gross towards advertising and promotions, and those who do not do this find their sales figures shrinking in the competitive free enterprise society that we have today. A merchant must decide in his own wisdom what form his promotional budget should take. Of all the promotions I have mentioned, only trading stamps have evoked any public controversy. And if they were eliminated or banned, the money spent on them would find its way into some other type of promotional activities.

Let us consider for just a moment the industry that is sustained by the trading stamps. We pay lip service to the need of encouraging and increasing our secondary industries in this country. There are hundreds of these industries, with thousands of employees manufacturing the merchandise redeemable by these stamps. Many of these premiums are small electrical appliances and lamps, manufactured here in Ontario by large companies like General Electric and Westinghouse, as well as many small companies.

How many thousands of people would be laid off if trading stamps were banned? How many members of the united electrical workers and other unions would lose their jobs? Perhaps the hon. member for York South can give us these figures, because he purports to speak for the unions.

I reiterate that trading stamps are only one of many promotional devices that retailers have adopted to promote sales on a competitive basis. In addition to stamps, retailers have redeemed cash register tapes and newspaper coupons. They have offered free tickets to the local events, held lucky draws for TV sets, appliances and cars, and furthermore merchandise incentives are not limited to retailers.

Manufacturers redeem or offer rewards for the return of box tops or coupons distributed with their products. Manufacturers and distributors also offer prizes and incentives to retailers to promote the sales of their brand of merchandise. The large shopping centres which have become so important as merchandising outlets run various promotions and contests with prizes such as cars, or trips to

Jamaica or Mexico, as an incentive, both to the merchandisers themselves and the consuming public. And these by results have proved extremely popular to both parties and generate much new business.

At present there is not enough statistical information available based on studies or surveys of the Canadian situation to prove conclusively that trading stamps have raised food prices in Ontario. If trading stamps were to be banned in Ontario, the competitive nature of the retail business would induce retailers who currently are giving trading stamps to use other forms of merchandise incentives which would prove more costly to operate as well as providing returns to very few consumers.

In contrast, trading stamps provide at least theoretically a discount on every purchase to each customer on an equal basis.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that section (a), like the other three sections of this resolution, should be voted against by all responsible members of this House who are interested in the continued prosperity of our fine province.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Speaker, we have had a most interesting debate this afternoon. I would say that the great majority of it was on the resolution, or on specific points raised in the resolution. Some of it went off on a few tangents, but I found even the tangents interesting.

In fact, I believe that the hon. member for Bruce, even though he was not on the resolution at all as far as I could see, posed a real challenge to the hon. Minister of Economics and Development who, I believe, is going to wind up for the government. I would like to see if the hon. Minister can out-Tory the hon. member for Bruce. It will be a real challenge for him.

Hon. J. P. Robarts: (Prime Minister): We have invited him over here several times.

Mr. Bryden: The Prime Minister says they have invited the member for Bruce over there. I do not know, but I think the Prime Minister speaks without—

Mr. MacDonald: Is he running against the hon. member in the next election?

Mr. Bryden: The hon. Prime Minister speaks without knowledge of the views of the people of the Chicago gang, as it is called. Because if I interpreted their undertone of conversation correctly, it was to the effect that they could not possibly tolerate the hon.

member for Bruce; he is too Tory for them. Now if I am wrong, the gentlemen will correct me. But that is the impression I got, that they could not stand such extreme right wing views.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Bryden: That does not surprise me and it is quite obvious that the Liberal Party is the extreme Tory part of Canada.

Mr. Nixon: Why do you not deal with the resolution?

Mr. Bryden: The Conservative Party is the right wing party, the Liberal Party is an extreme right wing party, and this became obvious, Mr. Speaker, in their comments on the resolution.

They say that they are in favour of the general principle of looking after all the people. Now who conceivably would be against that general principle? But when it comes down to specific measures to benefit the people, to protect the people against inordinate rises in the cost of living, they are against them. They are against the specific measures we propose and they suggest no measures of their own.

Mr. Nixon: This is your resolution.

Mr. Bryden: The member for Sudbury said that he would prefer it if everything was couched in broad philosophical terms and certainly that was the nature of his speech: broad philosophical generalizations with no content. As far as we are concerned, we believe not only in stating general principles. We believe in setting forth measures through which we think those broad objectives can be achieved. We have set forth here four measures of prime importance for achieving the overall objective of bringing the rising cost of living under control.

As my leader said, they do not exhaust the field of possible measures.

Mr. Nixon: I will say they do not.

Mr. Bryden: The hon. leader of the Opposition said, "I say they do not". Well, they deal with some of the most important points. In fact, I would say if you have to take four points of prime importance, the four we have listed here are the most important.

Mr. Nixon: You are not interested in the cost of education.

Mr. MacDonald: We said that was a major item.

Mr. Bryden: Well as a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the hon. leader of the Opposition asks, "what about the cost of education"?

Mr. Nixon: I said you are not interested in it.

Mr. Bryden: He knows as well as we do and as every member of this House does that it would have been out of order for us to include that point in our resolution, because that was specifically voted on in a previous debate.

Mr. Nixon: You said these four were the most important.

Mr. Bryden: They are the most important that we can bring up. Here is a perfect example of unreasonableness. He agrees that we could not put the other point in here, otherwise we would have rendered our resolution out of order.

Mr. Nixon: You are talking yourself into a corner.

Mr. Bryden: But he berates us for not including it. Now Mr. Speaker, I will leave it for others to judge as to how reasonable that position is.

However, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say this, that on the basis of anything the Liberal Party has said this afternoon, they ought to vote against the resolution. Far more than the government, they ought to vote against it. The member for Sudbury said he was voting for it only out of deference to his leader. I suggest he should stand on his own feet. He was voting for it in deference to his leader—well, let him stand on his own feet and vote in accordance with his convictions. We are happy to have the lines clearly drawn.

Mr. Nixon: Let us cast a little light!

Mr. Bryden: We support the measures stated in this resolution without reservation and I say those who oppose them should vote against it, then we will know where we stand.

The member for Sudbury, however, indicated what is probably the reason why they are voting for it. He said that the measures listed here are popular. They will be vote-getting proposals; so that is why they are voting for the resolution. Not because they believe in it, because they think there is vote getting value in it.

I hope there is vote-getting value in all these points, Mr. Speaker: I am not sure if there is. I hope there is, but I can certainly

say without fear of contradiction from anyone that every one of those points, whether it has vote getting value or not, is a logical expression of the philosophy and programme of the NDP, and that is why we included them in our resolution. We included them because we believe in them. Others may disagree, as is their right, but at least we put down on paper what we believe.

I want to make just one reference to point (d). The others have been worked over fairly extensively, but I would like to make one reference to point (d) because of the gross misrepresentation to which it has been subject this afternoon.

An old trick of argument as we know is to set up a straw man and knock it down. Any answer that has been made ostensibly to point (d) was not—

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, our members shortened their remarks—

Mr. Bryden: I will be about two more minutes. It is easy to knock down an argument by setting up something different than the argument put forth or the proposition put forth, and then to knock that down.

What we ask for and what we believe in, is that there should be prices and rental review boards—review boards, not control boards; we do not think that is necessary or desirable at this time. And let it be noted, Mr. Speaker, that for 20 years in this province there have been wage review boards. That is precisely the function of conciliation boards.

When a trade union wants an increase in wages, it must go through quite a lengthy bargaining process culminating in conciliation, and then in a conciliation board or now, under the new law, perhaps under a mediation board. This is all a process of wage review whereby the merits of the claims are considered by outside parties and information is made available to the public.

We say the same procedure should apply to prices and rentals. It is simply nonsense to say that we can rely on the so-called competitive system to keep prices at a reasonable level. The competitive system in that classical sense has not operated for a generation. We live in an age of administered prices where prices are set arbitrarily by corporations with only limited operation of competitive influences and with those influences usually manifesting themselves through promotional gimmicks and not through price competition.

We say that in the age of administered prices there should be price review just as there is wage review. Moreover in the present critical rental situation in Toronto today, there certainly should be rental review.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, after watching the time fly by this afternoon, I should just say "Good evening, gentlemen; I am going home to dinner" and call it quits. But I have a few comments to make, if you will give me a little opportunity.

First I would like to agree with my friend, the member for Sudbury, who is sitting very close to the left there, that I am a champion of the capitalistic system, and will always be that way, because it is the greatest system in the world. More people benefit from that than anything else. Show me a system that is any better. I agree with him that unless you produce, you cannot get. He voiced the truth this afternoon, and I am glad he is on my side.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the member for York South is very vehement when he gets up and talks about the Tories and the Grits, he spits it out like something he would scrape off a barn floor. So I am sure he is not going to be upset this afternoon if I refer to the "Soshies". In fact, you know as I watched the play here this afternoon, and watched my friends in the Liberal Party bounce backward and forward—which side were they on, where were they going, what were they going to do?—it reminded me, Mr. Speaker, of that old story about the fellow watching his mother-in-law go over the cliff in his new Cadillac with mixed emotions.

My friend, the leader of the Liberal Party, finds himself hanging over that socialist cliff, he does not know whether to agree with them or disagree and I hope he does not meekly follow the usual hollow recommendations and the political direction of his friends to the left. Believe me, he needs to take a stand on his own. I for one had hoped he would show some Liberal independence on this resolution, particularly as there could be an election in the next 18 months, and I know he wants to put his best foot forward.

Mr. Speaker, as I listened to all these speakers this afternoon, I have not heard one solution yet to the problems that are in the resolution. Everybody has given us lots of conversation, particularly on housing. We need 10,000 houses in Metro, 10,000 houses in the province of Ontario. We are going to be hanging them from sky hooks if we listen to our friends over there.

Mr. Speaker, when I was in business, every time my competitor knocked me I figured every knock was a boost, and when I hear these folks over here knocking the HOME programme I figure we have it made. I have no fear whatsoever that this party in the next 18 months can take the past record of the Ontario housing corporation and the new HOME programme to the people. I know right now what the results will be and I am prepared to bet a little money with my friends across the hall if they are the betting type. Now, Mr. Speaker, I am sure my friends in the socialist party are not going to get angered if I refer to some of the weaknesses of the socialist party, because they brought in the resolution.

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): Do you want to bet they will not get angered?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Oh, I do not think they will because frankly I love them like a hog loves slop—every one of them, believe me. They are great fellows. In the House we fight but when we get out of here we are good friends, so this afternoon I am going to point out that the Ontario housing corporation needs absolutely no defence against these charges. Nobody needs any defence against these charges after watching 20 years of socialist rule in the province of Saskatchewan.

It is experience that counts. These people have had 20 years experience right in North America to prove that they know how to run an economy and what happens? Five hundred units of public housing in 25 years—two houses per month—and here is a man that tells me we should build 10,000 houses in the next year. In just 25 months the Ontario housing corporation has produced more housing units either by purchase—and I will agree—or by construction, than any other jurisdiction in this province combined, and any other jurisdiction I know of in the United States. And, Mr. Speaker, even my friends over here in the socialist party would recognize that you cannot build a house overnight. It takes 18 months to two years to build an apartment house with the best tradesmen in the business. We told them when we started the housing programme that we would get into a building programme. We are into it now, and the facts I gave the House this week indicate that we are producing this housing through construction. All I say, Mr. Speaker, is this: that the programme that we have introduced is the catalyst to do a lot of things. It will cure some of the problems at the municipal level. We will have to find the

answer to this and we certainly intend to find the answer. We are already talking to the municipal officials. I have a comment here from my friend from Sudbury—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Hon. members are going to be here until 6.30 because I am going to get my piece in. Mr. Pillbrook, of the Ontario housing corporation, was in Sudbury on Saturday to explain the HOME programme to the Sudbury district municipal assembly. He did very well—our people are very enthused. My hon. friend should wait till he gets home and finds that out. Mr. Speaker, I told my friends last Friday that if anybody had a better plan I would sit down and talk to him.

We do not propose to have all the answers in housing—nobody does. If they have any ideas how to do a better job on housing they should come on up to my office; I will buy the beers and listen to them. But they should not knock housing for a doubtful political gain because the average citizen is not with them. The average citizen is too concerned about housing the same as this party is—so they should not knock it for political gain. He is more informed today than he ever was before, of matters pertaining to government and matters pertaining to the economy. He knows that in every socialist country they have failed in matters of housing—every socialist country. All one has to do is look at what has happened in Great Britain recently.

I have just come through eastern Europe. They have no housing programme to speak of—they admit it. I talked to their planners, they have the highest cost of living and the lowest standard of any country in the world. So do not tell me about socialism, I know something about it. Mr. Speaker, in many of these countries my friends are referring to they are allowed 25 square feet per person and if somebody drops dead you have to take a stranger in to live with you.

Mr. Speaker, you name it and in the HOME plan we have it. Public housing, senior citizens, student housing, modest-income families, land assembly—you name it, we have it. It reaches to the unexplored areas such as the industrial communities, housing for the elderly, homes that have been expropriated; you name it, we have it—condominium for every segment of our population. Mr. Speaker, just on one simple page—page one outlining the programme—just let me read the coverage.

Just listen now my friend—you are going to need this in the next election badly, because you are going to get defeated.

The first point: Continue and expand the Ontario housing rental programme for low income families. We have not forgotten the low income families.

Mr. Bryden: But you do nothing for them.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Expand the Ontario housing rental programme for senior citizens. We have not forgotten the senior citizens.

Mr. Bryden: Have you heard about the waiting list?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Expand the Ontario student housing programme, the voters of tomorrow. Think about that one.

Continue the federal-provincial land assembly programme, with Ontario housing corporation assuming all the operational responsibilities. We do not leave it to anybody else.

Lots will be available to individuals, housing cooperatives and merchant builders on a freehold basis.

Mr. Bryden: Words, words, but no houses.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Lots will be available to individuals and housing cooperatives on a leasehold basis with an option to purchase. We have done everything.

This page, Mr. Speaker, covers everything our friends have talked about this afternoon, plus.

Mr. Bryden: Yes, but there are no houses yet, that is the trouble.

Mr. MacDonald: A 59 per cent drop in housing starts in January.

Hon. Mr. Randall: My friends have taken the time this afternoon to point out some of the figures in the HOME programme, but for political purposes each and every one has referred to the \$15,000 house and the \$9,000 lot and I do not blame them because we looked at it ourselves.

Today if you look in the local newspapers, you will see houses advertised right here in Metro for \$24,500, \$2,000 down. It simply means with an \$18,000 CMHC mortgage, the man has to find \$4,500 on a second mortgage running anywhere from 8 to 15 per cent.

Mr. Sargent: How many of those can you get?

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, to answer my friend from Grey North, let me tell him something.

Of all the houses that have been built and have been bought in the last 25 months by the Ontario housing corporation, they have cost an average of \$14,500 including land. And because they can build and arrange to build on a wholesale basis, homes in this HOME programme can be provided for less than \$15,000.

Mr. Sargent: Election talk.

Mr. Bryden: Average costs of multiple dwelling units are what you are talking about.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Mr. Speaker, I believe my colleagues and I have presented this afternoon an intelligent presentation in answer to the resolution put forward by the hon. member for York South. And it must be obvious even to him, that the substance of this resolution and the matters incorporated, are based primarily on fiction. They are certainly not based on fact, because with the socialists you never confuse them with the facts.

This resolution is based, I think, on the fact that he feels there is going to be an election in the next 18 months and he wants to get it on the record; he wants to be for something. If anybody walked up here—one person walked up to Queen's Park, he would be out there with a signboard, "I am for him." He would not be against him, he would be for him.

My colleagues and I have suggested that there is no subject whatsoever in the matters incorporated in this resolution, which we do not foresee at the present time. However, this government is quite prepared, and we have said this this afternoon—

Mr. MacDonald: To study anything.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We are quite prepared to study it. Sure, it is right here. Not rush in—this is not a fire sale—not rush in and just put it in and let the consequences take care of themselves. If it has no validity we are not going to use it, but we are going to take a look at it.

Mr. MacDonald: The hon. Minister studies so long.

Hon. Mr. Randall: We will give the hon. member a fair and reasonable answer as soon as we have had a chance to study it. On matters relating to housing, Mr. Speaker, let me say this: I am aware that the hon. member

for York South was not in possession of the HOME report until last Friday, when he made the speech he made here this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: He made it before he read it.

Hon. Mr. Randall: If he had had, it would not have made any difference because I do not expect him to agree with us.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: He does not want any facts.

Hon. Mr. Randall: That is right. Now in the normal course of events—

Mr. Bryden: We dealt point by point with the hon. Minister's statement.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Mr. Randall: In the normal course of events, he is going to go ahead and bring in his usual condemnations of everything the government does. They cannot do anything right and in view of the fact that the people over the years have approved what this government has done, we have no worry whatsoever in going to the people in the next 18 months with a programme that we have put before the people today.

Mr. Speaker, I am just going to comment on what some of my friends have said here this afternoon, about the resolution.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There are only a couple of minutes left before six o'clock. I would ask the members to desist from their interjections and the Minister to close within that time.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I enjoyed listening to the hon. Minister. I understand these rules are to be adhered to rigidly and at ten to six—

Hon. Mr. Randall: Somebody took five minutes of my time.

Mr. Speaker: The member is trying to finish. He did not get started until ten to six.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Randall: Well, Mr. Speaker, my associates have summed up this government's position very well and very intelligently, and I am sure I can rely on my friends to tear up

this resolution. I am also sure that my friends in the Liberal Party will not go along, after what I have heard this afternoon, and vote for this resolution. I do not see how they can and still come back in the House tomorrow. I would hope that my hon. friends in the Liberal Party, being fair and reasonable men, would agree with this side of the House that the resolution should go to the men's room.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs moves that the House resolve itself into committee of supply and the member for York South moves, seconded by the member for Woodbine, an amendment to the main motion:

That this House regrets the government's failure to take forthright action to deal with the high and increasing cost of living and in particular its failure to:

And to save time, if the members would like, we may take the four sections of the motion as being read.

The House divided on the amendment moved by Mr. MacDonald, which was negatived on the following vote:

AYES	NAYS
Ben	Allan
Bryden	Apps
Davison	Bales
Farquhar	Boyer
Freeman	Brunelle
Gaunt	Butler
Gisborn	Carruthers
Gordon	Carton
Lewis	Cass
(Scarborough West)	Davis
MacDonald	Demers
Newman	Downer
Nixon	Dunlop
Oliver	Dymond
Paterson	Edwards
Racine	Evans
Reaume	Ewen
Renwick	Gomme
Sargent	Grossman
Singer	Guindon
Smith	Harris
Sopha	Haskett
Spence	Henderson
Worton	Hodgson
Young—24	(Scarborough East)
	Hodgson
	(Victoria)
	Johnston
	(Parry Sound)
	Kerr

AYES

NAYS

Knox
Lawrence
(Russell)
Lawrence
(St. George)
Letherby
Mackenzie
MacNaughton
Morningstar
McNeil
Noden
Olde
Peck
Pittcock
Price
Pritchard (Mrs.)
Randall
Reilly
Robarts
Rollins
Rowe
Rowntree
Sandercock
Simonett
Spooner
Thrasher
Villeneuve
Walker
Wardrope
Welch
Wells
White
Whitney
Wishart
Yakabuski—60.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Speaker, the "ayes" are 24, the "nays" 60.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour of the main motion, please say "aye".

I declare the main motion carried.

The House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister) moves that the committee of supply rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

It being 6.05 o'clock, p.m., the House took recess.



ONTARIO

Legislature of Ontario Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fifth Session of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, March 21, 1967
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1967

The House resumed at 8:00 o'clock, p.m.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to welcome to the House this evening two groups from the city of Toronto: In the west gallery, pupils from General Crerar public school; and a group of constituents from the riding of the member for Armourdale (Mr. Carton) in the Speaker's gallery, and I believe in the east gallery as well.

Clerk of the House: The ninth order, committee of the whole House; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

THE REGIONAL DETENTION CENTRES ACT, 1965

House in committee on Bill 40, An Act to amend The Regional Detention Centres Act, 1965.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 40 reported.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY SERVICES ACT, 1967

House in committee on Bill 34, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

Sections 1 to 10, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 34 reported.

THE GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE ACT

House in committee on Bill 55, An Act to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Sections 1 and 2 agreed to.

On section 3:

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): Sir, in this section 3, I find subsection (2) of the new proposed section 5 to be particularly objectionable. That is the part that gives the welfare administrator the power to determine the amount of assistance and direct provision thereof, and he may from time to time vary any amount so determined.

Surely we are entitled to ask on this side of the House whether there cannot be some system devised and put into appropriate statutory language where a person does not have to be beholden to the particular welfare administrator; and what is more important, can be insulated from capricious behaviour on the part of the welfare administrator. It may well be that a person having been refused assistance, the welfare administrator might be influenced by a telephone call or representation made to him, or her as the case may be, by some particular individual who is *persona grata* to the administrator; but on the other hand someone who does not enjoy that nexus with the administrator will have his request turned down.

Quite apart from the personality of the recipient or the applicant himself, I do not think that I would torture language to any great extent by saying here that some of these welfare administrators have been known in the past to have a heart about as cold as that of Simon Legree. Indeed, in that respect very respectable authors of some of the great literature of our times, have had as central characters people who fit this category. All you need to do is look into the literature of Steinbeck, for example, who portrays this type of thing.

But the point is that we on this side of the House, and sharing that view with our friends from the New Democratic Party, while we say this whole business ought to be based on need and need alone I for one am very much opposed to giving discretionary power to a welfare administrator to exercise those aspects of the job that are set out in subsection (2).

I would like to hear from the Minister (Mr. Yaremko), if he truly believes in the outlook that he espouses from time to time here, how he can possibly justify a section like that which can open itself to arbitrary and capricious conduct. Indeed it does not stretch credulity, I hope, to say that the welfare administrator can exercise his discretion depending on the state of his ulcer on any particular day when he may not have that fulsome and beneficent outlook on the applicant that he would have on another

day. In saying that, I am not trying to cultivate any humour; I am merely seeking to illustrate that the language used in this subsection is wrong, it is morally wrong.

This statute being designed to take care of those other than the ones in The Family Benefits Act who require welfare on a casual basis, surely we could as legislators, put it on the basis of need, and where the person demonstrates that he is in need he gets the assistance.

Now that would take care of the fellow who came to me, and some members may not believe this but I like to illustrate these with actual cases, the fellow who had three wage assignments. I say to the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart), through you in case he did not hear me—if he now has his ear tuned to me: He had three wage assignments against him and he went to a relative of his who is a lawyer first and the relative sent him to me. He showed me the pay stub for the week before, it was \$5.46. He had four children at home and a wife to support, and after the three assignees of the wages had got to him he had \$5.46 left. He had gone to the regional, the district welfare administrator, and they had examined the circumstances and had turned him down, he had been refused.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): For what reason?

Mr. Sopha: I do not know, I did not inquire why, but they had turned him down.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): They applied the regulations.

Mr. Sopha: Probably they applied the regulations, as my friend says.

So he came to me and I called up the administrator, the district welfare administrator, a very pleasant conscientious fellow. We are very fortunate to have him, the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Spooner) knows him well and we are very fortunate to persuade him into the administration of the Act in our district.

I put the situation to him and he said: Fine, we will take another look at it, we will send someone out to examine the circumstances. They did that and he got the welfare, he got the assistance under the Act.

Well there was a plain case of need. My only plea is that that is the only qualification you need; the only one you have to demonstrate is need. Need resulting from social or economic dislocation, however it may arise,

and being able to adduce evidence of a highly probative value that there is a genuine need for some economic assistance.

Now in such a case it has nothing to do with the words employed by the draftsman in this section. Certainly he determines the eligibility of each applicant for assistance. That is easy, the applicant demonstrates his need for assistance, a genuine need, and finds he is eligible.

"Shall determine the amount."

Now why should we leave that power to determine the amount? Would it not be safer, sounder, more sensible to put it on the basis of some scale—so much for wife, so much for each child, at a weekly rate, similar to the widow's allowance; something perhaps correlated with the studies that are often made by the welfare agency in Toronto that determines the amount of income that a family—the Ontario welfare council, thank you—requires; and that is the amount the person shall be paid?

But why in the name of all that is just and right should the amount be left to the determination, the discretion of the welfare administrator; albeit this man is administering funds provided by this Legislature. This government never lets you forget that. They never let the poor forget. That is one thing about them.

Mr. Bryden: Only 30 per cent is provided by this Legislature.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, that is one thing about them, they never let the poor forget their largess.

Mr. Bryden: They only put up 30 per cent.

Mr. Sopha: That is all.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Your largess—you are part of this Legislature.

Mr. Sopha: All right, fine; and I am happy to join you in voting the money for it. The only thing is that to be a Liberal is to believe in charity in secret, not to publish it every place.

Mr. Bryden: That is the same as no charity.

Mr. Sopha: That is the true charity.

Mr. Chairman: Under section 3 please—

Mr. Sopha: Have a look at II Corinthians 13, the fifth and sixth verses.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: This not a religious item.

Mr. Sopha: Well you raised it, you raised the subject.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member is getting some advice from a sitting member.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, he made a very pertinent point, he said one of the burdens of being in this Legislature is having to accept responsibility for the Minister.

Mr. Chairman: in spite of those tangential digressions, I have made the point and perhaps he is aware where this party stands in respect to that section.

Mr. Bryden: Does the Minister have any comments on this point?

Mr. Chairman: If we were going to comment on it, perhaps we would have to reply to both statements.

Mr. Bryden: That is fine with me, Mr. Chairman.

My comments will be somewhat different from those of the hon. member for Sudbury because to be honest about it I do not agree with what he said at all. I do not believe in the principle of providing assistance of this kind according to some sort of fixed scale of benefits. I think the principle we have been trying to work for, and which we have partly achieved in this province, is to relate the assistance paid to the need of the person or family to whom it is paid. We should not put everybody in the same bed of Procrustes, whether it fits them or not and make them fit the bed.

We should try to tailor the assistance to the needs of the family. This is the principle that we are working towards in The Family Benefits Act. At a lower level of subsistence, or shall I say a lower level of starvation, a similar type of principle is applied in the administration of The General Welfare Assistance Act. I am not sure that it is well applied. I am not sure that I agree with the pre-added budget concept, and certainly the welfare department's conception of the level of rents in Toronto bears no relation to reality. They almost always fail to meet need because what they allow for rent just does not fit anybody's requirements. Nobody can rent for the amounts that they allow. So rent comes out of the pre-added budget for food and clothing and so on. So I do not want to get into a detailed assessment at this time of that shortcoming, that would be more appropriate in the esti-

mates. I merely wish to repeat that I agree with the principle of trying to tailor the assistance to the specific needs of the individual or family. There is however, one phase of this, Mr. Chairman, that I think we should consider.

Such assistance is unquestionably open to abuse and to the type of arbitrary treatment which the hon. member for Sudbury fears. It is quite possible. After all, there is a great deal of judgment that has to be exercised in tailoring assistance to individual needs. A miserable welfare administrator or delegate of his, or one who happened at the moment to be in a miserable mood, and I suppose human beings always get into miserable moods from time to time, or one who just did not happen to like the person concerned, could very readily discriminate against an applicant for assistance.

Mr. N. Whitney (Prince Edward-Lennox): What about anybody else?

Mr. Bryden: I am just saying there is a human factor here. I agree with the principle, but I think in applying that principle we have to allow for the human factor, the error in judgment or the malice that can conceivably enter into such a situation from time to time. But even if there is no malice—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Do you think malice runs rampant through this country or this province? I do not.

Mr. Bryden: I would say Mr. Chairman, that if one case of malice ever existed in the administration of such an Act, we should try to have a procedure for eliminating it. You see, the House leader contributes nothing to the debate by making this wild sort of inference from what is a very important point, in my opinion, that there is the possibility that in one case, ten cases or two cases, there could be an abuse of power by the administrator. I say that we should try to avoid that situation if we can.

As a matter of fact, I think it is a good deal more than one or ten cases. I have run into a lot of situations where I thought there was an abuse of discretionary authority by welfare administrators. Incidentally I will not say that is true of the city of Toronto, which I think has been, relatively speaking, quite generous in its attitude to welfare; but I can tell you that in some of the boroughs of this Metro municipality the welfare administrators struck me as being very much in the

category of the Simon Legree that the hon. member for Sudbury was talking about.

However, that is not the point that we have to get into. The point is the principle. There is the possibility of abuse and I am saying to the Minister that he should do something about it. This clause as it now stands, the re-enacted section 5, apart from the subsection 4 which is added is the same in principle as section 5 of the old Act. It is not identical, but in principle it is the same.

I am suggesting to the Minister that when he was reopening this Act he could have done better than merely re-enact essentially what was in the old Act. As I recall The Family Benefits Acts, and I have not checked it recently, there is a provision in it for a review of decisions with respect to benefits awarded under that Act. It does not depend ultimately on the administrator, there is a possibility of an administrator's decision being reviewed.

I am suggesting to the Minister that this Act should also contain some provision of that kind. There should be some other body or person to whom an aggrieved party can go or his representative can go if he feels that he is being unfairly dealt with within the terms of the regulations. In other words if he is not getting what he thinks he should get under a humane interpretation of the benefits set forth in the regulations.

I do not know why the Minister bothered to open this clause if he was not willing to take that step. You see the people who come under this General Welfare Assistance Act are discriminated against in every conceivable way. They are the largest group of people I suppose on the rolls of the department, and yet they are low man on the totem pole. They get much lower benefits even though their needs are exactly the same as the people under other programmes. They also are—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Might I ask the hon. member a question, Mr. Chairman?

Are the accusations you are putting forth tonight about the weaknesses of human nature in people who occupy these positions based, first, on your experience in Saskatchewan?

And second, are they based on your experiences in this province of Ontario?

Because my experience is—and I put these questions to you—the people who are engaged in welfare work, providing for social assistance and matters of that sort, are

people dedicated to it. They do not fall into those definitions that you are putting forth to this House tonight.

An hon. member: They certainly do not.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, the kindest thing I can do is to simply ignore that trivial, extraneous, inane interjection by the Minister. We are dealing with principles of law and I am trying to suggest that there is a defect in the principle of the section that is now before us.

Almost all laws provide for review procedures; they recognize the frailty of human nature, usually. There are no people I know who regard welfare administrators or welfare workers as demigods, as people who are never under any circumstances prone to error. Only the House leader is in that group. Even the welfare workers themselves do not take that view. I am sure they would recognize that—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would just like to say this, that probably—

Mr. Bryden: Why do you not sit down? If you would sit down—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It sure will not get you any support from one of the finest groups of people in this country.

Mr. Bryden: That sort of toadying praise will not get you any votes among them at all.

Mr. Chairman, this is an unfortunate diversion by the House leader, who ought to know better, from a very important point which I am still trying to make with the Minister, although I think he probably understands me.

The point with which I was going to complete my remarks when we got this diversion from the House leader was that the people under The General Welfare Assistance Act are not only discriminated against in respect of the benefits they get, they are also discriminated against in that they do not even get the benefit of the type of review procedure which is available under The Family Benefits Act.

I suggest to the Minister that he should seriously consider doing something about that. He has opened the Act but he has not changed its principle at all. He claims that he has just made some changes, mainly technical in nature, in order to make it qualify under the Canada assistance plan for a federal joint sharing agreement. But

I suggest, while he has it open, he could make genuine improvements; and this is one point where I think it needs improving.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Downsview.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I think the remarks of my colleague for Sudbury and the hon. member for Woodbine make abundant good sense. One of the things we have been trying to put forward as forcefully as we can as long as we have been in the Legislature, and one of the important tenets of Liberal principle, is to defend the ordinary citizen from the arbitrary decisions of nameless and faceless civil servants. It is impossible, Mr. Chairman, when you give very wide-reaching general power to a gentleman or lady who is called a municipal welfare administrator, and allow that person to pay public money in the amount that that person shall determine or may from time to time vary, it is impossible, notwithstanding the unctuous statements of the House leader, that there will not be arbitrary decisions.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: A little windy!

Mr. Singer: Well, no, Mr. Chairman, I think if we listen to the grandiloquent statements of the House leader one must put them in their proper position and recognize that the source from which they come is full of sound and fury and really signifies very little.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You are talking!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, as late as this afternoon I had a gentleman from my riding speak to me on the phone and tell me of the sad difficulties that his daughter had with a local welfare administrator who failed to understand the problem she had in supporting four children, and trying to do it while she was still going out to earn a living.

It was just impossible for her to be able to communicate on a basis she thought was reasonable.

Now without assessing the merits of that particular case, sir, I think it is important that when we put this type of provision in our laws we provide some sort of an appeal procedure. This is why, sir, we have objected to the wide-reaching discretions given.

It is small wonder really when the House leader says what he did tonight on the wide-reaching discretions he wants to give to civil servants in controlling our financial community. He does not want to tell us in the law what can be done, he wants to leave it to nameless and faceless civil servants to make

decisions that are in fact unappealable. He wants power to enact regulations over which this Legislature has no review—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Put the attack in!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, if the House leader does not recognize this important democratic principle he has no business holding the responsible position that he presently holds in what should be a democratic government.

If I am attacking anyone, Mr. Chairman, I am attacking him, because I think his views are Neanderthal in their approach and they are a negation of the true democratic principles by which we hope this province is governed. Now enough for the House leader; if he would stop interjecting I will leave him alone, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I would ask the member if he will stay with the vote; and that we avoid the interjections and allow the member to proceed.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: On a point of order.

Mr. Chairman: The member is rising on a point of order.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I object to the personal attack which is being demonstrated by a man who knows nothing about the human aspects of democracy.

Mr. Bryden: Now there is a dandy point of order.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

Mr. Sopha: He is not the Neanderthal man; he is—

Mr. Singer: And the age before that; I appeal to my friend from Sudbury!

Mr. Chairman: The member for Downsview!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman all I say is this: If you can keep the House leader quiet I will make my point, which I think is a very valid one.

Mr. Chairman: Will the member direct his remarks to the chair, please!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I have great confidence in your keeping order in this House and allowing the debate to continue.

Having said all that I think it is important, and I hope that the House will go along with me tonight, that we insert into this Act an

amendment which will allow a form of appeal. Therefore, sir, I move that section 5 of The General Welfare Assistance Act, as represented by section 3 of this Act, be further amended by inserting a new section, section 2A, which shall read as follows:

Any decision made under subsection 2, may be appealed to the council—and that means the council of the municipality referred to in subsection 1—which may make such order as in its discretion it deems just.

Now in moving that amendment, sir, I say we are providing an appeal from possible arbitrary decisions of welfare administrators. We would allow that appeal to be made to the democratically elected body so that anyone who feels they are aggrieved, whether they are or not, will have a right to go to the local municipal council in appeal from the decision of the welfare administrator. In that way, sir, we hopefully can remove some of the possible arbitrariness that can exist if this section carries as it now stands on the order paper.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, speaking to this matter, I have listened with interest to the remarks of the hon. member for Sudbury, the hon. member for Woodbine, and the hon. member for Downsview and the motion which he has now made.

I note, in looking at the Act, and section 5 which is amended by section 3 of the Act we are studying at the moment, that in the former section the words are adopted in large part as the hon. member for Woodbine pointed out, that there is added at the end of the amendment in subsection 2 that the municipal welfare administrator not only determines the amount and the eligibility of each applicant for assistance but the amount of the assistance. Where it said before “and direct payment accordingly”, it now says “and direct provision thereof”; and then it adds the words which I think are significant: “and he may from time to time vary any amount so determined”.

Mr. Bryden: That has always been done.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No; well this is the point. I thank the hon. member; it has always been done. So therefore if it has always been done I do not think you need to have another supervising authority, an appellant authority, to deal with the matter. A great many of the members have experience on municipal councils. The motion says, “provide an appeal to a municipal council”; and

I think this is not necessary because if you have a municipal administrator, and I would point out that the Act that is being amended here has stood the test of time since apparently 1958, and the same administrative procedures were laid down in The General Welfare Assistance Act, 1958-1959.

Mr. Bryden: Well they have not stood the test of time.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have heard very few complaints.

Mr. Bryden: It depends on what municipality you are in, I assure you.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Let me make my point, Mr. Chairman: If the administrator, in fixing the eligibility and the amount of assistance, is wrong, I am sure that the members of the council will hear about it and the provision is now added that he may vary the amount so provided from time to time. I think there is some reason for the addition of those words, but I rather shy from the thought that in every case you get an appeal to a political body.

Mr. Bryden: You do not get it in every case.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No. This is what the proposal would call for. I am all for appeal of decisions of one man generally but I do not like to see it carried into a political arena whether it is a legislative council or municipal council or whatever it may be. To have someone come in with an appeal for a greater consideration and to see it carried before a municipal body as a court, I think is not a good principle. I think the administrator will have sufficient pressures, sufficient arguments brought to bear, and sufficient reasons presented to him, if a hardship is worked by his decision where he has the permission to vary his decision from time to time, so that I should think that would be a safeguard, and that in a local municipality where we try to preserve a certain amount of local autonomy, those pressures, those arguments, those reasons, will be brought to his attention—

Mr. Bryden: And if he is a stubborn mule you get nowhere, and there are a few of them around.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: The hon. member for Woodbine is persistent in his point, but if I may say so, I think he exaggerates the danger, I do not think it exists to that extent. I would not think that the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Downsview is necessary in this instance.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): In a manner of speaking, Mr. Chairman, simply so that the government is not taken off the hook by arguing against the council proposition which has within it, I admit, some problems, would the member for Downsview, if I can catch his ear for a moment, accept an alteration to his amendment which would say that "any applicant or recipient may request a hearing and a review by the board of review established under The Family Benefits Act in the manner and with the effect therein set out" so that we are in fact paralleling the methods of review. If he would accept that, then we will get away from a discussion of whether the council can rule on it and back to the main principle which I know he put forward.

Mr. Singer: I have no objection, Mr. Chairman, at all. The principle I want to establish is a reasonable—

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That was not a well-thought-out amendment then, was it?

Mr. Bryden: We do not have much time to draft amendments.

Mr. Sopha: We did not even know this bill would be called.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, if I may deal with the irrelevant interjections both from the House leader and the Minister of Reform Institutions we do not know—

An hon. member: I have not opened my mouth.

Mr. Singer: No I am sorry—with apologies, Reform Institutions and the House leader. I will leave you out.

We play a little poker game around here. We do not know from one minute to the next what the next order of business is going to be. I came here tonight fully expecting that we would be back to the estimates of my friend the Attorney General. I suspect some of his civil servants expected the same thing and there are some of them here. This is not what we are doing, and even when we go to the order paper, Mr. Chairman, the House leader plays hopscotch and he picks out bills—I do not know in what order, I suppose in keeping with the little game that he plays.

Whether this amendment in its finite working is carefully thought out or not, surely as intelligent a man as the Minister of Reform Institutions can recognize the importance of allowing a system of appeal from arbitrary decisions of civil servants who cannot be got at in any other way. The remark of the House leader, Mr. Chairman, is an insult to the proceedings in this House—that we are doing this sort of thing to delay the normal proceedings. Surely if we have any job here at all we have a job to offer constructive criticism, and such a remark sits very badly on the lips of anyone who holds as important a position as the House leader does in the province of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: On section 3 please.

Mr. Singer: All right. Now may I get back to the remarks of the hon. member for Scarborough West. I am quite prepared, Mr. Chairman, to accept the amendment in that form because it is in keeping with the principle of an appeal and it would avoid possible arbitrary decisions by welfare administrators. Let me give you one example while I am on my feet. A short time ago when we were on a tour of northeastern Ontario, in one of the municipalities which I shall not name, and we talked with the welfare administrator. He said boastfully, "There are no illegitimate children born in our municipality because as soon as I spot the girls who are likely to have illegitimate children we show them to the town boundaries and we do not have any problem like that here."

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Send them up to the Soo.

Mr. Singer: Yes, we send them somewhere else. Mr. Chairman, I will not identify that, but that is a verbatim paraphrase—a type of thing that can go on, and in fact does go on. This is the kind of protection I think we should write in our statutes, and I am quite happy to accept the revision, but keeping the same principle in mind as suggested by the hon. member for Scarborough West.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Brant.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, I must congratulate the Attorney General on coming from a municipality that has a welfare administrator who gives his people as little difficulty as he describes. The experience elsewhere in the province, I think is more along the lines of that described by my hon. friend, the member for Downsview, where it is very difficult indeed to see that the people

who require the assistance that should be provided under legislation of this type are in fact sympathetically dealt with. My own experiences in areas between here and Windsor is that there is a great deal of difficulty, and the form of appeal that exists now is to phone the local member. Surely, this is quite all right but it puts the local member in a very awkward situation indeed—in fact sitting in judgment over a decision that is made by the official who is designated in this particular statute.

I think the amendment put forward by my hon. friend is a very useful one because surely it is the council of the local municipality that should deal with these matters formally and not informally, as the Attorney General suggests when he says that they are going to hear about these difficulties anyway. I think an appeal beyond the welfare administrator to the council sitting in its formal session could then hear the complaint that comes from a citizen in that area, that he has not been dealt with fairly and in a humane way.

My understanding of the suggestion made by the hon. member for Scarborough West is that the appeal would go to some other board that would be sitting centrally in the province. Surely there would be a serious waste of time in this connection, and it would take away from the individual who may or may not be wronged but who feels he is wronged, in taking his appeal beyond the welfare administrator to someone elected right on the scene.

The Attorney General says it is too bad to bring this into the political arena. Surely that is the place where it should go, where the elected representatives from the area are going to be concerned and direct that the assistance be given. He himself said a moment ago that the elected people will hear of it anyway. Are they going to deal with it under the table? Surely that is the way we as members are asked to deal with it now. The people who may or may not be wronged at least phone us and I suppose expect us to act as ombudsmen. We in turn either have to phone the department or the departmental people, or more usually, the administrator himself and intercede on behalf of our constituents. Surely there is a better way to deal with it and I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that the amendment proposed by my hon. friend is eminently useful.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I do not know to which hon. friend the leader of the Oppos-

ition is referring. The hon. member for Downsview suggested that we permit an appeal to a council, which I was going to say earlier he must have been putting forth with tongue in cheek because as a former councillor he must understand that would be completely impractical. Just imagine in the city of Toronto, for example, or any of the boroughs, someone on welfare feeling they should be getting more assistance, coming before a council and making an appeal. Why, the council would be just deluged with this sort of thing.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, there is a human element involved, and of course there could be some civil servants who have different views than we may have here about the administration of welfare, although I think it is rather gratuitous of the hon. member to refer to them as "nameless" and "faceless" civil servants. I do not think that is necessary at all. They are not "nameless" and they are not "faceless".

But I think, Mr. Chairman, it is quite proper here to point out the irresponsibility, really, of presenting an amendment which the hon. member knows perfectly well is impractical. Suppose it had passed. Suppose that amendment had passed. Imagine what we would have been inflicting upon the whole administration of welfare in the province and upon the various councils.

The hon. member admits this by his quick acceptance of the suggestion of the hon. member for Scarborough West to change his amendment immediately to something completely different. Then he must have realized his amendment was completely impractical, yet he would have imposed this on this province in just two seconds of thought. And I do not think that is the way the people of this province expect the business of this province to be dealt with.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what game of partisan one-upmanship the Minister of Reform Institutions is playing. I think the hon. member for Downsview accepted the suggestion in good spirit. What we are arguing about here is a fairly basic principle, it is a very easy principle, and I would like the Minister when he stands to reply to explain something to this House.

The Family Benefits Act, which is passed by this House, has language which is identical to The General Welfare Assistance Act which we are now discussing in particular relationship to this clause.

Indeed, sir, if I can point out to the hon. Attorney General, it even includes the phrase "and may from time to time vary any amount so determined". But The Family Benefits Act does something else. It provides for a board of review, it provides for an appeal procedure for the applicant or the proposed recipient so that injustice is not allowed to prevail, even under exceptional circumstances. And what the Minister has to explain to this House is why you allow for a board of review in one Act and why you refuse to allow a board of review in another.

Hon. J. Yaremko: (Minister of Social and Family Services): Mr. Chairman, may I be given the opportunity to reply—

Mr. S. Lewis: I have other observations but the Minister may reply to that point if he wishes.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Chairman, I indicated in the course of the second reading of the bill that it was my hope to bring in legislation during the course of my career in this House which would be a complete review of The General Welfare Assistance Act. The Family Benefits Act, members will recall, was a new Act which involved certain principles and encompassed many fields of endeavours into one. It is my hope—and in fact it is the intent and purpose—to do the same with The General Welfare Assistance Act. What we have in this bill at the present time is the minimum which we felt could be passed at this time in order to make the payments effective as of April 1 of this year.

Before I come to the Canada assistance plan, may I say that I do not agree with the Opposition who would take discretion from everybody. If you ever had the responsibility of making decisions, you would find that the easy way out is not to have discretion; the easy way out is when you put holes in a punch card, put it in a machine and the answer comes out—that is regimentation, that is the easy way out.

Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer): That is socialism.

Mr S. Lewis: No, it is not.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, it is.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: But when you have discretionary powers, I tell you, as with the type of person we are fortunate to have in public life, we are fortunate that when they are given discretion it keeps them awake nights to make sure they are doing the right

thing. You take away discretion and you make their jobs easier, not more difficult.

Mr. Bryden: Why was it done in The Family Benefits Act?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Chairman, may I say that in reference to the welfare administrators—and I agree with the House leader in this respect—we have across the province as able a group of men in the welfare administration field as exists. I may say that they are getting better all the time as we improve the system, because for a welfare administrator to be appointed, he has to be approved by the Minister and the Minister will not give his approval unless the qualifications are there.

Just to wind up a very lengthy debate, I may say that under the Canada assistance—

Mr. Bryden: The Minister is not winding it up.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I am one who always believes in appeals and the record of the men on these benches shows that as well. The Liberal Party has no monopoly in this and if the hon. member for Sudbury, who has just come in, talks about his charity being in secret, their welfare programme is the best kept secret that has ever been in this century. I direct my attention to the hon. member for Scarborough West—

Mr. Sopha: The rest of us will not listen.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Under the Canada assistance plan agreement, which I signed as Minister, there is a clause which I am bound by, to ensure the provision by law not later than one year from the effective date of this agreement, of a procedure of appeals from decisions of provincially approved agencies with respect to applications for assistance or the granting or providing of assistance by persons directly affected by this.

Mr. Singer: Why do you not put it in the Act?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: We have a year to do it and when we put the—

Mr. Bryden: Why do you not do it now?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: When we put our appeal boards into effect it will be a procedure which will be thought out and planned to take care of the provisions of this.

Mr. S. Lewis: If I heard the Minister correctly, Mr. Chairman, did he say that was part of The Canada Assistance Act?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: It is part of the agreement which I signed and bound myself to yesterday morning.

Mr. S. Lewis: Relating to the Canada assistance plan?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes.

Mr. S. Lewis: May I remind you, through the Chairman, that by your own words this Act has nothing to do with the Canada assistance plan. You have chosen to isolate the general welfare assistance into a separate statute.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Not so, not so. The principle is stated clearly. It is to be brought in line with the requirements of the Canada assistance plan.

Mr. Bryden: But it is not in the bill.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, it is not in this bill and this bill is not affected by the Canada assistance plan because the Minister has chosen to develop a bill which arbitrarily singles out a separate class of recipients—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Not so.

Mr. S. Lewis: —and therefore with the greatest of respect, Mr. Chairman, one cannot accept the assurance that this board of review will be going into the bill.

Indeed, if in fact the Minister is legislating in good faith then there is no reason in the world why the board of review which is presently incorporated under The Family Benefits Act cannot be simply transferred to The General Welfare Assistance Act. The decision has already been made. The precedent is there. It is obvious, and if you were in good faith you would do it.

But Mr. Chairman, I want to put strongly to the House that in this area the government is not legislating in good faith; and particularly on this clause, it is evident to all of us on this side of the House.

All of the oratorical spasms in the world about discretion and regimentation will not detract from the point that within the apparatus of municipal welfare administration there is a great area of injustice and a great area of frailty. It wreaks considerable hardship for a large number of people, and all of us who have had to turn to your Deputy Minister to overrule the decisions of municipal welfare administrators know that. We have experienced it month after month during our tenure in office. So let us not play games on that score.

The truth is, Mr. Chairman, that when you grant the municipal welfare administrator this kind of discretion in this kind of clause you are really saying to him: "Since the municipality is picking up 20 per cent of the tab, you keep your grant as low as possible.

"You give as little money as you possibly can, because the municipality is reluctant to pay its share and we will not incorporate the general welfare recipient into The Canada Assistance Act, as we should by all reasonable social principles do." What you have really done in this Act, and again confirmed in this clause, is to perpetuate the arbitrary discrimination against this category of persons.

Indeed Mr. Chairman, it is no particular fault of the municipal welfare administrators. They are placed, by this government, in an entirely invidious position. They are required to do so many jobs, in addition to the doling out of welfare, that it would be too much to ask them to always behave in a judicious fashion. They simply cannot.

All the submissions which this government has had from social work associations and social planning councils and welfare administrators themselves have requested that the government take away part of this kind of power in order to facilitate the welfare apparatus. Because no municipal welfare administrator, and none of the hinterland municipal bodies, are happy about the way in which they have to exert their particular arbitrary decisions under this Act.

There have been all kinds of criticism of this area. One need only read the submissions to know that. We have gone over this every time we have discussed the amalgamation into county units for the administration of welfare purposely to get over this particular problem of one man having to do so many jobs and therefore discriminating against a lot of individuals.

I have a letter which I was holding in my desk, which is an odd little case but it so amply demonstrates what one is trying to convey in this section, Mr. Chairman. It is very typical. It is The Department of Public Welfare and it is in Bracebridge, Ontario.

It concerned the granting of an allowance which turned out to be \$40 in excess—let me pause and put it a different way.

The municipal welfare people had granted an allowance over a year's period, and then on carefully scrutinizing the books of the recipient, they learned that the man was actually making \$40 over the maximum allowable income for which that allowance was

granted. So they sent him a letter and said we want returned to us, at the level of \$75 a month, all the money we have given you over the past year because you dared to be \$40 over the maximum allowable income. And the interesting portion of the letter was the last two paragraphs. I want to read it to the Minister:

You and your husband—

he says to the recipient:

—spent a total of \$3,160.09 in the 12 months from July 1, 1965 to June 30, 1966, and now you are complaining to the writer because you are no longer able to obtain an allowance.

The last paragraph:

Perhaps in future you will realize that you will have to budget your income on a more practicable basis.

Now what largess this couple have at \$3,160 over a year's period. What incredible fantasies of self-indulgence they had with that kind of an income. But you have a municipal welfare administrator who thinks that they should be living within more confined limits, budgeting on what he determines to be a more practicable basis, that is budgeting on a basis which is more congenial to the money the municipality is prepared to expend.

That kind of attitude, Mr. Minister, through the chair, is reflected in the minds of a great many welfare administrators across the province; and it is not any lack of humanity or compassion on their part, it is the strait-jacket imposed on them by Acts of this kind.

If the Minister is in good faith, Mr. Chairman, he will accept this simple amendment, which already conforms to a piece of legislation exactly analogous in content and on the statute books of this House and which he himself has already approved.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Chairman, may I say that the hon. member for Scarborough West is completely off base. The purpose of this bill is to bring the Act into line with the Canada assistance plan completely, because the dollar bills are down in Ottawa and when we pass this bill we get those dollar bills from Ottawa into Ontario. That is the aim of this bill, so that we can share in this. That is why I am so anxious to get through this, so that we can start collecting and paying those dollars as of April 1.

Now I say to you—and I have said this and this is the last time I am saying it to the members of this House—gentlemen, I have entered into an agreement which was devel-

oped by the provinces and the federal authorities.

Ontario, as I said, played a major role in the development of the regulations and the agreement. I signed an agreement wherein I bound myself to set up a procedure of appeal within the course of one year. What the nature of that appeals board will be, I am not in a position to say at this time. It may be, when I have examined the situation, it may be the appeal board that we have set up under The Family Benefits Act, but I am not in a position today to make that decision. It is something that will be done within a year from the signing of the agreement, which was yesterday.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has just pulled the rug out from the whole of his front bench over there—

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Not so!

Mr. Bryden: —all of whom were taking the position, a most remarkable position, that because we were arguing in favour of an appeal procedure we believed in dictatorship, computerization of human beings, and I do not know what other evil things. These were the suggestions coming to us.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I made the suggestion.

Mr. Bryden: You made the suggestion yourself that we were trying to undermine the responsibility of the welfare administrator.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Not so!

Mr. Bryden: And then, after having mouthed those remarkable words, the Minister said that he is committed by a solemn agreement to precisely the same principle.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That does not mean that I am against discretion in the hands of the welfare administrators, the way the member is.

Mr. Bryden: Well our stand does not mean we are either!

Mr. Chairman, what we are asking for in our amendment—and I ask anyone to look at it—we are asking for an appeal procedure. The Minister in one breath said that would undermine the responsibility of the welfare administrators, on what kind of shop logic I cannot conceive, but then in the next breath he said that he was committed to that principle.

Now I wish he would get together and have a Cabinet meeting with himself and

decide where he does stand on the matter. Is he in favour of the principle of appeal or not? If he is, then I say to him that a principle that is sound a year from now is sound today and we should go ahead with it today. If the Minister wants a certain amount of time to consider the amendment, I say let the clause stand. It can wait until after Easter. We do not have to go forward with breakneck speed.

Notwithstanding all the interjections from all of the front bench on the other side, we find that the principle is going to be accepted. Well, if it is accepted, let us go ahead. If you want to consider an alternative way take a little time and think about it.

I do not know why you brought the bill into the House without having thought about it, but if that is the way you do business we will give you a little more time to think about it. But unless you can come up with some sensible alternative to implement the principle which we have been trying to put forward in the face of a persistent barrage of irresponsible opposition from the government, you should accept our amendment.

As a matter of fact, we suggested an amendment that carries over a procedure from one of your old Acts.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: The Opposition is coming from the government now, is it?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Opposition to progress; that is where it always comes from.

Mr. Bryden: It is incredible that this government will not accept a principle that is in one of its own Acts; that it says to accept that principle would undermine the responsibility of the local welfare administrator.

Well does it undermine the responsibility of your own administrators? Do you have less confidence in your own administrators than you have in the local welfare administrators? One can only conclude that you have if you will not accept a procedure that is applicable to your own administrators for the local welfare administrators. The whole argument for an hour or more tonight from the government benches was a totally irresponsible argument, a flat refusal to face up to a basic principle, an attempt to create the most inane type of diversion from that principle.

We find that the Minister is committed to the principle, but he wants to drag his feet. He has a year before he has to do it, so he

is going to wait a year apparently. We will not do it again in this session and I do not expect he will be here in the next one, this Minister at any rate, to do it.

But why should we wait till next year? Why not do it this session? Otherwise, you are going to waste a year.

I say to him let us do it now; or if he wants to take a bit more time to consider it then consider it over the Easter recess and bring this bill back with your own amendment immediately after Easter.

Mr. Chairman: You have heard the amendment by the member for Downsview. All those in favour of the amendment will please say "aye".

All those opposed, will please say "nay".

In the opinion of the chair, the amendment is lost.

Call in the members, please.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, I have a point of order on the procedure. Now it may be that over in a foreign land they do it, but at least in Ottawa they do not.

And I recall, I want to make one more statement, I recall that when I first came in the House eight years ago, the bells were not rung for a vote in committee.

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

I know the member is standing on his feet on a point of order but I believe at this particular time when the bells are ringing, he is out of order.

Mr. Sopha: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The member for Sudbury had his chance to run federally last week.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order please!

All those in favour of the amendment, will please rise.

All those opposed to the amendment will please rise.

Clerk of the House: Mr. Chairman, the "ayes" are 21, the "nays" 46.

Mr. Chairman: I declare the amendment lost and the section carried.

Section 3 agreed to.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Chairman, I have a question; on subsection 4 of section 3 actually.

Mr. Chairman: This is passed automatically with the amendment.

Mr. Smith: All the other subsections?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, all the subsections automatically pass with the section.

Sections 4 and 5 agreed to.

On section 6:

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, before we pass section 6, I would like to ask the Minister the significance of the phraseology used in subsection 1 as follows:

There may be paid to any class of municipality prescribed by the regulations, out of moneys appropriated therefor by the Legislature, grants and subsidies for any of the purposes of this Act—

Later when we come to the clause amending the section governing the power to make regulations we note that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council is given an additional power, not in the old Act, to make regulations prescribing classes of municipalities. This is something new in the Act, Mr. Chairman, and I must say that on the face of it I am not very happy about it. It appears to have within it the germ of a principle of discriminating among municipalities.

In other words, municipalities will be grouped into classes and some will get greater grants and subsidies, from the province, under the legislation than others. The Minister is well aware of my views that the municipalities should not have to share at all in the cost of general welfare assistance benefits, but if they are to share then I certainly would not, without a great deal of persuasion and explanation, accept the principle that they should be classified and there should be different treatment for different classes of municipalities.

It may be, Mr. Chairman, that I do not fully understand what the Minister has in mind; if that is so I wish he would explain it.

Why is he putting into this old statute the new concept of classifying municipalities and paying grants and subsidies on the basis of the classification of municipalities?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: One of the situations—we actually do have this at the present time—there is under the regulations, on my recollection it is that where a municipality has an unemployment ratio of, I think, six per cent, then the share of that municipality is only 10 per cent, so we do have this differentiation and this gives a—

Mr. Bryden: Is that the only one you now have?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That, to my recollection, is the only one. Actually we have been doing this, but in order to again be in conformity with the Canada assistance plan, some of these things that we have been doing we are spelling out in the statute itself that we will be doing. This is an instance where a subsidy in a class has been established.

Mr. Bryden: Well what is the obligation precisely that the Canada assistance plan imposes on you in this connection?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: There is no obligation in this. It is just that I think the Canada assistance plan requires us to spell out in much more detail than we have had in the past—

Mr. Bryden: What you have always been doing you mean?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Well some of the procedures that we have been following, and the regulations, they wanted spelled out in the Act. I think their insistence is this, that if they are going to enter into agreements with provinces across the country that much of this should be in the statute itself. This is my understanding.

Mr. Bryden: The specific purpose that the Minister cited is one that I find unobjectionable, but if that is what he has in mind then I say that is what we should put into the statute.

What he is now proposing gives him infinitely broader powers than that. I am one of those who do not believe in giving the administration any wider powers than it needs. I do not believe in giving them blanket powers. If they need powers for a certain purpose I believe they should specify them, but this gives them the widest conceivable powers to do all sorts of things that we certainly have not dreamt of, and of which we have not been notified.

I would suggest to the Minister that he should tighten, perhaps not this clause, but the section relating to the power to make regulations to state specifically the types of classification which the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, if he sees fit, may prescribe. I do not think we should give this broad power to classify municipalities. It is giving far too much power to people who are no longer accountable to this Legislature in any meaningful sense once the legislation is passed.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: May I say, Mr. Chairman, that the record of this government has been, to my recollection, not to have regulations passed which have limited or restrained. It has always been in the opposite direction. There has always been an extension, an expansion, an opening up, a lifting of the burden; and I would hope that would be the practice, that what would be done under this Act would be to the benefit of all municipalities rather than to the detriment of any.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Windsor-Walkerville.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

If I may ask the hon. Minister a question on article 7, or paragraph 7, he had mentioned earlier an unemployment ratio of six per cent, was that right?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Yes, that is right.

Mr. Newman: On whose figures do you get this six per cent? Do you get it from the national employment service locally?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: I must say that I am not aware of that. I have not had that occurrence yet, so I am not familiar with the details of it but I assume that it is based on some scientifically acceptable figure.

Mr. Newman: There are figures from the national employment service, issued monthly, as to the number of unemployed or the number registered for employment in areas that have a national employment office or a Canada manpower office.

Now when the percentage of unemployed goes beyond six per cent is the charge that the provincial authorities would absorb 90 per cent rather than 80 per cent? Is that it, Mr. Chairman? You would pick up another 10 per cent of the municipalities' cost of public assistance or welfare?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: That is my understanding.

Sections 6 to 11, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 55 reported.

Mr. Bryden: It should be repealed, not reported!

THE MILK ACT, 1965

House in committee on Bill 2, An Act to amend The Milk Act, 1965.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.
Bill 2 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved that:

the moneys required for the purposes of The Ontario Agricultural Museum Act, 1967, shall, until the 31st day of March, 1968, be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund,

as provided in Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Resolution concurred in.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

House in committee on Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Sections 1 to 11, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 4 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved that:

if at any time the amount standing to the credit of a fund established under The Farm Products Payment Act, 1967, is insufficient for the purpose of making payments for claims under The Farm Products Payments Act, 1967, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may authorize the Treasurer of Ontario to advance out of the consolidated revenue fund to the board that administers the fund such sums as are necessary to meet the deficit on such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council directs,

as provided in Bill 59, An Act to ensure payments to producers of farm products.

Resolution concurred in.

PRODUCERS OF FARM PRODUCTS

House in committee on Bill 59, An Act to insure payments to producers of farm products.

On section 1:

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, on section 1, it appears this bill is designed to provide protection only for farmers who produce milk and certain classes of livestock. Am I correct

in assuming that other farm products are excluded from coverage under this Act?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): The intent of the Act at the moment is to provide coverage for milk producers. It can be expanded to other areas, but that is the intent of the Act at the moment.

Mr. Nixon: I believe there have been cases in recent years where this type of protection was very desperately needed by farmers, but I can recall other occasions when farmers who were in the can crop industry—cash crop industry and can crop industry—required similar protection. The bankruptcy laws did not give them first claim on the assets of the companies that were not in a position to pay the farmers for the crops that had been grown and harvested and shipped to the plant.

Surely the protection along those lines should be included in the Act at this time. It seems to be as necessary on the one hand as the other. I wonder if the Minister would give his opinion about that?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: I would not deny there could not be cases, theoretically—well there may have been, but they are very isolated.

This is a new departure, this is pioneering in the field, and I would feel that we should try this out and get the show on the road, as it were, in this particular area and then we will see how it develops.

If there are needs in other areas there is no reason why it cannot be expanded into other areas, but I would feel at the time that we are going far enough to get the proposal under way. It is a big undertaking and I would like to restrict it to milk products for this year.

Mr. Nixon: I am glad that the hon. Minister agrees that it might possibly be extended in this way, because I am saying to him, Mr. Chairman, right now, that I believe this coverage is just as essential as it is in the milk industry and I hope that he will consider it at the first opportunity as far as its expansion is concerned.

I wonder if the Minister could give us some explanation as to why he feels that in the milk industry this is a pressing and serious requirement? I know that there have been these cases, but is there any particular matter that would make it an emergency situation at this time?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: No, Mr. Chairman, not the slightest to my knowledge, not the slightest.

I do feel that we should have the Act ready to implement because there has been what was known as a "master bond" which has been used by many of the major—well not all major, I should say many distributors. They have belonged to what is known as a master bond they have had protection on their own. Now to coincide with giving up of that master bond and coming into this plan, it would be necessary that we have the legislation ready to take effect at as early a date as possible.

As far as I know there is not any dairy, any processing company, that is in any difficulty of which I know that we would have to have this legislation for that particular reason.

Mr. Nixon: Do we not now have legislation that will require any processing company to be bonded?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: We have legislation requiring all distributors to be bonded, but not processing plants or creameries.

Mr. Nixon: Is it not true, Mr. Chairman, that The Milk Act could require bonding of these milk plants, rather than providing this umbrella of coverage that might very well be a public expense? Is there not a section in The Milk Act that could permit the Minister—

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is permissive legislation. It may.

Sections 1 to 10, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 59 reported.

THE FORESTRY ACT

House in committee on Bill 27, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 27 reported.

THE SURVEYS ACT

House in committee on Bill 28, An Act to amend The Surveys Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 28 reported.

THE TREES ACT

House in committee on Bill 29, An Act to amend The Trees Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 29 reported.

THE JUDICATURE ACT

House in committee on Bill 38, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

On section 1.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask the Attorney General how many extras does this clause provide for?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It indicates, I think, in the section we are speaking about now, that the increase is from 24 to 26, which is two additional Supreme Court judges.

Mr. Sopha: May I ask has the federal government—I know they have made some representations to judges about their extra-judicial work—now have those strictures, do they apply to high court judges as well as the county court?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes.

Mr. Sopha: Well then, may we expect that there will be a surcease of the practice of appointing high court judges to Royal commissions?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Not necessarily, Mr. Chairman. The members I think should know, if they are not aware, that we pay to the judges of the Supreme Court of Ontario, in addition to the salaries which are of course fixed and paid by the federal Parliament, the sum of \$4,000 paid to judges for what is generally regarded as extra-judicial duties. We pay to our county court and district court judges—while I am on the subject—\$3,500. The recent bill which has passed the Houses of Parliament at Ottawa provided for an increase in the salaries of the Supreme Court judges from \$21,000, which was the federal salary, to \$26,000. We will continue to pay, I take it, the \$4,000.

There is a section in that bill which passed the Houses at Ottawa saying that no judge may accept any fee or salary or remuneration for services which would be agreed upon by him in arbitrating or acting as an arbitrator or a conciliator. Which would mean that management, for instance, and an employee group, could not agree to have a judge act as such and get paid for it. It has stopped that.

There is nothing to prevent us from continuing to pay the Supreme Court judges \$4,000 and the county court judges \$3,500. The bill, however, at Ottawa, did provide that those judges who receive payment from a province should not get—they are deprived

of, \$2,000, which is part of the general increase. So as long as we continue to pay our judges \$4,000—Supreme Court judges—and \$3,500 for county court judges, they will not get \$2,000 of the respective increases.

Mr. Sopha: In line with what the Attorney General has said, was my observation correct, in answer to the question asked of the Ministry by my friend from Downsview, that there was no provision for any payment to Mr. Justice Hughes in the Atlantic inquiry?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think arrangements, I would think, I am answering offhand, I would think that any arrangements which have been made would be—which are now extant—would stand.

Mr. Sopha: Well, that means he is being paid.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, no, he is not!

Mr. Sopha: He is not being paid?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, he is not as far as I am aware. That is part of his extra-judicial duties.

Mr. Sopha: Unlike the friend of the Prime Minister from London who got \$145,000!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He was counsel. I do not like the—

Mr. Sopha: Well, he was a friend of the Prime Minister, was he not?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member to stay under this bill, under section 1.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That was as a counsel.

Mr. Chairman: Under section 1 of the Act!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: In relation to the point raised, you are talking about the counsel to Mr. Justice Hughes?

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Sheppard.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You are talking about the counsel to Mr. Justice Hughes, Mr. Sheppard.

Mr. Sopha: He is from London.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: He is from London.

Mr. Sopha: Yes, and he is a friend of the Prime Minister.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Just like you are from Sudbury, and I think it should be recorded that the selection of the counsel to the Hughes commission was made by the Hon.

Mr. Justice Hughes himself, and by nobody else.

Mr. Sopha: Well good for him, but the record also disclosed that he got \$145,458.50.

Mr. Chairman: I am ruling this out of order.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I am just correcting the innuendo.

Mr. Sopha: It is no innuendo, but it is uncommonly a coincidence that this man that got \$145,000 is a friend of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Chairman: It is out of order.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sopha: This will be an election issue, make no mistake about it.

Mr. Chairman: On Bill 38.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on section 1 of Bill 38, I have noted the Attorney General's observation twice now about the difficult position that we find ourselves in because of the recent amendments to the corresponding Ottawa Act.

In view of that, would we not be further ahead if we withdrew \$2,000 from each of the judges. The judges would not suffer. The Treasury of the province of Ontario would be saved that additional money. Maybe some money would come from Ottawa, because we hear from the Provincial Treasurer all the time what a difficult time he has. It would seem obvious to me that if you withdrew \$2,000 and took advantage of this—

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he will please at this time stay with section 1 of this particular bill.

Mr. Singer: I only got into that because the Attorney General pretended, Mr. Chairman, that—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: You got into it because you wanted to!

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, I am not awfully interested in the inane objections constantly fired by the House leader, and I wish you would keep him quiet.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We have listened to you for three or four years—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please!

On section 1 of the bill, please.

Mr. Sopha: Mr. Chairman, does the pressure for the appointment of two extra come from Toronto? Is the Toronto profession complaining that there are not enough judges to try the load of cases in Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would not say so, Mr. Chairman. The Supreme Court judges, as the hon. member knows, are on circuit and do the work of the province. Their assessment of the need for judges is two here. I think one judge is ill and one judge is not sitting on the bench at the moment—the hon. member is aware of the name and I will not mention it. There is need for two judges to meet the work load.

Mr. Sopha: Well that one you referred to is going to be replaced, presumably.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not know.

Mr. Sopha: I assume that resolution is going to pass in the House of Commons. It just seems that every two or three years there is an amendment to this Act. It would be interesting to go back and see in the last decade how many times it has been amended to provide for the appointment of two more. It is always two more. Now when are we going to get enough?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, this is a growing province and the case load is growing, but we do not want 10 if we need only two; and we do not want more than the judges advise. The chief justice of the high court and the chief justice of Ontario say that this is what we need to meet our work load at this time. It would be strange if I came forward and said let us have six now so we can prepare for the next three years. We do not need them.

Mr. Sopha: What do you mean, it is a "growing" province? Births are down 17 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That does not mean that it is not growing. We are still growing.

Mr. Sopha: How is it growing? How is the province growing when the birth rate is down 17 per cent?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This province is growing.

Mr. Sopha: I have never been satisfied that this is proper. I do not want to go past this,

if there is consent. I have never been satisfied that it is proper for the province to pay any money to these judges. These judges are appointed by the federal government under the appropriate section of The British North America Act and the practice from Confederation was for the federal government to pay them. They have the right to appoint them and they pay them.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, this is not in question here.

Mr. Sopha: You raised it yourself!

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, you questioned it.

Mr. Sopha: You raised it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: This is not in order here.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to rule out the question of payment in connection with it; this is the increase of two judges from 24 to 26.

Mr. Sopha: Well just leave it at this: Why not bring it up to 30 and we will let it rest for about 10 years.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is not common practice to provide for needs which do not now exist in this area.

Mr. Sopha: It is not unknown, of course—and the Attorney General ought to be reminded—it is not unknown, certainly, in the history of this country, for the province to amend a statute and the federal government not appoint. Many a time that has happened in this country that the federal government, which has to pay the bulk of the salary, just pays no attention to it.

What assurance does the Attorney General have that the federal government is going to fill these vacancies?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I have every assurance, with the excellent relations we have with the federal government, that we will get the appointments just as soon as this bill is passed.

Mr. Sopha: How can you say that you have excellent relations if you have sat in this House and listened to the Provincial Treasurer? The way he talks about—

Mr. Chairman: On section 1, please.

Mr. Sopha: And you have a colleague in the Cabinet who says that the Prime Minister should retire—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order please. Order!

Mr. Sopha: How can you say that you have excellent relations?

Mr. Chairman: I am going to ask you to stay with section 1 of the bill, please.

Mr. Sopha: Every time the Attorney General puts his foot in his mouth and somebody gets up to confute him, to show that he really does not know what he is talking about tonight, you come to his rescue. What are you, his protector?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I ask no protection of the chair. I am quite aware that there was a time, probably the time to which the hon. member for Sudbury refers when there was a government in this House of the same stripe as the government at Ottawa and they did not have good relations, but that does not exist just now.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2:

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on section 2, could the Attorney General tell us who has audited these accounts heretofore?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think they are audited by the auditors who do the Attorney General's department generally. They are now to be handled by the provincial auditor.

Mr. Singer: Does the Attorney General have separate auditors?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have had. There are so many branches and sections in The Department of the Attorney General, outside of Osgoode Hall, that we have had our own auditors to keep track of things.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: That is a superfluous question, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member was given that information when he mentioned it in the public accounts committee.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, it is most difficult with these two Ministers here tonight to make any point. I think we would get along much more pleasantly and efficiently if both the hon. gentlemen would just let the Attorney General and others discuss these matters on a logical basis.

I want to ask the Attorney General this question, and we are going to elaborate on it when we come to this section of his estimates, but does he believe that by this change there

will be an improvement in the methods of bookkeeping and general efficiency in dealing with these accounts in the office of the official guardian?

Mr. Chairman: Do you not think that this would be more appropriately brought up under the estimates?

Mr. Singer: I am asking the Attorney General the purpose of this section. Why then, is he doing it? What is the purpose of it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I believe that it is one of the recommendations of the public accounts committee and the auditor, and it will bring all our accounts into one group.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, just by way of reminding the House, it is not only a recommendation of the public accounts committee, but it is a recommendation of the committee that, under the chairmanship of the former member for St. Patrick (Mr. Roberts), drifted out into limbo and we never got a final report. In that committee there was a very strong recommendation for even Hydro to be brought in under the provincial auditors.

Sections 2 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 45 reported.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Chairman, if I may have the indulgence of the House to make a correction.

Earlier the member for Woodbine brought up the question of subsidies to municipalities and then the member for Windsor-Walkerville entered the discussion. I used the expression, "where a municipality has an unemployment ratio of six per cent". That should have been: "When six per cent of the population were on the assistance rolls as determined by the latest DBS figures."

That is a completely different ratio. It is unrelated to unemployment; it is related to the number on relief rolls.

THE JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURTS ACT

House in committee on Bill 41, An Act to amend The Juvenile and Family Courts Act.

On section 1:

Mr. Sopha: What is the necessity of having a chief judge in the juvenile and family court system? Everything appears to be operating hunky-dory. We have juvenile and family court judges out in the province and

they are competent and capable people. From whom do you follow precedent—

Mr. Bryden: They want a commissar!

Mr. Sopha: —that you always have to appoint some supervisory official? You have chiefs over every branch of your department.

Just because there is a chief magistrate, I do not see that the Attorney General has to lose all sense of proportion and start appointing a chief to this section for the administration of justice.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I am very glad to have the assurance of the hon. member for Sudbury that everything is "hunky-dory", to use his expression. I think perhaps he might be interested to know that I think there is some room for improvement.

We have, in our juvenile and family court situation in certain areas of the province, part of the work being done by magistrates as sort of a secondary approach after the magistrate's court. Many of our juvenile and family court judges, in a sense, are not really such, but are magistrates who do the work of the juvenile and family courts.

Mr. Sopha: Where is that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: In many areas of this province—

Mr. Sopha: It does not obtain in Sudbury.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am coming to that.

The hon. member lives, as I do, in northern Ontario where we have districts, and in those districts a different rule altogether prevails. We have there no organized county or district organization, but we have municipalities—cities such as his district of Sudbury, my city of Sault Ste Marie, the Lakehead cities, North Bay—and they are in a situation where the province contributes a percentage to the cost of the court and the municipality contributes a percentage. There is no uniformity there. It may be 50-50, 60-40 or 40-60 or otherwise in order to deal with the remuneration of a juvenile and family court judge. The capability of the man we get in many cases depends on this.

We have to deal with the municipality and then persuade the province to meet a certain percentage. In the rest of the province, as I say, we have many magistrates doing juvenile and family court work in a sort of secondary approach or on a secondary level and not giving it the great importance which I think it should have, this area of dealing with children, particularly in their earlier

years when they come, perhaps for the first or second time before a court, not giving them the attention deserved.

We have different approaches, different attitudes, different principles applied with respect to the treatment of these children and their sentencing, if we may use that term, in the sense that they may be put on probation, and generally in the way they are treated.

We need someone—and I am very serious about this—we need someone who will look over this whole situation. A capable person, sympathetic, with judgment, with ability, with knowledge, who will look at our juvenile and family courts situation and pull it together, as it were, and give it some uniformity. It is my hope, and I would like to say this to the House, that we will be able to put the status of that court on a higher basis than it now is and find judges who will serve full time and we will find the means to make it worth their while to do so. Therefore we will get qualified personnel.

This is one of the first steps, as we move in that direction. I trust we shall not be too long in accomplishing that objective.

Mr. Sopha: Are a minority of the juvenile and family court judges also magistrates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I would think the majority of them are.

Mr. Sopha: The majority are also magistrates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Right.

Mr. Sopha: Is it the practice invariably when you appoint a juvenile and family court judge to also give him the letters patent as a magistrate?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Sopha: That is not the practice?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Sopha: Is the practice the contrary, that you do not give him the letters patent as a magistrate?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: He does not necessarily get the magistrate's patent when he is appointed as a juvenile and family court judge.

Mr. Sopha: Well, what bothers me, in brief, about the section is that—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is a mixed-up situation entirely; the whole thing is mixed up

and needs straightening out, and I am the first to admit it.

Mr. Sopha: All right, then if the Attorney General admits that, I will say no more.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, if I may make a point—

Mr. Chairman: In doing so, I was going to suggest to the Attorney General if we could stay with it clause by clause instead of the principle of the bill.

Mr. Singer: During the course of the Attorney General's estimates, I have been complaining as vigorously as I have been able about our inability to get information from the chief magistrate, from the chief county court judge, and from certain other officials. I recognize that I was complaining without statutory authority but I was complaining in line with the principle I believe in. Now that we are about to appoint a chief juvenile and family court judge, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the Attorney General will listen to my suggestions in this regard and in order to clarify the situation, I am going to move an amendment to this section 5(b), by adding thereto a subsection 6, which shall read in the following manner:

The chief judge shall submit a report annually, which report shall be tabled in the Legislature at the ensuing sitting or, if the Legislature is not in session, at the first session immediately thereafter.

The purpose of this is quite obvious, Mr. Chairman. I believe that when we have important officials like this—and obviously the Attorney General thinks these are important officials—the public and the members of the Legislature should be kept informed as to what these important officials discover and what they report upon. I think only in this way can the public be properly kept informed and can we in the Legislature be given the opportunity to examine what they have done during the course of their year's work and to criticize, intelligently and constructively I would hope, the whole system of the administration of justice.

I think this is an ideal that we are all striving for and I think we should put, at this time in this statute, the requirement that there be an annual report from the chief juvenile and family court judge and that it be tabled in the Legislature for all of the arguments that I have heretofore made and the arguments I have made very briefly tonight.

Mr. Chairman: All those in favour of the amendment, will please say "aye".

All those opposed, will please say "nay".

In the opinion of the chair, the amendment is lost.

Section 1 agreed to.

Sections 2 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 41 reported.

THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT

House in committee on Bill 44, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 44 reported.

THE JURORS ACT

House in committee on Bill 45, An Act to amend The Jurors Act.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2.

Mr. Sopha: I wonder, could the Attorney General tell one of the uninitiated, does this apply to criminal sittings as well?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, it would.

Mr. Sopha: I will tell the circumstances. The Minister who would probably question it is not in the House, so it is safe for me to tell you about a circumstance that occurred to me some years ago, where this type of amendment could pose a problem.

Here we had an individual who was facing two indictments for murder, and following the trial on the first indictment, the trial judge, if the Attorney General is with me, sent away the panel. He sent the whole panel away, and then the accused insisted that his trial be called on the second indictment immediately, and lo and behold there was no panel of jurors. As the Attorney General is well aware, the judge presiding at the sittings was seized of the writ of general jail delivery and the accused then insisted that he be delivered of the jail at that sitting, since there was no jury panel. So it ended up, to make a long story short, where the chief justice of the high court had to issue his precept, which I understand is a power he has under The Judicature Act, to summon another panel.

I think the amendment as it stands is unsatisfactory because who is to say they might not be required at that sittings, if the judge releases them for the remainder of the sit-

tings. Besides, this business of the convenience of the members of the panel, I think, is overdone. To serve on a jury is surely the last act of direct participation of the citizen in his government; it is the last one extent where he may be summoned without any act of volition on his own part to answer the Queen's subpoena to attend as a juror. I think there is a good deal of mythology surrounding the notion that this is a great inconvenience to the citizen. I think a lot of these jurors are delighted to receive the command to come because they want to participate, and I have heard a good many of them express regrets when they have been challenged or stood aside and have not been allowed to take part in a trial.

You have 60 or 70 come and the trial judge looks over the list of jury cases and he reflects sometimes—"None of them here. Well, there are six but I will settle about four of them, that will leave two. Well, 15 or 16 would be enough." And he releases the balance. Remember it was this government that first assaulted the jury system, this government. I was in law school at that time; that would be about 1955.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Was the member in law school then?

Mr. Sopha: Yes, I was not called till 1955.

Mr. MacDonald: He was on the CCF benches in the model Parliament at that point. He has been going downhill ever since.

Mr. Sopha: And this government—

Mr. Singer: With more mature years came wisdom.

Mr. Sopha:—and this government reduced the number from 12 to 6, and now there always seems to be some whittling away of the jury system. You see the infringements of it; they go on before your eyes. A trial judge, as the Attorney General knows, has the power to declare that a case shall not be tried by a jury. Apparently on the basis of recent decisions he has unlimited power to withdraw the case from the jury once a jury has been selected and decide himself. I for one regret to see the extension of this power to the extent that the trial judge can release any number of the jurors.

What really is the inconvenience? Supposing the jury is sitting out in the country where the situation might be different than it is in Toronto. Supposing the sittings are

going to be three weeks, then really what inconvenience is it to require the panel to attend daily or as directed by the trial judge; and then when the jury for the particular case is selected, disbanding it, letting them go back to work—and many of them are business men who can come and go from their employment—and then come back again two or three or four days later, the first of next week, or as the sittings require. I mean, what are we rushing into here? Where is all this stimulus coming from that we have to give power to trial judges to pick out so many and send them away?

The litigant says he only keeps 15 out of 45 that were originally summoned; the litigant's choice of jurors is thereby restricted. He is left with only the four challenges that he has, but those that might be selected are certainly restricted to the 15 that are kept, and the other 30 which would contain many of good and sound judgment that the litigant might want to try his cause, he is denied because the trial judge under this amendment has sent them away. I am really curious to know where this stimulus comes from to The Attorney General's Department to impel him to bring in an amendment. Who is on the other end of the phone? Who phones the Deputy Attorney General or the Attorney General and says, "Look, at the next session, Arthur, you have to bring in an amendment to this effect." Certainly in the part of the country that I come from you do not hear any complaints on the part of the bar, but then the Attorney General informed us last year that in order to get an amendment to any of his statutes you have to get it passed by the Canadian bar association first, do you not? Is that not what you said?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes, maybe you have changed your tune this year.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No. The Canadian bar association has sometimes complained that I will not accept its advice.

Mr. Sopha: He told me and my friend from Downsview last year that we had to get it passed by the Canadian bar association. That is what took me to Winnipeg to try to get a few passed. But the Attorney General probably will not be pleased to give an answer and all I can do is speculate where this comes from and who is on the other end of the hot line. His response is almost as fast as the rules committee of the Supreme Court. I often think before they sit down to revise rules the committee members call all the

insurance companies and say, "What can I do for you today, boys?"

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member seems to be under a great misapprehension that this is something new. It is not so at all. The provision for release of jurors by the judge is in the present Act which I have in my hand and which is The Jurors Act R.S.O. 1950, chapter 191. The section we are speaking of is section 49 and we are speaking of the amendment to subsection 4 of that section. That section begins:

Any number of jurors summoned for a jury sittings of the Supreme Court or of the county court may, until resummoned by the direction of a judge, be released from service or further service as the case may be.

And when we come to subsection 4, which we are repealing and substituting this for, I think I should place this on the record, Mr. Chairman. It says:

Where a number of jurors are to be released from further service during the sittings under this section, the judge shall, in the presence of the jury panel and in open court, so advise the clerk of the court, who shall place all the cards upon which the names of the jurors are written in the box provided for that purpose, and shall cause it to be thoroughly shaken, and shall then withdraw from the box one at a time the number of cards equivalent to the number of jurors who are to be released, and the jurors whose names appear on the cards shall thereupon be released by the judge.

This is the subsection providing for a drawing by lot in open court, but the power of the judge is there to release these jurors. We are simply simplifying the procedure, and I note that subsection 4 at the foot of it as it appears in the Act reads "R.S.O. 1950," so that it apparently has been on our statutes for at least 17 years. It is nothing new that we come to, but simply a simplifying of an old right and procedure.

I am prepared to agree with the hon. member for Sudbury that it is a privilege to serve on a jury, but I think it is reasonable also to say that the judge should not keep sitting around in the courtroom for three, four, five or whatever number of days a trial may go on, a number of persons who have families to care for, who have jobs at which they earn much more than they earn for coming to court on jury duty, or who have farms and stock and animals to attend to, when their obligations, financial and otherwise, go on. I think this is reasonable that it should be a

simplified procedure of an old right, an old clearly recognized situation which we are simply simplifying. That is all this is. Nothing new.

Mr. Sopha: I am not satisfied that No. 5 does not interfere with the rights of the accused. It would be an interesting problem, perhaps for the court of appeal to wrestle with, if the judge released part of the panel and the accused person came on for a trial with only part of the panel there. And suppose the accused got up and said: "I challenge the whole panel, because so many jurors have been released from duty and originally at the outset of this assize I had the right to select from 75 jurors." He might add under his breath, "Of which number there were many of my friends." He might say "But now I only have the right to select from 30 or 45"—as the case may be. The Crown is entitled to 48 stand-asides. Why is there not a limitation that it must be at least over 48? What happens if the challenger and the stand-asides use up the number the judge has kept? Then they start to go back among the stand-asides.

Finally I should like to ask what happened to our procedures around here. Today was the 39th day of the sitting of this House. We used to have a very viable organization known as the legal bills committee, and today, on the 39th day, it met for the first time to elect a chairman. Presumably this bill, which is now in committee, is not going to the legal bills committee for calm and informal study and for representation to be made by people outside the Legislature. Is it because the Prime Minister is rushing so headlong for an election that he is ready to violate and distort the normal proceedings of the House?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member to get back on Bill 45, section 2.

Mr. Sopha: I am asking the Attorney General if he knows the Prime Minister's mind, why this bill did not go to the legal bills committee? We have got all the time in the world you know, to attend those committees.

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Sopha: If the Prime Minister wants an election, then let him dissolve the House and let us get out on the hustings.

Mr. Chairman: As the member for Sudbury knows, that is within the discretion of the Minister.

Mr. Sopha: It is not really in the discretion of the Minister. We have a practice that has the sanction of time about it—that in previous

years these bills went to the legal bills committee. Now are you saying that that practice, which has become part of the custom and usage of this House, is in the discretion of the Attorney General? Then I want to say to you right now that I deny any such proposition and I would like to hear from him how it is that that committee met for the first time this morning—the 39th day.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the member if he will please confine his remarks to the matter before us.

Mr. Sopha: The 39th day of the session.

Mr. Chairman: Section 2 of this bill.

Mr. Sopha: I am asking, I may not get an answer, but I am asking why we did not have the opportunity.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, I think in the same vein it should be recorded that there are no Budget speakers available from the Opposition and have not been for some days.

Mr. Bryden: What are you talking about? There is an Opposition member who has the floor now in the Budget Debate; he has adjourned the debate.

Mr. Chairman: I would ask all the members if they would please stay with section 2 of this bill.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I would just say that I have as much regard and respect for the value of the legal bills committee as the hon. member for Sudbury. This bill, however, I did not see fit to direct there.

It deals with nothing new, it is simply a simplification, as my previous discussion indicated, of principles which are already in the Act. There would really be no particular point in taking up the time of the legal bills committee in what is just simple housekeeping, rather, a simplification of procedures.

Mr. Chairman: Is section 2 carried?

Mr. Sopha: Well, that is no explanation. We, over the years, have dealt with technical amendments at that committee. We have all been fond of the legal bills committee.

Mr. Chairman: Once again I would ask—

Mr. Sopha: The fact is, that this being an election year, the Prime Minister is making squalid misuse of this Legislature.

Mr. Chairman: No. I am going to ask the member if he will stay with the bill.

Mr. Sopha: We are rushing headlong—

Mr. Chairman: With this bill, please. Section 2 of this bill.

Sections 2 to 6, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 45 reported.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS ACT, 1966

House in committee on Bill 47, An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act, 1966.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 47 reported.

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1966

House in committee on Bill 48, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Bill 48, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, I move, seconded by Mr. Stewart, that clause "ga" of subsection 4, of section 1, be deleted in its entirety.

This has to do with the definition section and the fact is that it is not necessary to define insurance for the purposes of this Act. It has been already covered in The Insurance Act itself and in that motion I would add these words, that the sections be renumbered as required.

It is on page two of the bill in small letters, called "ga" that will be deleted.

Section 1, as amended, agreed to.

Sections 2 to 8, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 48, as amended, reported.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, on Bill 52, there is an amendment with respect to section 2, and I think I should just note it now.

The word "licensed" should be struck out because it was an error in the typing. The word substituted therefor should be the word "registered".

In section 5 (1) it should be deleted entirely and substitute therefor the following:

Subsection 2 of section 11 of The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964 is amended by

striking out "Attorney General" and replacing it by the word "Minister".

It is a minor matter. The words "Attorney General" to be struck out and the word "Minister" to replace it.

Mr. Nixon: You mean strike out "Minister".

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Strike out "Attorney General".

Mr. Chairman: Strike out the words "Attorney General" and substitute the word "Minister".

Mr. Singer: Well, that is not what the amendment is doing.

Mr. Nixon: Would you read it the way it is amended then?

Mr. Singer: By striking out the word "Minister" and inserting the word "Minister".

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, on the advice of the legislative counsel—

Mr. Singer: If you were following the usual procedure, you would not get into this difficulty. As I listened to the Minister, what he is doing is taking out at the top of page two for better identification, the words "Attorney General" and putting in the word "Minister", so that with that amendment the section will read:

Subsection 2 of section 11 of The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964 is amended by striking out "Minister" in the sixth line and inserting in lieu thereof "Minister".

Now that seems to be an eminently sensible amendment. I wish somebody would explain it.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, my impression is that in committee, one deals with bills a clause at a time, starting with number one and working down.

I should think that the Minister would expedite proceedings if he would bring forth his amendments when we get to the specific section that is affected.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would be pleased to do that. I thought you would be able to follow me.

THE USED CAR DEALERS ACT, 1964

House in committee on Bill 52, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, with respect to section 2, of Bill 52, section 2 where it shows (3), the wording in the bill is:

A used car dealer shall not retain the services of a salesman who is not licensed under this Act.

I move that the word "licensed" be deleted and the word "registered" be substituted therefor.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, and this is a technical procedural point, but has it not always been the practice that the person moving an amendment submitted it in writing?

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Mr. Singer: Now the Minister is departing from that. In past years when there has been any Ministerial amendment, usually it has been typewritten and copies have been made available to the Opposition, so that we can watch these things as they progress. It makes it very difficult to follow, particularly tonight, when the Minister is not even submitting it in writing.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I would be pleased to do that. I think the rule that is mentioned by the member for Downsview is quite right, if it is substituted. There is nothing substituted here at all.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The NDP are able to follow it. They have been the Opposition for some years—

Mr. Chairman: Section 2 as amended, substituting the word "registered" for the word "licensed"—

Mr. Bryden: Before this is passed, Mr. Chairman, this automatically takes care of the marginal note, does it?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: The amendment that you are now dealing with changing the word "licensed" to the word "registered", somebody in drafting, made a mistake and used the wrong word and your amendment will take care of the use of the word "licensed" in the marginal note, will it?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: Right.

Mr. Chairman: Section 2, as amended, carried?

Section 2, as amended, agreed to.

Sections 3 and 4 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: I understand there was an amendment in section 5.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Mr. Chairman, section 5. There are two parts. There is 5(1) and 5(2) and my instructions on this matter are that subsection two requires amendment.

There are two parts and the comment to me was that only one part had been amended in the bill.

It should then read, in all cases, "the Minister" instead of "the Attorney General."

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: The proposal is that section 2, and I so move, be amended, by striking out the word "licensed" and substituting the word "registered."

Section 51 is deleted entirely and substituted therefor the following:

"Subsection 2 of section 11—" or "II"—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: We have to have a little fun with you to see if you are still awake! To continue:

"Subsection 2 of section 11 of The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964, is amended by striking out the Attorney General—"

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I find this rather difficult because I do not want to strike out the Attorney General in the first line and in the sixth line!

An hon. member: Throw him a curve—do not strike him out!

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: To continue: "—striking out the Attorney General in the first line and in the sixth line and, in each case, inserting in lieu thereof, the words 'the Minister'."

Mr. Singer: Mr. Chairman, then how will it read after it is amended?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It now will read "Minister" instead of "Attorney General".

Mr. Singer: How will the whole thing read in its entirety?

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It has to do with the transition—

Mr. Singer: Oh, straightening out—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: —to the department.

Mr. Bryden: We spent more time on this than we did on that GO-GO.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think this is fun!

Section 5, as amended, agreed to.

Sections 6 to 12, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 52 reported.

THE LOAN AND TRUST CORPORATIONS ACT

House in committee on Bill 53, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 53 reported.

THE SECURITIES ACT, 1966

House in committee on Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 54 reported.

Clerk of the House: The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following:

Resolved:

That every purchaser of certain tangible personal property shall pay to Her Majesty, in right of Ontario, a tax in respect of the consumption thereof,

as provided in Bill 56, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-61.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, at the second reading stage of this bill, the Provincial Treasurer was unable to be in the House and so we deferred any debate at that time. Perhaps, on this resolution, it would be an appropriate time for me to make a couple of comments I would like to make with respect to the bill.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Provincial Treasurer on having, at long last, faced up to plain, ordinary justice and to have done something about the levying of the retail sales tax on children's clothing.

I am not sure that it is the imminence of the election that is the explanation of his change of heart after so many years of refusal by the government to do anything. I have a hunch that perhaps we should give the credit to the new Provincial Treasurer—or more specifically, to his wife.

I can remember when he sat over here with us proletariats—it was probably his first year in the House—he said that his wife had told him that if he did not do something about the children's clothing feature in The Retail Sales Tax Act, he had better not come home.

Now it is quite obvious from his happy and cheerful attitude that she relented and allowed him to come home. However, I have no doubt that once he got in the Cabinet, she really laid it down, and if she is in any sense responsible, I say all power to her.

The other matter that I would like to mention, Mr. Chairman, relates to another exemption which I think ought to be made while a bill to amend this Act is before us, particularly a section, as there is in the bill, relating to exemptions.

I have raised this on a number of occasions with the previous Provincial Treasurer and, although he was a reasonably easy man to get along with, I never could persuade him on this point. But I am suggesting to the new Provincial Treasurer who might, perhaps, be persuaded by the undeniable logic of my argument, that literature and, indeed other materials used in connection with election campaigns by candidates and parties, as well as promotional material—certainly of a published nature, if not some of the promotional gimmicks—used by political parties at any time, or by candidates in promoting their points of view, should be exempted from sales tax.

The most atrocious pulp magazines are exempt from sales tax and yet material that is published with a serious intent, in relation to the most important element in the democratic process, the electoral process, is subject to sales tax.

It was bad enough in previous days, Mr. Chairman, but the way these Liberal and Tory governments are going hog wild on sales taxes, it is getting quite onerous.

We now have a 12 per cent federal sales tax and pyramided on top of that, is a 5 per cent provincial sales tax. The provincial tax is levied on the federal tax, so that in total it is a 17.6 per cent sales tax on material that candidates and parties will be publishing in connection with the next election.

With the way printing costs are skyrocketing, it costs \$500 to \$1,000 to publish a single leaflet in sufficient quantity to cover a single constituency. A 17.5 per cent bite by these two governments adds anywhere from \$90 to \$176 to the cost of a single leaflet.

I can remember the time when the total cost of a leaflet was not a great deal more than that. If we are serious, as I think we are, in believing that everything possible should be done to reduce the cost of fighting election campaigns, then I think we would do this obvious thing.

We would exempt, at least, the printed material used in connection with the promotion of political views and the views and candidatures of candidates from the sales tax. Admittedly, our sales tax in Ontario is the smaller part of the total but let us at least show the way. Let us remove our sales tax and then I think we would be in a strong position to persuade the federal government to do the same.

In past years, when I raised this matter with the previous Provincial Treasurer, I could never get from him any reason at all as to why he would not do it, except one. His one reason was, as he put it, that in effect it was too much trouble to administer such an exemption.

Now, I do not believe in creating trouble for administrators, Mr. Chairman, but on the other hand, I would submit to this House that democracy does not exist for the benefit of administrators—administrators exist for the benefit of democracy.

Even though it may cause a certain amount of administrative difficulties to the excellent people who work in the retail sales tax division, the principle is so important that we should ask them to accept that extra difficulty.

It is not going to kill them; they might have to take on one more clerk for half a day a week, or something like that. It will not be a serious burden on them, but it is an important principle.

Why should we, through our own taxation, make the costs of election campaigning even higher than it is, and heaven knows it is too high already.

I would ask the Provincial Treasurer to give serious consideration to this matter. I think it is important, I think that what I have said is in accordance with the best manifestations of the democratic spirit.

I would say to the Provincial Treasurer that it is not a matter that can be sloughed off for another year. Everybody knows that chances are at least 1,000 to one, that we will have an election before there is another session of the Legislature. So why not clean this matter up now? Why not do something right now while this bill is here before the House, and make that exemption?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Perhaps the hon. member is entitled to an answer. The amendments to this bill—I am speaking on general terms now—are, firstly, to recognize the tax exemptions where I think they are properly warranted to provide for some administrative improvement.

I draw to the attention of the hon. members, sir, that taxes are imposed basically for the purpose of collecting the revenue that the government believes the province needs. I cannot place the proposal for an amendment by the hon. member for Woodbine in the same category that the spirit of these amendments—

Mr. Bryden: The Provincial Treasurer does not think the democratic process is important?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, I think the democratic process is very important, but I do not think the payment of a tax on printed material will cause any undue burden.

Mr. Bryden: Mr. Chairman, it will cause a significant burden. A candidate running a quite modest campaign might very well spend \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$4,000 on printed material. At 17.6 per cent tax on that amount of money, that runs into several hundred dollars. Several hundred dollars may not be an important burden to the gentlemen on the benches opposite, but I can tell the Provincial Treasurer it is a burden for a great many candidates and parties in the province. In my opinion, the burden ought to be removed. I cannot understand the cavalier dismissal by the government of what I think is quite an important principle.

Resolution concurred in.

THE RETAIL SALES TAX ACT

House in committee on Bill 56, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2:

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Chairman, at the bottom of page two, just at the end of section two, there is a reference to the exemption of Indians from the requirement to pay the tax, specifically when the purchases made by an Indian on the reserve, and also goods that are delivered to the reserve, are exempted from the tax.

There is a small area of some considerable hardship for merchants on the Indian reserve

concerned with this, that the Minister may be aware of.

In making relatively small purchases of orders for commercial enterprises, it has been the practice, by a good many of these merchants, to go into the nearby centres and make the purchase and take it themselves back to their store. This would mean, under this amendment, that they would have to pay the tax on this without any hope of recovery. So they would then be selling the material to the people who come to the store with the tax having already been imposed.

Now I do not know if there is any way whereby the Minister might still provide the freedom from this tax for the Indians who live on the reserve and who in fact go to buy the material through a store. Would the Minister comment on this?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think I commented on that in reply to a question by the hon. leader of the Opposition some time ago. The Provincial Treasurer can rule on certain matters associated with the retail sales tax and, in this instance, the provision of an end-use certificate or an exemption certificate by the Indian on the reserve, to the vendor off the reserve who provides him with the merchandise, will exempt him from tax.

Mr. Nixon: If he is a storekeeper on the reserve?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Yes, if he is a storekeeper, if he is a vendor.

Mr. Sopha: In connection with this, I cannot let the blandness and the naïveté of that one pass.

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: It is not naïve.

Mr. Sopha: Oh yes, terribly naïve. Let us read it, let us read it together: "Books that are printed and bound and that are published solely—" note that adverb—"for educational, technical, cultural or literary purposes."

I suppose those are meant to be alternatives, those adjectives, "educational", "technical", "cultural" and "literary".

Well, having covered that universe, that refers to every book ever published since the beginning of time. Every book ever published fell into one of those, and I suppose an author, if some director of retail sales tax was foolish enough to impose a tax on a book, would only have to come forward and

pick out one of them, and say "My book is published for that purpose".

He could hardly say "solely" because I doubt whether any author would come forward and say that he had a sole purpose in publishing a book. So I merely ask, without expecting a reply, without expecting an intelligent reply, I merely ask, why do you not say "books", but not including "directories, price lists, timetables and those containing advertising"? Why all this nonsense about educational, technical, cultural or literary purposes because, without saying it, I can say categorically every book, ever published, since the first tables were received on Mount Sinai about the year 3500 BC, fits in one of those.

Mr. Bryden: Was the member there?

Hon. Mr. MacNaughton: Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member has probably not compared the amended section with the original section. The only material change in this section are the words "and that contain no advertising".

Mr. Sopha: It is still bland and naïve. Sections 2 to 5, inclusive, agreed to. Bill 56 reported.

ST. CATHARINES CLUB

House in committee on Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to. Bill Pr26 reported.

TOWN OF BLIND RIVER

House in committee on Bill Pr30, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to. Bill Pr30 reported.

CITY OF OTTAWA

House in committee on Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, agreed to. Bill Pr34 reported.

LONDON BOARD OF EDUCATION

House in committee on Bill Pr35, An Act respecting the board of education for the city of London.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.
Schedules A to R, inclusive, agreed to.
Bill Pr35 reported.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee of the whole House rise and report certain resolutions, certain bills without amendment, two bills with amendments, and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed, Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole House begs to report certain resolutions, certain bills without amendment, and two bills with amendment, and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Clerk of the House: Second readings.

THE LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS ACT

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food) moves second reading of Bill 57, An Act to amend The Livestock and Livestock Products Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THE LIVESTOCK COMMUNITY SALES ACT

Hon. Mr. Stewart moves second reading of Bill 58, An Act to amend The Livestock Community Sales Act.

Motion agreed to; second reading of the bill.

THIRD READINGS

The following bills were given third reading upon motion:

Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the town of Burlington.

Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

Bill 33, An Act to amend The Cancer Act.

Bill 49, An Act to amend The Public Hospitals Act.

Bill 50, An Act to amend The Private Hospitals Act.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I would like to deal with third readings as they will appear on the order paper. There will be some bills in committee that have received second reading tonight.

We will then go to the estimates and his honour will be standing by to give Royal assent to those bills which have received third reading.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to:

The House adjourned at 10:50 o'clock p.m.



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Wednesday, March 22, 1967

Speaker: Honourable Donald H. Morrow

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, Q.C.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1967

The House met at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker: We are always pleased to have visitors to the Legislature and today we welcome as guests, students from the following schools: in the east gallery, Midland Avenue collegiate institute, Scarborough, and Winston Churchill collegiate institute, Scarborough, and in the west gallery, Chelmsford Valley district high school, Chelmsford.

Petitions.

Presenting reports.

Hon. R. S. Welch (Provincial Secretary): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House the following reports:

1. The ninth report of the Ontario parks integration board.

2. The report of the board of governors of the University of Toronto financial statements of June 30, 1966.

3. The annual report of the Ontario highway transport board for the year ending December 31, 1966.

4. The report of the province of Ontario Department of Public Welfare, 1965-66.

Mr. Speaker: Motions.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister) moves, seconded by Hon. C. S. MacNaughton (Provincial Treasurer) that the provincial auditor be authorized to pay the salaries of the civil service and other necessary payments pending the voting of supply for the fiscal year commencing April 1, 1967, such payments to be charged to the proper appropriations following the voting of supply.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Robarts moves that when the House adjourns today that it stand adjourned until Tuesday, April 4, at 2.30 o'clock, p.m.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: Introduction of bills.

DIVISION OF PROPERTIES

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General) moves first reading of bill intituled, An Act to facilitate the division of properties into parts that are to be owned individually and parts that are to be owned in common and to provide for the use of management of such properties.

Motion agreed to; first reading of the bill.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Attorney General a question regarding this? This, I presume, is the law relating to condominiums. Is it the intention of the government that this bill be given the full treatment—second reading and third reading—in this session, or is it just here for study and to be dealt with at a later session?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, I had intended to make a statement just after the clerk had announced it.

Briefly, this is the Act which will be known, as described in the last section of the Act, as the "condominium" Act. I propose before the orders of the day, when I have an opportunity, to table the report of the Ontario law reform commission with respect to this matter and to which there is attached a draft proposed bill. We have made some slight amendments in it which I introduce now.

It is the intention to give the bill first reading now, which has been done, and to afford all hon. members of the House an opportunity to read the report—which is quite helpful, I think, in giving background and what has been learned from the studies which the law reform commission has made—and then to proceed with the bill when the Legislature resumes its sittings and get it through this session, if this is possible. I think this will afford an opportunity for complete study by getting it before the members today.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to speak to the House about a very urgent public matter. I just came back from the Don jail—

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sargent: There are shocking conditions down there that I would like to tell the House about.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid that the member is out of order at this stage of our business. There will be ample opportunity to—

Mr. Sargent: I understand that—

Mr. Speaker: Will the member take his seat until I finish, please? We are now in routine business and unless the member has a question of personal privilege, he cannot rise at this time on a matter of this importance.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Speaker, I submit that it is a matter of personal privilege when each one of us is blocked from receiving mail from the inmates of the Don jail, and I want to ask a question of the Attorney General.

Mr. Speaker: The member, then, should have submitted the question to me today before 12 o'clock.

Mr. Sargent: I just got back. I did not have time, Mr. Speaker. I just got back now.

Mr. Speaker: The member is out of order at this time. I am sorry.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order relating to your comments just now. I know it has been the custom in years gone by to order the business as you are now doing. Nevertheless there will not be an opportunity for the member to bring this point to the attention of the House today. I have heard about the matter and I am not in a position to judge, of course, but we are going to recess for a number of days and I would say, sir, that this might be an opportunity for you to grant this independent member, this individual member in the House, the opportunity to speak briefly on a matter that he considers of great importance. I beseech you, sir, to permit him to make a brief statement before the orders in this connection.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot find a place in our order of business to allow the member to speak without establishing a precedent and I am against establishing too many precedents, in case we again have several members wishing to bring matters to the attention of the House which they think are important before the orders of the day, without it being a matter of personal privilege, and I do not think there is any member's privilege affected in this case.

Mr. E. W. Sopha (Sudbury): May I say just a brief word to this point of order, Mr. Speaker? May I speak to the point of order?

Mr. Speaker: If you are speaking to the point of order.

Mr. Sopha: I am acquainted with the nature of the matter that the hon. member for Grey North wishes to bring before the House and I want to say to you, sir, that it affects the liberty of the individual. I submit that according to parliamentary usage, when it is a matter dealing with the administration of justice or the liberty of the individual, the rules of Parliament are put aside so that Parliament may hear from a member about the complaint of persons.

This hon. member wishes to draw the House's attention to complaints of individuals whom he alleges are improperly imprisoned. Therefore, sir, in such circumstances I submit that our rules cannot be that rigid that the liberty of the individual does not take precedent in this House.

May I add that the matter is so serious that it did not really invite the hyena-like laughter that came from the government benches.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Does anyone else wish to speak to the point of order?

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we are in no position to judge. I do not suppose really that you are. I see no reason why this hon. member could not have followed the usual procedure of the House. He could have asked you before the House came in.

But here you are, being asked to rule on something of which you know nothing about, and I am concerned about the procedure in the House. We have procedures here which we follow. If they are altered in any way there is immediately a chance that attempts may be made to take advantage of them.

I think the rules of the House are established to provide for the orderly conduct of business here, and I think the hon. member could have dealt with this.

Believe me, I am not talking about the merit of this matter whatever it may be. I know there will immediately be an attempt made to say we are against helping somebody who has lost their liberty. This is not the point.

We are talking about the procedure in this House. We are not talking about the merit of whatever it is the hon. member may have to say.

It seems to me he could very easily have checked this with you, Mr. Speaker, before he came in the House in the normal course of events and, if you considered it to be sufficiently important to have this report, then I presume you would permit him to do so.

But to stand up in the House and to ask you to rule on it at this stage, seems to me an attempt to fly in the face of, and flaunt the rules of, this House.

Mr. Speaker: The chair rules that there really is not any point of order at this time and that, as there is no provision for the member to make the statement he wishes at this time, I shall have to rule him out of order.

We will proceed with the business of the House, as is ordered.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent East): Mr. Speaker, I would like, before the orders of the day, to ask the following question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food, of which I have already given notice:

Would the Minister advise the House the total cost to the province of taking over and operating the Ontario white bean growers' board last year?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Sir, I wonder if my hon. friend would allow me to take that question as notice? I have not been in the office since early this morning and I would like to give him a detailed answer. I wonder if he would do me the favour of waiting until I have the details?

Hon. J. Yaremko (Minister of Public Welfare): Mr. Speaker, on February 8, the leader of the Opposition asked certain questions, then I noted that he has placed a motion for return. I have, in my hands, the audit of the financial statements and take this opportunity of tabling the same.

I will say this to the House, Mr. Speaker, that I have had my people go through the reports and wherever there is the name of a parent or a child, it has been blocked out, so that there are no names relating to parents or children in these reports.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I wonder then if the Provincial Secretary would answer the question that was asked some weeks ago with regard to this. I asked for the audited report and I asked for his opinion as to whether or not the books were in proper legal order and if they were not, what action he was going to take in this connection.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I think that the audit will speak for itself.

Mr. Nixon: Would you say then that the audit reveals that the books of Warrendale previous to the seizure by the government and the transference of jurisdiction, were in complete accord with the regulations as he understood them?

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, I am making no such statement at all. The audit is tabled and will be there for examination by those who want to draw their own conclusions.

Mr. Nixon: The last question was, "Are you undertaking any action based on the information contained in this audit?"

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Not at this time.

Mr. Nixon: No action.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Now I did not say that.

Mr. Nixon: Well that was the question that was originally asked—you took it under advisement six weeks ago.

Hon. Mr. Yaremko: Mr. Speaker, the questions are recorded in *Hansard* and the questions the hon. member is asking now are not on the order paper or in *Hansard*.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the reason we put it on the order paper was that the hon. Minister took it as notice some weeks ago, and even when I questioned him further, he would not give us any information.

I had no recourse but to put it on the order paper as a motion for return. I am very glad to get the information but I had hoped that the Minister would give us the additional information that was asked for in the original question.

Mr. R. Smith (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy and Resources Management and it is in four parts:

(1) How many derailments have occurred on the Ontario Northland Railway in the past 12 months and have the causes of these derailments been investigated?

(2) What was the cause of each?

(3) What was the monetary loss to the railway of each derailment, including both rolling stock and cargo?

(4) Is the road bed in a proper state of repair to carry the increased load from the mining development in the north?

Hon. Mr. Simonett (Minister of Energy and Resources Management): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is five derailments and all the derailments have been thoroughly investigating and in no case was the road bed responsible. The answer to the second question—what was the monetary loss to the railway of each derailment including both rolling stock and cargo, is as follows:

Derailment March 7, 1967, \$125,000.

Derailment February 23, 1966, \$20,000.

Derailment May 26, 1966, \$15,000, plus car equipment of \$16,000.

Derailment September 22, 1966, \$27,000 without equipment. Equipment loss is not yet determined.

Derailment February 10, 1967, \$4,000.

The causes of these five accidents were various—some broken wheels, broken axles, but in no case was there any fault in the road bed.

And to your last question, "Is the road bed in proper state of repair?"—the answer is "Yes".

Mr. Speaker: The member for York South has a question.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Speaker, my question unfortunately is to an absent Minister and this being the last day of the session I do not know what will happen to it. However, I will put it and maybe the Prime Minister will answer it.

How does the government reconcile the HOME programme's emphasis on single family units with the federal Minister's statement yesterday that "people are not going to get the housing they want in larger cities unless they are prepared to live in apartments"?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Well, Mr. Speaker, my answer to the question would simply be that one is not dealing in absolutes. I mean there is no absolute there will not be any homes, single family homes, in the city, and there is no absolute that everybody who lives in the city will live in an apartment.

I would suggest that what Mr. Nicholson was in fact saying, and as I read his statements as he continued to elucidate further, to elaborate, I believe he referred to the fact on the examination of the growth of other large cities this is what happens: in the centre core of the city, land becomes very, very expensive and if you are to live there you live in an apartment.

I can think of the city park apartments here in Toronto, for instance, that have been

erected right next to the Maple Leaf Gardens. You could not possibly have single family dwellings there.

But I do not think this means there will be no single family dwellings created. In answer to the member's specific question, I think the trend will inevitably be to the apartment-type dwelling. That is why the land assembly plans, particularly, will take place out of the core of the city, because it is just simply impossible to build such houses right in the downtown areas of the city.

Mr. Speaker: Would the Minister of Health care to answer the questions asked?

Hon. M. B. Dymond (Minister of Health): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, yesterday, the hon. member for Nipissing put a question, which I was not here to answer, as follows: "What policy, if any, does the government have with respect to the control of LSD or in the area of acquainting teenagers with the dangers of the drug?"

I would answer, Mr. Speaker, that the regulations under The Food and Drug Act prohibit the sale and distribution of lysergic acid diethylenide except for small quantities, provided for clinical investigations and research, which is conducted in institutions approved by the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

We believe this is an effective way of controlling the legitimate distribution of LSD but unfortunately we have found great difficulty in finding means of controlling illicit trafficking in the drug. The officers of my department and the staff of the addiction research foundation have been engaged in this matter for several months at my direction. They were urged to give very prompt consideration to determine whether any additional safeguards exist which the province might undertake or might enact by legislation or other means to achieve better control of the dangerous drug.

One is the matter of trying to acquaint teenagers with the dangers. They are being very widely publicized through the various communications media and I would join with those who are underlining the hazards associated with the use of the drug except under the most strict and expert medical supervision.

I feel moved, sir, to condemn with all the vigour at my disposal those prophets or apostles or demons who advocate the use of this or encourage our young people to experi-

ence the thrill of a trip. I do not think that responsible people have given adequate consideration to the dangers inherent in their advocacy of this chemical; indeed they are putting in the hands of our young people a weapon of such potential hazard that we do not yet know just exactly what we can do, and I repeat, sir, that I, along with every reasonable citizen in the province, condemn this most vigorously.

The hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher) asked a question yesterday also. What, if anything, is the department doing to encourage more doctors into general practice to meet the conditions outlined in the *Toronto Daily Star* this week?

I have to answer, sir, that I cannot really give him a definitive answer. We have tried about every way we know to encourage physicians to undertake, at least for the beginning period of their professional lives, general practice. We are somewhat encouraged by the experience of the last two years in succession, where we lost fewer general practitioners to specialties than ever before in the last 15 or 20 years. Indeed, last year we gained something of the order of 350 people—and I am quoting the figure from memory, I will confirm it—to general practice, and there was a deficit of two specialists. That is in balance for the second year in succession.

Unfortunately, one nightingale or one swallow does not make a spring and therefore I can hardly say that this is evidence that more graduates are turning to general practice. I can only assure you, sir, that we are continuing all our efforts. Our bursary plan has not been as successful in medicine as it has been in dentistry, but we are continuing to explore every possibility. This has been given to the Ontario council of health as a specific task and a task force has been set up under the guidance of this council to explore every avenue and to re-explore those we have already looked at, in the hope that we can find some way of encouraging more practitioners to stay in family practice, and also to find some way of encouraging family physicians to go to the more outlying parts of our province to serve.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister a supplementary question, on his answer to my first question.

Mr. Speaker: The member should have asked it at the time of the question.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, he did not give me a chance to. He went right on with the answer to the second question.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow the member to ask his supplementary question if the Minister cares to answer the question after the Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day I beg leave to table the report of the Ontario law reform commission on the law of condominium.

The concept of such a law, Mr. Speaker, is that property may be divided into individually owned units with common elements that are owned in common by all the owners of the units with an administrative scheme that permits these owners to manage their property. The desirability for such a law arises from the high cost of land and the natural appeal of ownership. It would permit new and effective arrangements for cooperative ownership and allow a great flexibility in the financing of those arrangements, with resulting lower cost.

Condominium laws in many other countries, and the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, have been studied, and the draft bill which is appended to the report reflects the refinement of this existing legislation into a proposal that we suggest is suitable for Ontario. At a time when we are all directing every effort towards the provision of housing development, I feel that a condominium law in Ontario would have a material and practical benefit for those engaged in such development within our province. A bill, therefore, has been introduced in this House which will place before the hon. members a condominium law proposal that will be adapted to Ontario and which I believe will receive our detailed consideration. In the words of the report, Mr. Speaker:

It will provide the amenities of apartment living on a shared cost basis with the advantages of home ownership.

It should prove of great assistance in the programme of the Ontario housing corporation as announced recently in this House by the hon. Minister of Economics and Development (Mr. Randall). We are aware that there are a great many elderly people who own their own homes, but have difficulty in looking after them. Condominium ownership should appeal particularly to them and we would expect that many of the homes now owned by these older people will become available for younger persons with families.

This has been the experience in other areas where condominium ownership has been introduced.

Copies of the report are being prepared for distribution to all persons who may be interested in this subject.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the Legislature that The Legal Aid Act, 1966 and the regulations thereunder, have today been proclaimed to bring the legal aid plan of Ontario into effect on March 29, 1967.

It seems entirely fit and proper, Mr. Speaker, that the plan should be brought into operation for the people of this province on March 29, 1967, for it was upon that date, in 1867, that Her Majesty Queen Victoria gave Royal assent to The British North America Act which was to form the foundation for our nation.

It is also most appropriate that this Legislature is in a position to have brought this most progressive of legal assistance schemes into effect, in the year upon which all Canadians are celebrating the Centennial of their nationhood.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that it will be a matter of personal, as well as altruistic, pride for every member of this Legislature to have participated in the promulgation of The Legal Aid Act of 1966. It was my predecessor, the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas (Mr. Cass), who originally established the joint committee with the law society of Upper Canada which studied legal aid systems all over the world to ultimately bring forth the report in March of 1965, which was probably the most comprehensive review of the existing legal aid systems that has been made.

Throughout the study, and throughout the development of the statute and the regulations, the government has had the wholehearted and unselfish support of the law society and the legal profession of this province.

As the hon. members are all aware, The Legal Aid Act places the responsibility for the operation of the plan upon the law society of Upper Canada, which has accepted this responsibility on behalf of the legal profession, and which has gone to great lengths to organize the administration of the plan and the legal profession who will carry out the purposes and provisions of the plan.

In announcing the proclamation of the statute, I felt that I should bring to the attention of the hon. members, the support and dedication which we have received from the benchers of the law society of Upper

Canada and from the legal profession generally, because this support will be a most significant feature in the success of the plan.

This Legislature, Mr. Speaker, and the government of the province, have undertaken the financing of the most comprehensive legal aid plan of which I am aware, and under which every person in the province will be able to obtain all appropriate and necessary legal advice which will be provided upon a basis designed to meet his particular financial situation.

I am sure that the hon. members will agree with me that our legal aid plan will preserve to the individual, all of the respect and pride to which he is entitled in our society, while, at the same time, providing adequate safeguards for all of the people in the province who will be providing the financial support for the overall scheme.

The Ontario legal aid plan is unique in many ways when compared with other legal aid systems throughout the world. This Legislature, in enacting this legislation, has ensured that all of the citizens of this province will have available to them, counsel of their own choice without being subjected to any arbitrary means test that has been a characteristic in so many other plans.

The individual's needs will be equitably balanced against the expected costs of the legal services required and he will be required to meet only that portion of the cost which he can reasonably bear in his particular financial circumstances.

While there is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the legal aid fund, which is sustained by the revenues of the province, will be required to carry a substantial part of the cost of the plan, we have ensured that not only will those who are in a position to contribute be required to contribute, but also that any costs recovered by any recipients under the plan, will be paid into this fund.

At the same time, the members of the legal profession in the province have recognized their responsibility to the citizens whom they serve, by establishing a tariff of legal fees which is substantially below the tariff of fees that might be charged to a private client.

Mr. Sopha: It is too high. It is too high.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would like to have one of your bills to look after.

Then the legal profession has superimposed upon that tariff, a further reduction of 25 per cent of all accounts which will be sub-

mitted for payment to the legal aid plan. In this way, I would suggest to the hon. members that my profession has recognized a duty to our society by its contribution to the plan of the gratuitous service represented by this substantial reduction in fees.

I will not burden this House, Mr. Speaker, with a detailed review of the provisions of the plan with which we are familiar, but would only say that any individual being assisted under the plan, will receive that assistance in complete privacy, and that the circumstances will not be known to the court, or to the public as is the case in some public defender systems.

Similarly, the provision of the necessary legal service will be immediate, without the determination of contribution by the recipient in those cases where the urgency demands that financial consideration be secondary to the adequate protection and defence of the individual.

We are proceeding immediately with the production of all the materials and advertising arrangements that will be desirable to make this plan known to all of the people in the province.

In closing, I would commend the Ontario legal aid plan for the full support of not only the hon. members of this House, Mr. Speaker, but that of the legal profession and the public of Ontario.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, I was referring back to the answer of the Minister of Health and not to that of the Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I understand that.

Mr. Smith: Thank you. As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, I made notice of intention this morning to introduce a bill to make it illegal to possess LSD in Ontario. I wonder if the Minister of Health would consider introducing similar legislation in this session?

Hon. Mr. Dymond: Mr. Speaker, I would have to look into this. I think it comes under the criminal code, but I am not positive. It is federal law now that you can only possess it if it has been issued to you for a specific purpose, namely, research—either clinical or basic research in an institution approved by the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I will check this, but I think we would only be gilding the lily by bringing in a redundant law that would not have any effect. I will

have to ask my legal colleagues but I do not believe it would have an effect. I think it would be *ultra vires* since it is already under federal statute.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, I want to rise on a point of order which I think affects the privileges of this House and relates to a matter that I believe is going to be introduced shortly by the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs (Mr. Rowntree).

Some time ago, the Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs announced that the report of the investigation into Prudential Finance Corporation would be introduced into this House on March 10 last. He refused to reply to later questions as to when it would be introduced, including the question put in his direction last evening. Some time late last evening through the news media, an announcement was made that this report would be tabled in the House today.

Early this morning this report was made available to the downtown offices of the three Toronto daily newspapers. At about 10.30 this morning, Mr. Speaker, the Liberal office directed an inquiry to the Minister's office and asked if copies of the report could be made available to the official Opposition prior to its release, on the same basis as copies of the Budget had been made available, on the clear understanding, which to my knowledge has never been broken, that the confidences contained in those reports would not be given publicity until after the time of release.

We were advised that the Minister would take this matter under advisement and notify us later. At about 12.30 this afternoon, or 12.45, one Mr. Campbell who I understand is an employee of the Minister's—his executive assistant or else serves in some such capacity—attended at our office and asked for Mr. Ford, who is an assistant to the leader of the Opposition. He had under his arm what were apparently copies of this report. When he was advised that Mr. Ford was out to lunch, he advised the young lady in our office that if Mr. Ford wanted copies of the report he could find Mr. Campbell and get them. On receipt of that advice, I attended personally at Mr. Campbell's office and found that he had gone to lunch and had left no word as to when we would get copies of the report.

Finally, sir, at 10 minutes after 2 this afternoon, Mr. Ford attended again on Mr. Campbell and at that time, for the first time, we were given possession of copies of the report that runs to almost 150 pages on which

we are to be expected, sir, as is our duty, to make reasonable comment in relation thereto.

Now I say this, once more this government has flouted the privileges of this House and the privileges of the Opposition by making available to the press far in advance of the time it makes available to members of the Legislature and to the leader of the Opposition, documents that it is going to use. I realize, sir, that if the government wants to withhold documents until they are tabled in the House, then it is entirely within its privilege, but I say there is no right whatsoever in using this selected method of giving matters publicity. Once the decision was made to deliver these copies to the downtown offices of the three Toronto daily newspapers then I say the government deliberately flouted the privileges of this House and should stand condemned for doing this.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I want to go on in answer to this matter and I also wish to go on and table the reports in question.

I was asked a question in the House yesterday as to when I was going to table the reports and I said, Today. I said that if I had been able I would have done it yesterday, and that was said in the House by me yesterday. Later yesterday afternoon, copies of the reports sufficient to distribute to the members of the House, as I had announced some time ago, were delivered to my office. This was about 4.30 or 5 o'clock. The reports were then locked up, and at 6.05 when I left this building I went to my office and asked, with reference to the reports, if they were locked up and in safe keeping until the House opened today, and I was informed that they were.

I have no knowledge whatsoever of copies of these reports having been released to any Toronto newspapers. This morning, after I came out of a meeting with senior officials of my department—which was well after 12 o'clock—the question was put to me that requests had been received from the hon. member for Downsview of the Liberal Party and from the hon. member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) of the New Democratic Party on this basis, as suggested by the hon. member for Downsview, that a precedent had been established by the Attorney General of releasing reports to the Opposition before they were tabled in the House. I expressed the view that I knew nothing of any such precedent,

but in the circumstances I had no objection to a report being released to the official Opposition and to the New Democratic Party on the understanding that the report would be embargoed until it was tabled in the House this afternoon.

And that is the sum total of the information and knowledge that I have about this matter. I must say that I question very seriously the right of any individual in the Liberal Party to receive a copy in advance when the undertaking has been to table it in the House and distribute it to all members.

Mr. Singer: Mr. Speaker, before the Minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order! The member can only speak once to a point of order.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, in this connection if I may speak to a point of order—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to table in the House today two reports relating to the investigation—

Mr. Nixon: On a point of order—

Hon. Mr. Rowntree:—into the affairs of the Prudential Finance Corporation.

Mr. Nixon:—speaking on the point of order, the Minister has said, without equivocation, that the release of the report to the press was unknown to him. The hon. member for Downsview has said that our objection was not so much that he did not give the report to us—because it is certainly the right of the government to keep it right until the moment of tabling—but if it is going to be released to the press, and it was our information that it was so released, then surely it is the proper thing that it be given at least in confidence and under embargo, as the Minister described, to the Opposition parties as well. I would suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister should investigate this carefully and see where the leakage of the report was. We would be most interested in hearing his explanation.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: I think it should be recorded—and let us not make these statements as any accomplished fact—that I have no knowledge of any copies of this report having been released.

Mr. Singer: I can assure you on my honour as a member that I have knowledge.

Mr. Speaker: It is traditional in the House that the member has to accept the statement of the Minister as given.

Mr. Singer: I did not say he had knowledge. I said that I had knowledge that it happened.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree: It sounds to me, Mr. Speaker, as though the Opposition does not want to see the report at all. They are giving every appearance of it.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table in the House today two reports relating to the affairs of Prudential Finance Corporation Limited. One is from Clarkson, Gordon and Company and deals with the subject matters referred to it on January 12, when it was engaged by the government to participate in an intensified investigation into the affairs of Prudential Finance. The second report is by the investigation team which conducted the inquiry under the Ontario securities commission. Frequent meetings were held between the securities commission team and Clarkson, Gordon and Company coincidental with the joint investigation. Efforts were coordinated and the Clarkson, Gordon and Company report forms part of the interim report of the Ontario securities commission.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that both of the reports are interim reports. The one in blue is the copy from the securities commission investigation team and the one in black is from Clarkson, Gordon and Company. Mr. Speaker, it is of great concern to the government, however, that a reading of them creates more than a suspicion that there has been on the part of some individuals a deliberate plan to mislead the public as well as agencies of both this government and the federal government. If these suspicions are well founded, as they appear to be at this point, there has been a complete and shameful disregard of the obligations and responsibilities that rested with individuals associated with Prudential Finance Corporation Limited, its subsidiaries and associated companies.

The commission recommends that the enquiries be extended and expedited and that Clarkson, Gordon and Company be further retained to this end. We, in the government, accept these recommendations and will take all steps to implement them.

The government has directed that all avenues of enquiry be pursued fully, in order to bring before the bar of justice, every person who is responsible for these reprehensible acts.

It is one of the fundamental principles, Mr. Speaker, upon which our society functions, that the vast majority of individuals will act in good faith and assume their

responsibilities to their community, their country and their fellow men.

Any departure from this principle strikes at the very core of our free enterprise system and cannot, and will not, be condoned by this government.

I am sure that all reasonable men will accept that it is impossible to legislate morality, or to completely expunge from society, all of its undesirable elements, but we can and do say this, sir, that we, as a government, have enacted legislation which, we believe, will greatly lessen the possibility of such disreputable acts taking place again.

We are prepared to take whatever further steps are necessary in the public interest.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order that is related to one that was raised earlier, I would like to make a suggestion to you, and through you, to the government. I would like to suggest that on any future occasion when a report of this nature is going to be tabled in the House, that it should be made available to the press, on a confidential basis if necessary, and certainly, at least, to the Opposition parties, some hours in advance of the tabling.

I do so for this reason: as every member in this House knows, as soon as it is tabled, spokesmen for the Opposition parties are approached and asked to make comments.

Now how can they make a comment until they have had an opportunity to study it?

I think the fair way to cope with this situation, and to avoid the kind of difficulty that apparently has been encountered today, is to adopt this practice. I suggest to the Prime Minister that, in all reports of this nature—indeed, we do it with the Budget, which is a much more secret document, by closeting the representatives of the press for a certain length of time, and if necessary that can be done—but at least on their honour, the Opposition parties should be given a copy, so that when the press descends upon them within five minutes of the time of its tabling, we are going to be in a position to comment. The government is in a position to comment and I suggest that we, too, are entitled to be in an equal position to comment.

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Mr. Speaker, on that point of order, may I point out to you that as a back bencher in this House I certainly think that no such tradition, and no such precedent, should be universally adopted. I am afraid that I have

as much right to see public documents tabled in this House, either before or after they are tabled, as the hon. member for York South, or any other member in this House.

For purposes of convenience, as far as the public dissemination of news is concerned, it may be right and proper at times that members of the press gallery should receive advance copies, providing they can be trusted to keep such news and such comments to themselves until the time of the tabling of such a report takes place.

It may well be that there are occasions when the leader of the Opposition, and the leader of any other party in this House, should receive copies in advance of the rest of the members—I do not know—but that certainly should be left to the discretion and the responsibility for which he alone would be responsible to the particular member of this House, or the particular member of the Ministry. But to make a universal practice, in my mind, is one that certainly should not be countenanced.

Mr. Sopha: I should like to raise a different point of order with you, Mr. Speaker, and that deals with a procedure in committee that I raised with the Chairman of the whole House yesterday and which I should now like to bring to your attention.

I raised a point of order with him in committee that it was improper to ring the division bells upon a vote being taken in committee. I cited to him at that time, sir—and now I am appealing to you for you to give instruction to him—I cited to him that it is the invariable practice in the House of Commons that when a vote takes place in committee, only those present vote.

By sheer coincidence there was a vote in the House of Commons yesterday where the division was 50 to 16—14 members of the Conservative party were joined by 2 Liberals yesterday to make a total of 16.

I might say that if a vote were taken here in the normal committee, that that would be just about the government count—around 16.

What I do want to draw to your attention, sir, is that the proceeding in committee as I apprehend it, is an informal proceeding, and it is improper, and indeed contrary, to the rules to adopt the formalistic approach when a division takes place, to ring the bells and hold that formal division.

Mr. Speaker, you will note that when the division takes place in committee, there is no polling of the individual members as there

is in a formal division in the House. The members merely stand in their place and they are counted.

I want to say to you, sir, that a number of years ago, and I forget just how many, the practice was, in this House during my term here, not to ring the division bell.

Then there came a day when the government was outnumbered and they lost a vote. From that moment on when they lost that vote, the division bell started to ring. I have consulted the long experience of my friend from Grey South, who is very well informed in these matters, and he tells me that the ringing of the division bells in committee is a very recent custom in the House.

I would ask you, sir, in the light of that argument to direct the chairman of the whole House to desist, in the future, in ringing the division bells—thereby holding up the proceedings of the committee—and to revert to the former practice.

I might say, sir, that it is illustrative of the fact that our rules have fallen out of step with what is needed, and again it points to the fact that what we need in the House is a very close scrutiny of the rules, to bring them into line with the efficient management of our affairs in the House.

Mr. J. H. White (London South): Mr. Speaker, some years ago the clerk of this Legislature wrote to the clerk at Westminster to clarify this and other points. He learned, if I remember correctly—

Mr. Sopha: He shakes his head.

Mr. White: All right, it can be clarified later.

Mr. MacDonald: I guess you just did not remember correctly.

Mr. White: I said, if I remember correctly—I am not very far off. He may have written to some other parliamentary expert. It was learned that division bells might be rung before any division in the House or in committee. Now, for some years, we have had the practice of ringing the division bells. I think it is eminently sensible, sir, and I would hope you do not direct the chairman of the committee of the whole House to the contrary.

I point out, for instance, that yesterday, before the division bells rang, before the hon. member for Sudbury made his remarks, there were only four Liberals in the House and I think that the rest of that caucus should have

had the opportunity to vote on the issue at hand.

Mr. Speaker: With regard to this point of order, I would advise the members that we rule in this House not only by the written rules but also by the practices and the customs that we have adopted over the years. Over the last, I would think, seven or eight years, we have been in the practice of ringing the division bells in committee. In view of the fact we have been doing this for several years, I take it that it is the accepted practice now, in this House. In view of that, I shall not direct the Chairman of the committee of the whole House to do other than has been the custom over the last number of years.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day, I am pleased to present to the House a schedule of increased mining revenue payments to designated Ontario mining municipalities, based on the report of the special committee on mining revenue payments.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, this committee was appointed on September 8, 1966 and I mention this just to demonstrate that while the Opposition criticize our use of committees, here is a committee, appointed last September, which has brought in a report and we are acting upon it right now.

Mr. MacDonald: A special committee with government members only on it.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It was not composed of only government members at all. Just read the composition of it. It was composed of members of the municipalities most particularly concerned, these were the people. From this House we appointed two members, I believe they were two representatives of the north country.

Mr. MacDonald: From the Conservative benches.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes, they were Conservative.

Mr. Bryden: What about the hon. member for Sudbury?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I do not know whether I am to assume, Mr. Speaker, from the hon. member's comments that he thinks the Conservative members of this Legislature do not fight hard on behalf of their constituents. They certainly made a very strong plea on behalf of their own people. By tabling this

report today, it will give these municipalities an opportunity to take this new schedule into account when they establish their mill rates and their budgets for 1967.

Sir, in the last couple of years we have had a practice of taking the Cabinet into the north country particularly. We have made two tours, one into northwestern Ontario and one into northeastern Ontario, and this matter originally was brought before the Cabinet during the course of these tours. We have acted upon the representations made to us at that time. Also involved in this decision are the recommendations of the select committee on mining. That committee made its report to the Legislature in June, 1966, just nine months ago. Of course, all parties were represented on that committee and its report and recommendations were considered as well.

The whole purpose of this new formula that has been designed is to provide the designated mining municipalities with the revenues required to meet the increasing demands for services they are experiencing. This new formula will provide for mining municipalities a financial position comparable to that of like-sized non-mining municipalities. Another important aspect of the new formula is that the method of distribution now provides for so-called "dormitory" municipalities, a completely new basis of payment, and in some cases the increase is as much as 500 per cent. I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that this represents the most important contribution to these mining municipalities that has been made in at least a generation.

I would say also that this formula is not necessarily a final one, because this will have to be examined in due course in light of what recommendations may be made in the report of the Smith committee on taxation. As I have said in this House before, that report, when we receive it, will form the basis of a complete examination of the taxing arrangements of our municipalities, of our school boards and of provincial taxation itself. But in the meantime, this formula will provide help where it is needed.

I will table the schedule. I will give some figures as examples of what will be done. I would just simply say that these figures may not be precisely accurate but I think they are accurate enough to indicate generally what this will mean to the municipalities involved. The Department of Municipal Affairs is organizing the precise procedure in order to ascertain the exact amounts and to distribute these sums, but the figures I use can

be taken as being generally accurate. However, I do not want to be held to them down to the last dollar because there may be some changes when the department completes its work.

I will give a few representative examples: In total, payments will reach a figure of \$7,876,174, which is an increase of just over \$2 million compared to 1966. In the Sudbury basin area, which includes the city of Sudbury, the payments for 1967 will increase by \$1,231,458 for a total of just over \$4 million. The city of Sudbury itself will receive a total of \$2,742,000, which is an increase over the 1966 payment of some \$787,000.

Mr. Sopha: It is not enough.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, there is a glowing example of irresponsibility. Whatever it is, it is not enough.

Mr. R. M. Whicher (Bruce): That is not what the Prime Minister says in Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Perhaps that is so.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if we look at Timmins, we will find the increase there is some \$222,000 over what that city received in 1966. In Geraldton, payments to that municipality will jump from \$13,905 to \$64,915, almost 500 per cent. Red Lake, which has had some problems of which we are all aware, will receive \$58,575, an increase of \$40,800. I could go on, Mr. Speaker, but I just—

Mr. MacDonald: It shows how badly they have been treated for years.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, when I hear comments like that, I know we must be doing something pretty good because of all the ridiculous arguments I have ever heard—

I will file this and I will arrange for it to be distributed to the members. We have listed here all the municipalities involved and the members will have a chance to read this for themselves.

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Prime Minister would entertain a question in relation to the statement?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Yes.

Mr. Bryden: Are any steps being taken to collect some or all of this additional money from the mining companies who are exempt from the normal municipal taxation and whose exemption makes these grants necessary?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, I can only say in that regard we are presently conduct-

ing some very broadly based studies, the results of which will be used in conjunction with the Smith committee report, on the whole question of taxation of our natural resources. I am not going to answer the question specifically because I am unable to do so at this time, but I can assure the hon. member that we are reviewing all our procedures and looking at the whole question of taxation of natural resources. As I have said before, we anticipate some wide changes in the raising of revenues, the incidence of taxation, where the burden of taxation will fall. I very much doubt—

Mr. Bryden: Then some of our missionary work is having effect?

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, this is a very progressive government. It moves ahead on many broad fronts. We simply do not make wild statements about what we are going to do without having some proper research made. When we offer a change in taxation to the people of this province it will be properly researched, it will be properly documented, and we will be able to go to them and not say we are going to pay 80 per cent of anything and have no answer as to how we are going to do it. We will have a properly worked out plan to present to the people of this province.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: It will be based on the research done over a period of time and part of that—

Mr. Bryden: The government appears to be accepting our research.

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: I will answer their questions, if they would care to listen.

Mr. Bryden: I started to listen when he went off on this—

Hon. Mr. Robarts: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member asks a question he must expect to get an answer.

Mr. Bryden: I was quite satisfied with the answer.

Hon. Mr. Robarts: All right. To wind this up finally and to answer the question, I would say that we are doing extensive research not only into this area, but into all areas of taxation in the province, because the next task of this government as we see it, is to reform the tax system of this province.

Mr. Bryden: That will be done by members of a government—

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Clerk of the House: The House in committee of the whole; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

THE LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS ACT

House in committee on Bill 57, An Act to amend The Livestock and Livestock Products Act.

Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 57 reported.

THE LIVESTOCK COMMUNITY SALES ACT

House in committee on Bill 58, An Act to amend The Livestock Community Sales Act.

Sections 1 to 4, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill 58 reported.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister) moves that the committee of the whole House rise and report two bills without amendment and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of the whole House begs to report two bills without amendment and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

THIRD READINGS

The following bills were given third reading upon motion:

Bill 2, An Act to amend The Milk Act, 1965.

Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Bill 27, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Bill 28, An Act to amend The Surveys Act.

Bill 29, An Act to amend The Trees Act.

Bill 34, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

Bill 38, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Bill 40, An Act to amend The Regional Detention Centres Act, 1965.

Bill 41, An Act to amend The Juvenile and Family Courts Act.

Bill 44, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Bill 45, An Act to amend The Jurors Act.

Bill 47, An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act, 1966.

Bill 48, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Bill 52, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Bill 53, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Bill 55, An Act to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Bill 56, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961.

Bill 59, An Act to insure payments to producers of farm products.

Mr. D. A. Paterson (Essex South): Mr. Speaker, before the bill is passed, I just wonder if the Minister is aware that the federal House last night passed somewhat similar legislation in their Bill C-222, and that it is awaiting Royal assent. But it does protect the growers of perishable fruits and vegetables as well as The Milk Act. I assume this bill must be passed in order to fit into the milk column and the federal bill will not supersede this except in the case of fruits and vegetables. Is this correct?

Hon. W. A. Stewart (Minister of Agriculture and Food): Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to know that the bill has passed in Ottawa. I was not aware of it, nor am I aware particularly of the application of the bill to the various products that may be named in that bill. The intent of this particular Act is to provide, in effect, bonding for milk distributors and milk processors, creamery operators and what have you, affecting those plants operating within the gamut of the dairy industry. Mr. Speaker, I regret not to have further information to answer the hon. member's question in the House.

Mr. F. R. Oliver (Grey South): In the event that the Ottawa bill would provide for the coverage that is contained in this bill, would my hon. friend say this bill is necessary?

Hon. Mr. Stewart: Here again, Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I am not in a position to answer, because I do not know the contents of the Ottawa bill. I just do not know. I would say this, that if this—is this known as the Whelan bill, may I ask the hon. member?

Mr. Oliver: No.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: It is not? As I understood that bill, it was to give the producers of farm products a priority claim in the event of bankruptcy. I am not aware of this bill, I do not know the content of it at all. I am sorry.

Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Bill Pr 30, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Bill Pr35, An Act respecting the board of education for the city of London.

Bill 57, An Act to amend The Livestock and Livestock Products Act.

Bill 58, An Act to amend The Livestock Community Sales Act.

Hon. J. P. Robarts (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with your permission I would like to call upon His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and ask him to give Royal assent to these bills.

The Honourable, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, entered the chamber of the legislative assembly and took his seat upon the Throne.

Hon. W. Earl Rowe (Lieutenant-Governor): Pray be seated.

Mr. Speaker: May it please Your Honour, the legislative assembly of the province has, at its present sittings thereof, passed certain bills to which, in the name of and on behalf of the said legislative assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant: The following are the titles to the bills to which Your Honour's assent is prayed:

Bill 1, An Act to amend The Land Titles Act.

Bill 2, An Act to amend The Milk Act, 1965.

Bill 3, An Act to amend The Department of Agriculture and Food Act.

Bill 4, An Act to provide for the establishment of the Ontario agricultural museum.

Bill 5, An Act to amend The County Judges Act.

Bill 6, An Act to amend The County Courts Act.

Bill 7, An Act to amend The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act.

Bill 25, An Act to amend The Commuter Services Act, 1965.

Bill 27, An Act to amend The Forestry Act.

Bill 28, An Act to amend The Surveys Act.

Bill 29, An Act to amend The Trees Act.

Bill 31, An Act to amend The Income Tax Act, 1961-1962.

Bill 32, An Act to amend The Corporations Tax Act.

Bill 33, An Act to amend The Cancer Act.

Bill 34, The Department of Social and Family Services Act, 1967.

Bill 35, An Act to amend The Parks Assistance Act.

Bill 38, An Act to amend The Judicature Act.

Bill 40, An Act to amend The Regional Detention Centres Act, 1965.

Bill 41, An Act to amend The Juvenile and Family Courts Act.

Bill 44, An Act to amend The Public Trustee Act.

Bill 45, An Act to amend The Jurors Act.

Bill 47, An Act to amend The Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs Act, 1966.

Bill 48, An Act to amend The Consumer Protection Act, 1966.

Bill 49, An Act to amend The Public Hospitals Act.

Bill 50, An Act to amend The Private Hospitals Act.

Bill 52, An Act to amend The Used Car Dealers Act, 1964.

Bill 53, An Act to amend The Loan and Trust Corporations Act.

Bill 54, An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1966.

Bill 55, An Act to amend The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Bill 56, An Act to amend The Retail Sales Tax Act, 1960-1961.

Bill 57, An Act to amend The Livestock and Livestock Products Act.

Bill 58, An Act to amend The Livestock Community Sales Act.

Bill 59, An Act to insure payments to producers of farm products.

Bill Pr1, An Act respecting the society of industrial and cost accountants of Ontario.

Bill Pr2, An Act respecting the township of Toronto.

Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the Sarnia board of education and the Sarnia suburban high school district.

Bill Pr4, An Act respecting the public school board of section No. 1 of the township of Moose in the district of Cochrane.

Bill Pr5, An Act respecting the city of Woodstock.

Bill Pr6, An Act respecting The Empire Life Insurance Company.

Bill Pr7, An Act respecting the municipality of Neebing.

Bill Pr8, An Act respecting the college of the Dominican or Friar Preachers of Ottawa.

Bill Pr9, An Act respecting Provincial Butchers' Machinery Company Limited.

Bill Pr11, An Act respecting united cooperatives of Ontario.

Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Bill Pr14, An Act respecting the town of Burlington.

Bill Pr15, An Act respecting Waterloo Lutheran University.

Bill Pr16, An Act respecting the city of London.

Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the town of Amherstburg.

Bill Pr19, An Act respecting the town of Caledonia.

Bill Pr20, An Act respecting the township of Murray.

Bill Pr21, An Act to establish the Kitchener and district public school board.

Bill Pr23, An Act respecting the borough of Etobicoke.

Bill Pr26, An Act respecting the St. Catharines club.

Bill Pr29, An Act respecting the borough of Scarborough.

Bill Pr30, An Act respecting the town of Blind River.

Bill Pr32, An Act respecting the Napanee and district collegiate institute board.

Bill Pr34, An Act respecting the city of Ottawa.

Bill Pr35, An Act respecting the board of education for the city of London.

To these Acts the Royal assent was announced by the clerk of the legislative assembly in the following words:

Clerk of the House: In Her Majesty's name, the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these bills.

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to retire from the chamber.

Clerk of the House: The thirty-second order, House in committee of supply; Mr. L. M. Reilly in the chair.

ESTIMATES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Continued)

On vote 207:

Mr. A. V. Walker (Oshawa): Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: I would point out just before you being that we have discussed the items under vote 207—the Supreme Court, the country, district and division courts—and now we are dealing with the section concerning magistrates and juvenile and family courts. Having finished with magistrates' courts, we are dealing now with the juvenile and family courts.

Mr. Walker: May I speak on counselling in the juvenile and family courts under this item?

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Mr. Walker: I would like to point out, and the Attorney General (Mr. Wishart) knows this, that on a previous occasion I brought up the matter of juvenile and family courts for Ontario county. I would like to say that I appreciate the fact that some improvement has been made in the area or part of the area that I represent, in that we now have one of the older senior magistrates who handles this area of the administration on somewhat of a full-time basis.

But I am still quite concerned over this matter of counselling services which I feel should be made available.

I recently talked to one of the judges at a dinner I happened to be attending, and I discussed with him, the matter of counselling at the juvenile and family court level. He very definitely stated that it was his opinion that proper counselling, at this level, would go a long way towards eliminating further trouble in later years, in having this same juvenile, particularly, appearing before him later on.

And I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this area of counselling, both in juvenile and family problems, is the basic solution to many of the problems which come before this particular court. I suggest it is not enough to simply have a magistrate who is responsible for these cases as they appear on the court docket.

I feel that serious consideration should be given to this problem of counselling. Where magistrates are conducting juvenile and family courts, it should be emphasized that counselling must be an important part of the duties involved, because I feel that this counselling wisdom is just as important as the actual court sentence.

Is there any particular programme that is emphasized apart from the fact that it is also the duty of the magistrate involved to give counselling when he feels it is necessary—in his chambers, or outside the court—or what is that procedure in this regard?

Are we developing anything in this particular area? I am interested in this.

Hon. A. A. Wishart (Attorney General): Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much the remarks of the hon. member and I have noted them. But I might say that, prior to these remarks, we have been working with this problem in many areas of this province.

Our probation officers—we are seeking to increase the number of them in the estimates and extend their claim, as you will observe from the estimates, if you note the increase asked. They have instructions to offer every assistance to the court in the way of counselling, pre-sentencing and generally advising the court and counselling persons, particularly the juvenile persons and families who come before that court.

I can only assure the hon. member that we will continue to enlarge their responsibility and seek to supply the court with the fullest extent of probation counselling and probation services.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me in many cases, especially in the riding I represent, at various meetings that are held by their officials, that this matter of counselling and the fact that there is a great need in this particular field is continually being discussed.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: It is a very important area. We are aware of the importance and are seeking to extend it.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the Minister, what steps is the department taking to overcome the accepted abuse or use of alcohol by teenagers? In my own community, there happens to be a fairly concerted drive on teenagers who are involved in the consumption of alcohol. The magistrate or the family court, whoever the youngster is eventually brought before, quite often keeps him in jail overnight.

What does the department do, in itself, to overcome some of this increasing use of alcohol by the teenagers, by the juveniles?

Mr. Chairman: I was just going to say, are we not getting into a discussion on alcoholism and drug addiction clinics? I would like to stay with the vote. Is any money for this particular purpose under this vote?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have to reply to the hon. member that we have no programme as such, on alcohol, in The Department of the Attorney General. Our magistrates deal with the cases as they come before them and they know the general approach to this problem.

They do not all have a uniformity of approach to it but I think the hon. member observes the sentences which are handed out, and we do in our probation services, where it is first sent and that sort of thing, take every persuasive means to prevent the recurrence of this sort of thing.

In traffic cases, there is the suspension of licences, sir, which almost invariably follows an offence involving alcohol with the senior, as well as with the teenager or the juvenile. But we have no programme in my department directed to that problem.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, if I may follow through then. I would assume from the answer of the Attorney General there would be no programme either to diminish, lessen or attempt to lessen the incidence of car thefts by juveniles. I understand that 85 per cent of the thefts of automobiles are by juveniles and that today, a youngster thinks nothing of stealing a car.

He is only going to get a suspended sentence and if he gets away with it, he has had a joy ride out of it. We do not seem to be coping with the problem at all today. The numbers seems to be increasing and the teenagers—I should not say all, but some teenagers—seem to have no concern at all about the fact that they stole a car and it may have some effect on them in the future.

Is the department thinking of any special type of a lockup? I notice the city of Detroit uses a special lockup, in other words, a special centre where they attempt to rehabilitate the youngster so that he will not be prone to car stealing when he is released.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well Mr. Chairman, this problem, certainly first of all, goes beyond the drinking, which the hon. member raised a moment ago. It is theft. He particularly refers to theft of motor vehicles.

Now I think he framed his question, in the earlier remarks, as to whether we had a programme towards this area of motor car theft. Well, no, not as a department. Our whole society, I think, is oriented to teach that morality, that theft is wrong and that our courts, in their sentences deal with it.

That deterrent, once the offence is committed, acts toward the prevention of this. I would only say that we have encouraged our police forces, particularly in the larger areas, and in smaller areas, and especially also with our provincial police, to engage in activities with young persons and to give them assistance in various activities which will, we think—as has already been shown in other areas through our own province—be a great way to prevent the young person getting into a wrong way of life and committing crime.

When we come to the type of lockup that the hon. member refers to, I would have to mention that we have the detention centres which are within the jurisdiction of The Department of Reform Institutions, and we segregate the juvenile offender in every possible way from any of the older or criminal elements insofar as we can. But after the court has dealt with the juvenile, which is within The Department of the Attorney General, if he is committed to detention, that then falls within the department of my colleague, the Minister of Reform Institutions (Mr. Grossman).

Mr. Chairman: Yes, I was going to suggest to the member for Windsor-Walkerville that perhaps any programmes in that connection might properly come under The Department of Reform Institutions.

Mr. Newman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister what is the department's policy concerning the juvenile detention centres? Must each community have a juvenile detention centre; each large metropolitan area?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: They are approved by the Attorney General under The Juvenile Courts Act.

Mr. Newman: And if a community does not have a detention centre, what does the department do about that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: There is no requirement that a municipality have a juvenile detention centre. We do our best to encourage them to establish such centres, and all we can do if they do not have them, is to see that the juveniles are segregated as best the circumstances will afford.

Mr. Newman: Has the department thought of a regional juvenile detention centre? The closest one to the city of Windsor is London, and that is a little far to be sending a youngster. We had the unfortunate incident last year where the youngster had to be sent to London because of a certain involvement and happening over the Christmas holiday period. They could not get communication with London, and as a result, the youngster, as I have mentioned previously, happened to be sent into the county jail.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I am happy to have the thought. Actually I cannot say that we have considered it very seriously. I am also happy to be able to tell the hon. member—and I think this is a fortunate thing to be able to say—that we do not have so many juveniles involved that we feel there is a need of a regional centre, such as he suggests. Most juveniles, on the type of charge for which they are brought before the court, are allowed to go home under some probation, or some arrangement of this kind. I think this is much better than to have them incarcerated even in a regional detention centre.

There are some who have to be put in custody, but the number is small and we have not seen the need of establishing a large detention centre for juveniles. I have noted the thought which the hon. member has put forward of a regional detention centre for a large area. This might be feasible, but we have not really found a problem in this area yet.

Mr. V. M. Singer (Downsview): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Attorney General would care to comment on the report of the York county grand jury made to his honour Judge Moore, when they visited the magistrate's cells and detention facilities in the city hall at Toronto? I am sure the Attorney General will recall what they said.

They said, very briefly as reported in the press, that the women's court and the cells in the old city hall basement were depressing

and a disgrace to Toronto. They recommended that the whole basement floor be abolished. The foreman, Ivan Eaton, said the courts are ill-lit and noisy and the prisoners' docks are crowded. The cells were described as dirty, poorly ventilated, and with poor laboratory facilities for about 60 prisoners usually awaiting hearings in magistrate's court.

Mr. Chairman: Before the Attorney General answers, I perhaps should remind the member for Downsview that he had requested this committee follow on a sequence of votes, which we did, and we have dealt with the Supreme Court, the district court and the magistrate's court and we are now dealing with the juvenile and family court. So I would follow his suggestion.

Mr. Singer: Yes, I appreciate that, sir, but I am sure that you will go along with me in recognizing that this report of the grand jury was presented the day after we concluded it and we would have no other opportunity to discuss it.

Mr. Chairman: As long as you do not open up the whole question.

Mr. Singer: No, I do not want to open up the whole thing again, but there is the report of the—

Mr. Chairman: With that understanding I would ask the Attorney General to answer if he feels so inclined.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am quite glad to. Actually I must confess that although I saw some note of this report, I have not had an opportunity to read it. I have not got it before me, but the hon. member has been good enough to tell me some of the contents and I know the condition of these as they were reported.

I did have some reference, Mr. Chairman, to this whole situation previously in the discussion of these estimates. I pointed out that the provision of facilities of magistrates' courts in every city—and I mentioned Metropolitan Toronto—is the responsibility of the municipality, and that we have found an opportunity to make a great improvement in space and the character of the courtrooms in many of their characteristics. But the final solution to the whole matter is waiting on the arrangements which are being made with respect to the old city hall, which is a part, as the hon. members know, of the Eaton programme which has not been finalized. We will either get a completely new court house out of this,

and I trust soon, or we will take other steps to add to the facilities we have now got, which are not in every respect at all adequate, but which are a very great improvement over those of the time we sat here last year.

I know the situation exists, but the grand jury's report brings that to the attention of the people who are responsible. All I can do is do everything possible to assist and encourage them to meet their responsibilities.

Mr. Singer: I accept your injunction. I am not going to follow that point any further. I have another point.

Both in magistrates' courts and in juvenile and family courts there are interpreters who are paid out of the general cost of the administration of justice. I understand that these interpreters are paid so much a case. Is it \$7 a case, or something like that? And I am further advised that some of them make \$10,000, \$12,000, \$15,000 or \$18,000. A case is often considered to be just appearing on a remand with no use of the interpreter.

I think that there should be interpreters standing by and I think they should be available in courts at all times. I wonder if the Attorney General can tell us whether or not he has any list of fees paid to interpreters in Metropolitan Toronto on a fee basis, and whether or not it would be advisable to hire interpreters on an annual basis. I think it would be a better service and I think there would be a general saving of public money in this regard, if they were paid on an annual basis instead of on a per-case basis, or so-called per-case basis.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. member has me down to a detail that I am not familiar with. I know there are interpreters and I know that they are called in as needed. I know that they act on a case where they are required, but how they are paid and at what rate they are paid, I do not know. I am not aware of the salaries they make a year or how their work relates to that or how busy they are. I would be glad to look into this, but that is all I can offer at this moment. I am glad that it has been brought to my attention.

Mr. Singer: I would be quite happy to accept the Attorney General's undertaking that he will obtain for us, as soon as it is convenient, a list of the total emoluments paid to all interpreters, say, in Metropolitan Toronto, and if it leads, as I suspect it will, to the suggestion that some of them are receiving very large amounts of money

annually, his opinion as to whether or not it would be more economical and of better service to hire interpreters on a full-time basis and pay them an annual fee.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think I should clear one point: I will be glad to get such information as is available, but they are paid, I am certain, by the municipality and I do not think that I can necessarily undertake to change the basis on which they are paid, or to pay them. They are paid by the municipality.

Mr. Singer: Let us start with the report and then we will see—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, but I want to make this clear: This part of the administration of justice is in a municipal area and is a municipal responsibility. I am interested and I will try to get the information.

Mr. Singer: Then whatever is done, is done with the authorization, or through the authority of, this government. In the same way that court attendants are hired or whatever distribution of costs is done, it is done with the authority of this government and if there is authority for them to do what they are doing—and I presume there must be or otherwise they would not be doing it—it may well be that that authority should be reviewed.

Without trying to lead the Attorney General to a conclusion that he cannot arrive at without the figures, when these are obtained, perhaps we could discuss it further.

Mr. Chairman: The member for York South.

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): Mr. Chairman, with regard to juvenile courts and the law enforcement agencies related thereto, I would like to ask the Attorney General a question concerning the current public preoccupation with LSD.

I do not know whether the Attorney General got to his television set early enough last night to see "Viewpoint," a programme on which a professor from McGill University, commenting on the public outcry at the moment as a result of a death in the city of Toronto this past weekend, stated—and I have reason to believe that it is generally true—that every young person, not only in our universities but in our high schools, has ready access to LSD.

He went so far as to suggest—I cannot quote his exact words—that there is no young

person who will not have exposure to it and an opportunity to use it.

My question to the Attorney General is: Are the problems related to law enforcement in connection with LSD because of the ready availability of it and in the ease with which it can be carried, such that it is impossible to check this widespread use, as this statement suggests?

I repeat that I have every reason to believe that it is correct, because when talking with young people whose experiences are not confined to visits to Yorkville, where they might have access to it, but to collegiates in every part of this city, they contend that this is the case, that if you want it you can get it readily—almost any day and anywhere.

What are the problems related to law enforcement? Does the Attorney General not think that new techniques, or a concentration of forces, must be put into this if we are so concerned about the disasters that can flow from the use of it?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I shook my head when I was asked if I had seen "Viewpoint". I did not realize, when I came in, that I was seeing the latter part of that programme and I heard the conclusion of the young professor's commentary to the effect that the temptation is there for anyone. He then made a very earnest plea to young people to avoid LSD. I thought it was quite an impressive talk and I hope that it will be an effective one.

This is a problem which has come to the forefront, as the hon. member knows, very recently and very rapidly, and is of growing proportion that gives us all concern.

We have been in touch with The Department of the Solicitor General at Ottawa today. The RCMP, we are told, handle the matter from the federal police point of view.

We have had no reports from them, nor appeals from them, nor from our local police forces, but we see instances where the effect of this drug has had a very bad effect, resulting in death and we do not know how much damage, to the minds of young people.

It is a growing problem and I think it is one that we shall have to face. I think it ought to be faced on a national basis, perhaps something similar to our criminal law, in the use of and trafficking in this and making it available, because I think it is a problem that cannot be solved with different rules in every province across this country.

I think it is one that we certainly will have to face up to and, unless we find that the federal people are moving soon to it, we shall have to move to it.

That is all that I have been able to think of upon the subject to this point. I certainly realize the gravity of it and it is a growing thing.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, forgive me for my comment on Yorkville. The only footnote I would like to add to it—

Mr. Chairman: Does the member feel that it comes under this as far as—

Mr. MacDonald: Well, in any case, I need only 30 seconds so let us not waste those 30 seconds on something that is unsubstantive, Mr. Chairman.

My only comment is that the Attorney General says that it is a national problem; undoubtedly it is. Since it is a criminal matter with narcotics, presumably in the first instance, it comes under the RCMP, but if its incidence and the problem is so widespread, that it is in every school and every university, it seems to me that all law enforcement agencies have got to be brought to bear.

Otherwise, you are going to be as licked as they contend you are at the moment.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I agree with you.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Grey North.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey North): Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General some weeks, or a few days, ago, in the estimates, said that there was no backlog of cases in the courts and that things were going along much better than they were in the United States in this respect.

Mr. Chairman, this afternoon I was speaking to two men—one has been held since November 8 awaiting trial in the Don jail. He has killed no one; he cannot get bail—he is not allowed to get bail because he is an American—

Mr. Chairman: May I ask the member if this would come under the juvenile and family courts?

Mr. Sargent: Family courts, I guess.

Mr. Chairman: It has been agreed by the members of the House that we have finished with the magistrates' courts and I will have

to depend on the member to be fair in this connection.

Mr. Sargent: I will be as fair as this; this man has been held in jail. He cannot get to trial, he cannot get bail—he cannot get anything.

Mr. MacDonald: How old is he?

Mr. Chairman: His age? How old is he?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member would permit me to say this—maybe it will save some time. If this is a situation with which he is concerned—and I appreciate that he is quite concerned—if he will give me the names and the specific cases, we will find out why this situation exists.

He can relate this in the House and I cannot prevent him from doing so, nor do I wish to, but I think we could save a great deal of time if I knew what the cases are so that they could be investigated and I could know what is going on.

I think the quickest way to do this is to let me have them—either here or he can give them to me personally.

Mr. Sargent: The fact is that I want to state briefly here and now, that in the second of the two cases I spoke of here today, the second chap has been in five and one-half months and he cannot get to trial. Of the 700 inmates there, how many more similar cases are there? How is this thing allowed to happen in our British system of justice?

The Attorney General said that he would look after these two cases. I know that he will, but what has happened in our system that this kind of thing is allowed to happen? I wanted to get this point across and now I will sit down.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: When I look into this case, I may find this, that here is a person confined to jail on a serious crime—

Mr. Sargent: Not necessarily.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, I do not know; I have to get the details. Perhaps the witness, who may be injured or knocked unconscious or who may be recovering from an injury, is not available to come to the trial. One has to have the details of a case to see if there is a situation here which can be corrected and certainly—I just announced today—there is legal aid which will provide him with a lawyer if he has not got one.

I would have to have the detail of these cases to be able to properly answer the hon. member.

Mr. Chairman: May I say to the member for Grey North that the Minister has undertaken to investigate and report on it, and under the circumstances, I would rule that it does not come under the juvenile and family courts. I recognize the member for Bracondale.

Mr. G. Ben (Bracondale): Mr. Chairman, on the juvenile and family courts, and apropos to what was said to the hon. leader of the NDP with reference to LSD and Yorkville, it has occurred under this estimate because it so happens that I have been carrying on a very extensive investigation into the subject of the use of drugs and LSD in Yorkville.

I was simply appalled at the number of juveniles that are in Yorkville and the way they fall into the clutches of these different drugs. Now we seem to shove that aside.

I remember when on city council, the residents of the area, the legitimate business operators, appeared before the city council, time after time, begging, pleading, cajoling city council to do something about Yorkville to stop it becoming the den of sin that it is now.

We have even had some bright eyed columnists and writers like Pierre Berton and commentator Larry Solway saying that there is nothing wrong with LSD and that these places are clean—well let me tell the hon. member for St. George (Mr. A. F. Lawrence), some of the things that go on there. For instance I have a tape downstairs—

Mr. Chairman: I would suggest to the member for Bracondale—

Mr. Ben: We are getting down to the juvenile aspect. What do you want me to do, Mr. Chairman, use the word juvenile every second minute?

Mr. Chairman: No, but I would like to know if we have any money under this particular vote for that purpose.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, we do not have any money under this particular vote for that purpose and that is exactly the point of my argument, that there should be money in this vote for that particular purpose.

For instance, I have a tape recording downstairs where a 17-year-old girl—and I know she is not a juvenile any more, but she

started as a juvenile—has been on her fortieth trip as they call it, that is 40 times she has been under the influence of LSD at the age of 17. She has tattooed—carved into her arm, not tattooed—the name of a pimp who carved his name there. He came over here from Detroit because she refused to go out—as they use the phrase, “hustle the third time”—so he branded this girl as belonging to him. These young girls come down here at 14 or 15 years of age just because they think it is a kick, and the strange part of it is, Mr. Chairman, that they come from good families up north. The children from poor families do not bother going because they see enough squalor right in their own neighbourhood, so predominantly about 70 per cent of them are children of good families from Willowdale, Forest Hill and Leaside who go down there because they want to get kicks.

Mr. Chairman: And how does this fit into the family court?

Mr. Ben: It fits into the family court because the Attorney General is doing nothing to prevent them from getting into the family court and he is supposed to be the chief law enforcement officer of this province. The best part of this whole situation is this, that the Minister of Reform Institutions does not have any jurisdiction in this matter until they have gone through the processes that have been settled by the Attorney General. The Attorney General does not do anything at all to prevent the people from getting into the hands of the Minister of Reform Institutions.

For instance, the Minister of Health (Mr. Dymond), has come into this picture too. The city of Toronto has a minimum standards housing by-law, which was up here to get passed and approved and which I call a police bill. The fact is that 14- and 15-year-olds are sleeping on bare floors, four, five, or six to a room. Some of them have a mattress, others do not. People are telling me here that they go from house to house. One place on Spadina—

Mr. Chairman: I am sorry to have to interject but I know that the member for Bracondale—

Mr. Ben: I am asking again, why does the Attorney General not have money in his estimates to prevent these youngsters—

Mr. Chairman: This might be something that you might ask but at the present time—

Mr. Ben: I am arguing that it is a short-coming of his—

Mr. Chairman: You may have to do it at some other time. All we have to do here is approve of the estimates before us.

Mr. Ben: I think I am perfectly in order to point out the negligence of the Attorney General in not providing estimates to cover this situation under this section.

Mr. Chairman: No.

Mr. Ben: I beg to differ, Mr. Chairman. Surely we are not just here to approve what he has put in here and not to reprove him for not having included an item such as this.

Mr. Chairman: As I understand it that is exactly why we are here.

Mr. Ben: Are you expressing the opinion of the operators of this government that we cannot criticize them for not having put money into the estimates to cover the needs of the people under their charge? Is that the ruling of this chair?

Hon. A. Grossman (Minister of Reform Institutions): That will not be in the courts anyway.

Mr. Ben: Is that the ruling of the chair?

Mr. Chairman: The ruling of the chair at the present time is to deal with the juvenile and family court in connection with this particular vote and I would ask the member if he will do so.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I am asking you. If you so rule I will sit down. Are you ruling that we, the members of the Opposition, cannot criticize the Attorney General for not having placed in his estimates funds that cover a very deplorable social situation in this province? Is that your ruling?

Mr. Chairman: I am saying that your particular remarks under the circumstances are out of order, that is all.

Mr. Ben: I am berating the Attorney General for not having included funds under these estimates to cover this situation—to keep people out of the juvenile courts. Now are you ruling that I cannot discuss that?

Mr. Chairman: I am ruling that this is out of order—

Mr. Ben: Then I beg to question the chairman's ruling and I would like to have a vote on it, if that is what you are saying.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Chairman, surely when we are discussing the juvenile courts—and we have had ample precedent in the last few minutes when the leader of the NDP brought to your attention, sir, the growing problem with the use of LSD in this province and in this particular city—the hon. member who has just spoken should have the opportunity to put his views on the record in a similar way. As he has already stated, he, along with the rest of us, is deeply concerned with this problem. It is surely a reasonable place to discuss it under the juvenile courts. We may not be talking about what the ventilation is like there but we are talking about a problem that is a concern of the juvenile court and I cannot see how it can be in order one moment when the hon. member for York South is discussing it and now it is out of order. The gentleman who has been discussing this area just in the last few moments, as I say, does have a presentation to make and surely this would be a good place to put it before the Attorney General who is concerned as well.

Mr. Chairman: May I say to the leader of the Opposition that it was not in order at one time and out the next time. It was brought to the attention of the member for York South that it was out of order and it was brought to the attention of the member for Bracondale that it was out of order. The ruling has been consistent all the way through. No one is underestimating the importance of this subject. Everyone in the House realizes the importance. I am merely suggesting that you have asked me to follow through with a sequence and this does not properly belong here.

Mr. Nixon: Surely, sir, without appealing your ruling as has been requested by the hon. member, it should be possible for him to complete his remarks along these lines and then we can carry on with a proper discussion.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to question your ruling either, but perhaps I could be helpful if you might allow me to say just a word. I think that perhaps the discussion of LSD and the effect it has particularly on young people is related to this vote. The hon. member for Bracondale has urged a preventative approach to this situation so that these people will not come before us, and I think perhaps that is related very closely to the court. I did mention in replying to the hon. member for York South that we had discussions with the federal people. If you will permit me I should like to put on

the record a commentary which appeared in yesterday's issue of the *Ottawa Journal* reporting the situation with respect to Parliament and I am indebted to the Minister of Highways (Mr. Gomme) for this.

Mr. Chairman: In doing so I wonder if the member for Bracondale would briefly complete his remarks and hear the report. Would this be satisfactory?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I think perhaps this will satisfy him, Mr. Chairman, if you would allow me to read this. This is an article from yesterday's *Ottawa Journal* headed, "Cabinet Studying LSD Control". This is the subject of our discussions here. It is a Canadian press article which reads:

Solicitor General Pennell confirmed Monday that the federal Cabinet is considering steps for further control of the drug LSD, but he declined in the Commons to indicate to Opposition leader Diefenbaker whether legislation will be placed before Parliament ahead of an expected Easter recess. Mr. Diefenbaker urged immediate action to stop what he called a series of tragedies culminating in an incident Monday in Toronto. He apparently was referring to the death Saturday of 20-year-old music student John Stern, whose body was discovered at the foot of an 80-foot viaduct. The boy's father blames favourable publicity for the hallucinatory drug for the death.

I would say just very briefly, Mr. Chairman, that the control of this drug comes under The Narcotics Control Act, which deals with trafficking in it but does not at the present deal with the use or the possession of it. Its sale or distribution would be under The Food and Drug Act. I think it is a federal problem. I am glad to see that the federal department is moving to a study of it, with possible legislation. We will cooperate in every way. That is the only way we can prevent this.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, perhaps simply because I used those banned words, LSD, you are under the assumption that I am going to discuss LSD. LSD is simply one of the drugs that I am concerned with, as a matter of fact, at the present time.

It is not the drug most responsible for getting children into the juvenile courts. It is something that is now becoming common. It is easily purchased, especially in the Yorkville area.

But it is just one of the things, and I regret that everybody jumps on that as being the drug, the subject matter of my discussion.

It is not, because most of the youngsters in the Yorkville area use what they call "speedies."

They are sort of a diet pill, benzedrine. They use what they call "grass", or commonly known as marijuana.

Even hashish is coming into play there. This is the thing that is most common. LSD, what they call "acid", is just coming into effect now. But the increase in the use of this is appalling.

For instance, in 1965, there were a total of 145 drug arrests in the city of Toronto, 49 of these originated out of Yorkville. Of this 145 total, 68 were for the use of marijuana and 47 of these originated from Yorkville.

In 1966, there were a total of 216 arrests. Of these 146 originated out of Yorkville. Out of these 216, 151 were for marijuana and of these 146 came from Yorkville.

So you see that it is not LSD itself, which is a problem. It is the use of drugs. In carrying out my investigation, I find out that these youngsters come down there and they think it is glamorous because it is built up by these columnists and everything else. In Yorkville there are the beatniks, and what do the youngsters find; they find themselves being preyed upon by the older people there, because they have money.

They buy meals for these fellows because they look up to them as something special, with their beards and their dirty old dungarees and the next thing you know, they move into there.

I have talked with these young people. They talk rather intelligently. You ask them why they go there and they say, to find themselves. They want to be free, they want to be independent and when you ask them, "Well how free are you, now that you depend on somebody for your drugs, now that you depend on somebody for your accommodation, now that you depend on somebody for your food?"

This kind of stops them. They think they are free yet they are more slaves than ever, because they are now completely dependent on somebody. They refuse to work. They manage to get their food, they panhandle.

As this young girl told me when I asked her how did she get money, she said she goes along with this down there and begs for money. Sometimes, she says, she goes down on the subway but she says not very often, because the police pick them up at the subway for panhandling.

So they go down and just stay around in Yorkville. They have nothing to do; none of these youngsters down in Yorkville. They have a church group down there that is trying to do something, but they just do not trust them up there.

One of the girls told me that they take them upstairs and give them aptitude tests or IQ tests. They get their whole history and then these people believe that all this information goes to the police. Furthermore, I found out that this church is one of the biggest trading posts for "grass" and other drugs.

The whole area is shot through with these old boarding houses where they rent rooms. A room with nothing in it, except a mattress on the floor and a rickety chair, rents for \$20 a week. One girl told me that there was just one bathroom in this old house and it was a filthy bathtub to begin with, so she went in there one day and decided she was going to take a bath. She went in to wash the bathtub and found somebody had pinched it.

Fortunately, two weeks later the police went in there and closed it down. But this is the kind of situation that goes on. One young girl there told me she had, one time, lived with two men.

Another time she lived in a room with five men, all older than her. She was only 16 at the time—15 because she had been there a couple of years. This is the girl who took 40 trips—they call them trips.

Now what are we going to do about this? I asked them what should be done, what we can do to try to correct the situation. Well, they agree that the place ought to be broken up because it just festers and breeds this kind of living. It is true that they would try to set up a little spot elsewhere, but in the meantime, legislation could be implemented which would prevent new Yorkvilles from arising.

For instance, I mentioned earlier that we have to have hostels for our young people, a place where they can go and live; where they can live because they want to leave home, or live because they have no home, or where they can live and still go to school—sort of a YMCA, without the C in it, a decent place.

Or, at least, put up a public bathhouse in there, if you are not going to take action to clean it up.

The consensus of opinion of the people I talked to is that it is impossible for it to be wiped out by law enforcement because it would take almost our whole police force in there 24 hours a day to clean it up.

The people there are very tight-mouthed. They recognize police officers the minute they come in. The hon. member for St. George shakes his head. Perhaps he ought to listen to some of the tapes, some of the stuff I have got down there and read some of the notes I have. Maybe he will not shake his head in disbelief. I regret that it is in his riding, but the fact is, it is a canker on this city, and something should be done about it.

The people in his area, the responsible, straight people in the Yorkville area have been pressing him and he has been pressing city council to clean out this mess. But no, there are a lot of people that always insist you always have to give these youngsters liberty, that they have to find themselves, that that is all they are trying to do and there is nothing wrong with these coffee shops, they are respectable places of business. Except when you go to Websters, there, as one kid wrote, it is easier to get a drug than it is to get bubble gum.

When I asked them why the young kids used drugs, they said, well, the youngsters cannot get booze so they get this, it is easier to get.

You can have marijuana almost delivered to your home in pound packages, or kilo packages. That is how prevalent it is there.

Today, they estimate if there were 10,000 users of marijuana in this city, 2,000 of them were in Yorkville.

There is the hon. member for St. George, he just has a nice angelic smile on his face and shakes his head that it is impossible. Well, I say it is not impossible, it is existing there. The statistics for the city of Toronto show the junk, 33 per cent, over 33 per cent junk, in the use of drugs in this city. And I might point out that only one of them last year was for LSD. All the rest were for other prohibited drugs.

I found out that they get drugs with phoney prescriptions. They steal a doctor's prescription pad and then they have somebody there who has got an encyclopedia where they have medical terms, and they fill out phoney prescriptions and sell these prescriptions for \$5.

Then the person, who buys the prescription, goes in the drug store to buy these pills, 100 for \$5, and peddles them for 50 cents each. That is life in Yorkville. And the hon. member for St. George, he has still got that angelic smile on his face. He is pleased.

An hon. member: A cherubic smile—

Mr. Ben: A cherubic smile, is it? All right, a cherubic, yes.

Now this is the thing that the hon. member has tried to discount. I say I spoke to some of them. They come from—I do not want to mention what the background is because they might be identified, but the parents have their own businesses, or responsible positions.

Everyone has their own businesses, or responsible positions. It is not a want of money. As a matter of fact, it is too much money. I am not going to go into the Stern case, because the lad is dead, but what I found out about this LSD is that a person under LSD can be influenced to think that he is superman and he can flap his hands and fly like a bird, or that he is a canary and he will sing for you, or she will sing for you and eat bird seed, and, if you tell her to fly, they will even fly.

Sometimes, if you take too much of this you can go into a twilight area, as in one instance, where a fellow stripped himself naked and ran around down in Yorkville there, saying that he was coloured.

He was speaking like a coloured man from Georgia. Then he hopped on a motorcycle and made up he was zooming down the street with it until the police picked him up and took him to the hospital.

Another thing I find out is that VD is very prevalent among the youngsters down there. The Attorney General may be interested in this—I also discussed it with a magistrate and this is one of the situations that bothers them.

If a person comes there charged with Vag. C, they can order a medical examination and keep that inmate in there for five days until they get the medical examination. A lot of them think that it is an injustice and I sort of agree, that if they keep her there and give her tests, the result of the tests should be immediately known.

They can do it in 24 hours. If treatment is necessary, then the woman ought to be transferred to a hospital, not be kept in prison while she is being treated for a venereal disease.

The magistrates to whom I spoke were of the opinion that venereal disease is more prevalent among the non-professionals than it is among the professionals—that is, those who are charged just with common vagrancy. They cannot order medical examinations for

the common “vag”—those who are charged just with common vagrancy—and we feel that they should have power, for the good of society, to have these girls examined for venereal disease, because my informants tell me that venereal disease is very prevalent in Yorkville and there is no way that they can control it.

One example that they gave me, was this young girl who went to a clinic where she was told that she had venereal disease and would have to report for treatment. She skipped off to Vancouver. A warrant was issued for her, but by the time she was found she was pretty far gone.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the hon. member a question? I am trying to follow his comments and just missed a portion of them, I think.

Was the hon. member suggesting that somebody be given the right to examine these girls before they are convicted?

Mr. Ben: If I may repeat, girls charged with Vag. C, it is called vagrancy—it is prostitution but it is called vagrancy—section C, are held for five days and are given a compulsory medical examination to determine whether or not they have a communicable disease, in fact, a venereal disease. They are held for five days and cannot get out on bail.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: After conviction.

Mr. Ben: No, prior to conviction, and the Attorney General will confirm that. Every girl that is charged with Vag. C is given a compulsory medical examination before her appearance in court and she cannot get out on bail until the result of that medical examination is known. Now that is for the information of the hon. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I did not think that could be done.

Mr. Ben: That is the law at the present time. Now the magistrate—and I am directing my remarks to the Minister of Reform Institutions—claimed that venereal disease is more prevalent among the non-professionals, those who are not engaging in sex for money but who are good-time girls, and that those are the ones who should be controlled the most. This is confirmed by my research into what goes on in Yorkville.

These youngsters do become infected and there should be some control so that a girl

who is just charged with vagrancy should be examined. Now some may agree with this and some may not; the magistrates expressed this opinion.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Would the hon. member agree with me that if a young girl—perhaps the daughter of a member of this Legislature—is picked up and if she may be a completely innocent girl, but she is charged and before she is ever convicted, be forced to undergo a medical examination? I would resent that, I tell the member quite frankly.

Mr. Ben: Then the hon. Minister would have to agree then, that it is not fair to have the professionals given a compulsory medical examination before they are convicted, because they may not be convicted.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: A professional is not a professional until she is convicted of being one—

Mr. Ben: That is right and yet when she is charged with the offence, of which she may be acquitted and held not to be a professional, when she is charged with the offence, she may be given that examination.

Also one of the things that is badly needed there, according to my informant, is a birth control information clinic. They ought to have a clinic open there almost 24 hours a day where young girls can go and get information on birth control.

One might even go so far as to suggest that this clinic should hand out birth control pills to these youngsters. I am not familiar with the effect of it, but I was told that birth control pills can be taken continuously for only one year and after a while their use must be discontinued. At least that is the impression I was given by the party I spoke to.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Ben: When they go off these pills, they are easily—very susceptible—

Mr. Chairman: Do you think this comes under the juvenile and family court?

Mr. Ben: They are still youngsters—14- and 15-year-old girls, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: You are closer to the courts and I would judge that, under the circumstances, you would know whether this comes under criminal law or the magistrate's court. I question whether it comes under the juvenile and family courts.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): This is the new morality, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ben: I have mentioned—

Hon. J. W. Spooner (Minister of Municipal Affairs): This is way out of order.

Mr. Chairman: I have asked the member if he will confine his remarks to the vote.

Mr. Ben: What good is it to have a juvenile court if we are not going to try to prevent people from getting into it? All this Minister concerns himself with is spending money to buy talcum powder to cover up the social evils that exist. He spends no money whatsoever in preventive medicine—the preventive for getting into the juvenile court—

Mr. Chairman: It seems to me that this would properly come under The Department of Health estimates.

Mr. Ben: He spends no money to try to keep youth out of the magistrates' courts, and he is guilty of a very serious omission in that regard because these iniquities are with us and this Attorney General—in fact, this government—is doing nothing to stop this being perpetuated. All that is done is to have the Chairman say, "You are out of order."

Mr. K. Bryden (Woodbine): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I object to the implication that the government has the Chairman say anything. I believe that the Chairman makes his rulings, whether we agree with them or not, on the basis of his understanding of the rules and of the situation before us, and I do not believe that hon. members should make statements of that kind.

Mr. Chairman: I ask the member if he will, please, stay within the vote.

Mr. Ben: I am sure that the hon. Chairman knows that I was not implying that he was under the public authorities and we are always happy to see the hon. member for Woodbine rise and discuss a point of order, because he is an expert on out of order—so if he gets up and says it is out of order, he ought to know.

The other member, the hon. member of the NDP, introduced this subject. He was told that he was out of order, but he continued, and now he is objecting to somebody else continuing on the subject. There are two laws here; one for the leaders and one for the—

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Ben: —little fishes. I think the hon. member for St. George has pointed that out. The backbenchers have no prerogative around here; they cannot do anything.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Ben: Now, I would ask the hon. Attorney General, how many of the workers—the people attached to the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court—are active in the Yorkville area working among the juveniles? How much are they paid, if these people are working there? How many juveniles were brought up before the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court from the Yorkville area, and how many were ever charged with a breach of The Minors Act, being under the age of 16 and out after 9 o'clock on any evening?

Perhaps the Attorney General could give us those figures, since the Chairman insists that we become specific. This is strictly within this vote and should be knowledge within the possession of the hon. Attorney General. So will he answer the question, how many charges were laid under The Juvenile Delinquency Act against these youngsters out after 9 o'clock in the evening?

Mr. A. F. Lawrence (St. George): Mr. Chairman, while the Attorney General is looking that up, perhaps he could also give us comparable figures for the riding of Bracendale.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would say to the hon. member, that we do not have probation and family counsel people working in Yorkville, as such.

This is not a social worker's situation and I could not begin to think of giving figures on that because we just do not have people working there. They do not work on the basis that he has suggested. Family counselling and probation service are particularly related to the work of the courts. They counsel young people to a large degree to prevent them coming before the court, but that would have to be on a pretty voluntary basis because there is no authority to interfere with a family-child relationship, so that that part of his question I am unable to answer.

He spent a lot of time on the situation with persons brought before the courts and charged with vagrancy C, as he calls it. Under The Venereal Diseases Act, an Ontario Act, it permits an examination as a matter of

health protection, a preventive situation and a cure approach. He is saying to this department, "Why don't you do something to prevent and cure the situation?" That Act is designed for that, but it really does not come in The Attorney General's Department, it is a health Act.

Mr. Ben: Mr. Chairman, I did not question the procedure; the Minister of Reform Institutions expressed amazement at that situation.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, that Act was passed—

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I do not have a QC.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That Act was passed with a health point of view, to prevent the spread of the disease and to cure the person involved. We do not administer it except as it comes before a magistrate in the court. The sections of the Act were designed from the point of view of health.

I can give the hon. member some figures. The family counselling cases at the start of 1966, before the juvenile and family court of Metro Toronto, were 900, and in the rest of the province, 1,038. There were new or reopened cases through 1966 in Metropolitan Toronto totalling 4,716; in the rest of the province, 3,489. There were family cases as such, family cases simply, in Metropolitan Toronto in 1966 totalling 920; and in the rest of the province, 969. There were other counselling occurrences, these court appearances totalling 197 in Metropolitan Toronto. The total number of pre-sentence, pre-release and social history reports in Metropolitan Toronto was 608. The total number of juvenile and adult probationers at the start of 1966 in Metropolitan Toronto was 804; in the rest of the province, 7,811. The total new juvenile and adult probationers in 1966 in Metropolitan Toronto was 983.

Mr. Ben: May I ask, did I hear correctly that although we have one third of the population of the whole province in Metropolitan Toronto, we have over one half of the juvenile cases? Yet when the Attorney General gave the probation figures, he pointed out there were 800-odd on probation in Metropolitan Toronto but some 4,000 in the rest of the province. Is that the figure he gave?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Yes, the figure for Metropolitan Toronto in that particular bracket—total new juvenile and adult probationers, that is the total over a period of time standing on our records in 1966—was 983 in

Metropolitan Toronto, 8,935 for the whole of the province.

Mr. Ben: Does the Minister not see any significance in those figures, that first of all we have more juveniles up before the juvenile court in Toronto than in the rest of the province—I believe the figures were some 4,000 in Metropolitan Toronto as against only 3,000 for the rest of—

Hon. Mr. Wishart: That is juveniles and adults combined.

Mr. Ben: Juveniles and adults combined? Then I think the Attorney General gave some figure for juveniles. There were some 4,000 juveniles brought up before the Metropolitan Toronto juvenile and family court—I am pretty certain, over 4,000.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, my figures are combined figures.

Mr. Ben: How many juveniles were brought up before the juvenile court in Metropolitan Toronto last year?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, reading from the annual report of the juvenile and family court for the province of Ontario for the year 1966 as of December 31, 1966, at page 4:

The dispositions during the year 1966: During the year 1966 the juvenile and family courts of Ontario heard 50,315 original informations and 7,787 maintenance arrears or variation actions. The dispositions were made under the following enactments.

And then it gives the figures:

(a) The Juvenile Delinquents Act of Canada section 20—that is, juvenile delinquency—16,357.

This is for the province.

(b) The Juvenile Delinquents Act of Canada, sections 33 and 34—contributing to delinquency—642 cases.

(c) The Training Schools Act of 1965, 602 cases.

And the report continues overleaf on page 5, with various categories, listing all the Acts under which these cases were heard, to a total on that page of 50,315. I do not think the hon. member would want me to get into the matter of reciting all these figures which he can find and read in this report.

I think this would bear on what he asked, on page 6 of the report, headed "Probation with supervision":

The juvenile and family courts of Ontario placed the following categories of persons under the supervision of probation officers under provisions of The Juvenile Delinquents Act of Canada, section 20, The Criminal Code of Canada, section 638, the revised statutes of Ontario, 1960, chapter 308, section 6.

And then there is a breakdown: Persons under probation supervision by probation officers on January 1, 1966, men 996, women 73, boys 2,897, girls 419. Then the next column shows the number of probation supervision orders made during the year, for men 1,076, for women 85, for boys, 3,532, for girls 585; the number of probation supervision orders which expired during the year, men 1,029, women 81, boys 3,228 and girls 591; the number of probation supervision orders active on December 31 last year, for men 1,043, women 71, boys 3,201 and girls 413.

Mr. Ben: May I ask the Attorney General, Mr. Chairman, how many juveniles appeared before the metropolitan juvenile and family court in the year 1966, what disposition was made of the cases? How many were put on probation?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I do not have those figures, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Singer: What are those outside judicial offices, Mr. Chairman?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: They would be the sheriffs' offices, the local registrars, the Supreme Court registrars, a surrogate court office, county court offices, the administrative offices of the judicial system.

Mr. Singer: Could the Attorney General tell me—

Mr. J. Renwick (Riverdale): Mr. Chairman, may I just interrupt for a moment? I had no idea we were moving on to the next item when the hon. member for Bracondale sat down. I have a few comments on the juvenile and family court.

My concern, Mr. Chairman, is with the legal aid plan and the juvenile and family court, and the question of what the Attorney General's view is as to representation in that court.

I would like to direct his attention to the juvenile aspect of the court at the present time. As I understand the legal aid plan, the discretion is in the area director as to whether or not a person is going to be entitled to representation in the junior courts

including the juvenile and family court. My experience, brief as it has been, and limited in the juvenile court, is that you get the impression in that court that whether a juvenile in front of that court is represented or not represented is not a matter of fundamental importance.

It seemed to me that we must direct our attention, if we are going to have an adequate legal aid plan, to the question of whether or not a person who is entitled to legal aid is going to be represented in that court. If so, what is the scale of fees that the province of Ontario is going to pay for that representation and on what basis is the area director going to exercise his discretion? I am handicapped because I have been endeavouring to get copies of the regulations under that plan to find out whether or not there are any guides or directions provided in the regulations with respect to the way in which discretion is to be exercised for representation in that court. Perhaps if the Attorney General would answer that part of my remarks I could pursue it a little bit further.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I would just say this, that there is an area of responsibility for the juvenile in the parent. That is the first thing, that the parent would seek the legal counsel, the legal aid, and on his application would be entitled to get legal aid for the juvenile in his court appearance. I do not have the regulations before me. I am sorry it was not possible to make them available to the members of the House, all of them, until we were able to announce them today. But I recall that there are provisions in the tariff with respect to juvenile and family court appearances and I particularly recall an item on appeal in those cases. But I would think that generally this will be covered because the parent will have the responsibility of seeing to the defence and counselling of that child and that counsel will be available under The Legal Aid Act.

Mr. Ben: May I ask a question apropos to what was just said by the Attorney General, where he states that the parent would be responsible—what if the parent is the complainant, the accuser in an incorrigibility charge against the child—does the Attorney General then expect the parent to supply funds to represent the child to act against the interests of the parent who has brought that child to court?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would think that if that situation arose then the judge would—

and I think the judge, in almost every case if there was a lack of counsel—would insist that the child should have advice and counsel if there was no one around to assist him in the nature of a parent. That would be the attitude I would expect of juvenile and family court judges.

Mr. Ben: Well, is the Attorney General not aware that complaints have been registered continuously to Mr. Rose and others of the Toronto family court, that the counsellors are continually advising the people that come there that they do not need a lawyer? That, in fact, they discourage people from coming there with lawyers and encouraging them not to have legal representation?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are today, as I announced in this House, publicizing the availability of legal aid to persons who need it. I think a different attitude will appear as a result of our proclaiming this Act to be effective on the 29th of this month.

Mr. Ben: Could the Attorney General give us a little more assurance than simply stating that he thinks there will be a different attitude? Has he definitely instructed the people, the probationary officers or the advisory counsellors down there, to state unequivocally that the people are entitled to legal counsel and they should seek legal counsel instead of telling them that they do not need legal counsel?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: No, I do not think I would be prepared to say that at all, Mr. Chairman, because there are many cases, actually in the family court, where the lawyer is not necessary.

There are matters of counselling, attempts at reconciliation and advice, and it is not in the nature of an accusatory situation where someone is charged with an offence. I think counsel is not always helpful and when I speak of counsel I mean the lawyer in that court, so I would not go so far as to make the broad statement the hon. member suggests.

Mr. Ben: Could that be the reason, Mr. Chairman, for the fact that there are so few lawyers appearing there—that out of 382 cases heard last month dealing with adults, 173 of them were on “show cause” summonses, that is, women coming back trying to get the money that the court awarded them?

An additional 40 cases were rehearings—in other words, out of a total of 422, 213 of

them dealt with a woman being there, trying to assert her rights to get that support which the court had already awarded her. Did the fact there were not counsel at the original hearing have anything to do with that?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, we are getting down to very fine detail, it would seem to me. I could talk about these things as well as the hon. member for Bracondale. He cites a number of cases where the women went back to the court to get the order enforced.

Now, actually, there is very little that a lawyer has to offer in that situation. There is the order calling for certain payments by the week, or the month, or however, and if it has not been complied with, all that the court has to know, is that non-compliance, and it will make a committal order, or take the steps to obtain that payment. I suppose that in the situation that the hon. member speaks of, up to now the woman would not feel that she could afford to engage a lawyer if she needed him, but I think his need would be very small.

Mr. Ben: If 173 of them came out of 382, and they are all "show cause" summonses without a lawyer, surely then if the women do have legal counsel, we could expect that percentage to rise all the more.

Or could it be that these women appeared on "show cause" summonses because the original order that was made by the judge was too high, because the husband did not have a counsel to bring out the true financial picture so that an equitable order could have been made—an order which the husband could have, and would have, lived up to.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I cannot answer that. I cannot speculate on these things. You have to take the experience now that we will have and see what happens.

Mr. Renwick: Mr. Chairman, without getting into the specific details of particular cases, I would like to find out from the Attorney General, if the reply appeared to me to be that the Attorney General was saying that in juvenile cases, that is a juvenile is charged under The Juvenile Offenders' Act with an offence, which if he had been an adult, he would have been charged under the criminal code, is the area director under the legal aid scheme, going to exercise a discretion?

If so, on what basis is he going to exercise the discretion as to whether such a person

is, or is not, entitled to representation in that court?

The Attorney General obviously knows my views—that is, in that particular category of persons who should as of right be entitled to representation.

How is the Attorney General going to make this system function? I can only assume that the fees which are going to be the tariff of fees set out in the schedule must be something equivalent to the magistrate's court tariff of say \$112.50 for one day—one case.

How can the Attorney General combine the two propositions—proper representation in that court for juveniles and the charges which are going to be made and the availability of lawyers to deal with the cases, the structure of the juvenile and family court, in order to handle the number of cases which are going to come before it? How is he going to resolve this?

Are we going to use this pragmatic approach, that in the long run of time we can ultimately get all the factors to work, or has he any clear views on those propositions at this time?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would just say this. The area director has a discretion under the legal aid plan and the regulations that are part of that. He will base the decision on need and there is no hard and fast basis there.

I do not know—it is somewhat the same answer I gave the hon. member for Bracondale. I cannot speculate at this point on how it will work. I think we have to wait a little while and see the experience, and I am not going to engage in a discussion in this vote, I do not think it is called for, as to the tariff of fees under legal aid schemes. I do not think that is involved here at all.

I think we have gone a long way in providing legal aid. I think it will fit the situation. We will have to see how the experience works out. But the area director has a large discretion and I think he will exercise it to meet the situation.

Mr. Renwick: Well Mr. Chairman, it is not sufficient for the Attorney General to say that the area director has a large discretion. If the case of need is shown, and let us assume for the moment, that a person is destitute and requires legal aid, on the basis of any assessment of his need. Having got that far, and having a certificate in his possession as to need, what does the area director do about discretion? Is he in fact going to pre-judge

the issue against the person? Is he going to review the evidence? Is he going to discuss it with the police and if the police say, "Oh, we have this fellow hands down," is the area director going to say, "Well in that case he does not need representation in the court"?

In other words, are we going to turn upside down the whole theory of representation in that court in the way in which the legal aid scheme must of necessity operate? This applies just as well, of course, to the summons under *The Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act*.

A large number of the cases fall under that Act and the question is, are the people who are in need going to be entitled to representation before that court? If so, what is the discretion that the area director is going to exercise?

It seems to me that the Attorney General has got to direct his attention to this part of the operation because, if the legal aid scheme has any meaning at all it has meaning for the people who appear in the juvenile and family court. It must function there and it does not matter then whether it functions in the Supreme Court of Ontario or not, relatively speaking. The injustices, the lack of representation, the inadequate presentation of a person's case and the inadequacies of proof fall in the juvenile and family court, as they do in the magistrate's court and in the division courts.

But it is in that area, and I am concerned with the legal aid scheme, because so far as I can see what is going to happen is that either the area director is going to rule out representation for people on the basis of his discretion, or he is not going to exercise his discretion. And if he is not going to exercise it, let us have a clear unequivocal statement that a person is entitled to representation in that court. I do not want to drive the argument to the logical conclusion, and simply say that this is the only solution in those courts for proper representation. I do not think it is. I am simply saying that the legal aid scheme is going to founder unless the attention is paid to those courts.

Within the framework of the legal aid scheme, it would seem to me that the Attorney General has got to give thought and attention to enlarging the function of the duty counsel in those courts, so that we get around, in a gradual way if necessary, to some form of public defender system in the juvenile and family court, in the division court as well. Someone who at public expense, as a day-in and day-out operation on a salary basis, pro-

vides advice, prepares the cases and takes the cases in the court for the people who have to appear in the court, rather than having them go through the lengthy process which is involved in getting them representation through the legal aid scheme, which may very well operate quite properly at the higher levels.

I think the legal aid scheme, by and large, apart from the question of fees, and I have views on that, is quite capable of operating at the county court and the Supreme Court and senior levels, but down at the basis where most people run into it, in the juvenile court, I do not think that the legal aid scheme can in fact provide representation. I do not think that there are enough lawyers available to take the cases, and I do not think the courts are so manned and so structured as to be able, in an efficient way, to process the cases which come before them, without doing substantial injustices. And I do not want the area directors under the legal aid scheme to become part and parcel of that poor system which is presently in operation in the juvenile and family court in the city of Toronto.

When I say it is poor, I am speaking of two aspects of it. One is just the simple fact of its convenience. Anyone knows who has had anything to do with that court, that you are likely to arrive there at a quarter to 10 in the morning and you are likely to leave there at a quarter to 4 in the afternoon, and the case has not even been called, and you would have grave difficulty in finding whether or not it is likely to be called. If a lawyer happens to be present, there is some gesture made to accommodate his time—not a great deal, and I am not asking that you should get special consideration, but you can waste an inestimable amount of time in that court at the present time.

If the legal aid scheme is supposed to do anything in that court to assist the people who appear before it, as well as to provide a more efficient administration of justice, then I think the Attorney General now—not when we have had a lot of experience, because I think the experience to date shows that the system cannot be adapted to those courts—must start using duty counsel in that court on a regular basis to advise people and to provide the facilities where advice can be given, so that the person knows when he walks into a court whether he is going to be represented and what the legal ramifications are of the charge that has been laid against him, or the summons which has been issued against him.

In this way the duty counsel can provide two functions. He can provide adequate

representation and he can also facilitate the administration of the courts by an efficient presentation of the case, an informed presentation of the case. Incidentally I think in the juvenile and family court in Metropolitan Toronto, now that the Attorney General is involved in the operation of that court, they ought to provide some coffee, because you can sit there all day and you have to go three quarters of a block to get a cup of coffee. I suggest perhaps down in the basement they could install a few coffee machines for the convenience of those who have to spend hours waiting in that court.

But the area which concerns me, Mr. Chairman, and I will not labour it any longer, is that the legal aid scheme on the basis of each person selecting his own lawyer after an elaborate application procedure is just not going to work in a juvenile and family court. In some part of the juvenile and family court, individual special representation is obviously necessary, particularly in the case of juvenile offenders charged with serious offences, and that could be left very well up to the decision of duty counsel. But there are a great number of cases which go through that court as a matter of routine and can still be dealt with adequately and justly if a duty counsel is continuously in attendance in that court.

You are faced with a situation, particularly in the family court part of the application, where if the summons has been issued, the woman who issued the summons has got to come to court, and she does not know whether she should be represented. She does not know whether the husband or the man involved in the case is going to be represented. She does not know when she goes into the court what kind of treatment the judge on the bench is going to mete out to her in eliciting the information.

Therefore, for that court, I make the plea now that the Attorney General start directing his attention to the elaboration of the function of the duty counsel, so that if a person, such as a member of the Legislature for Metropolitan Toronto, is approached by someone who says—"I have got to go to the family court. I have issued a summons against so and so. What do I do? Do I get representation?"—you can say to them, "When you go to the court, go to such and such a place. The duty counsel will be there, the duty counsel will advise you. If necessary he will also process your case to see that you get a fair and proper hearing."

Mr. Chairman, we are not kidding ourselves about the quality of the administration of justice in the juvenile and family court in Toronto. I am not criticizing any particular judge on any particular case, I am talking about the flow of the cases through the court, the sensation which you get if you are representing someone and the sensation which all of us have when people report to us that they have been in such-and-such a court and they have no conception of what happened to them in the course of the hearing. It is not functioning adequately.

One of the ways in which its administration can be improved to a large extent is by the gradual adoption of a qualified person, a duty counsel, whatever name you want to call him, who day in and day out, as a public official, on a salary basis, over a year's period of time. Whether one is necessary, or two or ten, we should start to provide them now and leave it up to that kind of an official to decide whether in a specific case the person should have special representation because of the special and difficult nature of the case which comes before him.

I am particularly concerned about the juveniles who appear in the court who happen to get there without representation. You know as well as everyone else knows that the police, having done their job, are not all that detached from the proposition of getting a conviction. Evidence is difficult to get in many cases in order that you can make an objective presentation on behalf of a juvenile, just the same as it is often difficult to get it in the magistrates' courts.

It is just as serious in the long run, Mr. Chairman, for a juvenile to have a record in the juvenile court as it is for him to have a record in the magistrate's court. You get involved then with the fact that he is a person of record, and if anything it becomes worse, because if he has been a convicted juvenile offender on one occasion and he has been put on probation or has a counsellor, you begin to get a dossier on that particular child. When the child comes in again on the next offence, there is a tendency to think: "Oh, we are really engaged in a counselling operation and while it is quite true that you may get off because you are not guilty technically in the court, yet we really know here that you are guilty and therefore it is part and parcel of the record."

Mr. Chairman, this happens quite clearly. I know very well of a boy, and I am sure others have similar cases, where the actual charge was dismissed in the courts but im-

mediately after the court was over, the probation officer with whom the boy had been on probation, or the counsellor who was trying to assist him, immediately lectured the boy on how lucky he was to have gotten off in that case, and that "we know you did it." The boy had protested—and in my view was quite justly acquitted of it—that he had not done it.

You begin to get an atmosphere in that court where the so-called principles of justice or the principles of the rights of people in courts are all mixed up with a kind of counselling social-worker atmosphere. Each has its proper place, but it is deadly for the person who is involved in the mixture. I am afraid those courts tend to get involved in the mixture, they tend to rely a great deal on reports from the counsellor or the probation officer.

We are going to have to have a separation of function very clearly in that court. And the way in which it can be done is by using the legal profession under the legal aid scheme on a public defender system, or whatever other name you want to call it. If we do that now, I think we have some hopes of resurrecting the legal aid scheme right from the very beginning, so that it will function in the courts in which the people are mainly coming into contact with the law. My remarks apply, I think you will appreciate, just as much to the magistrates' courts and to the division courts, even though they are totally different courts. But certainly in the juvenile and family court in Metropolitan Toronto this is very necessary.

This is the reason why in this particular instance I mentioned the fees. I think that in the light of the remarks which I have made, you will obviously see that the province of Ontario should not be talking about having to pay \$25 or \$30 an hour for a lawyer's time in order to process adequately, justly and efficiently, claims through the juvenile and family court. We cannot afford the luxury of that kind of cost. It can be done on a public defender system if properly organized to deal with the great run of cases efficiently and adequately and justly.

And then, as I say, if the particular public official, whatever the name be, says—"Well, this is a case where in my view circumstances are such it requires special consideration. This person should have the counsel of his choice in that particular case to deal with that case, because it is a difficult one and I, in dealing with routine matters in less complicated cases and situations, cannot take on that kind of work"—then I think

we will have the rudiments of an opportunity to make the legal aid system function right from the beginning. But the only key to it in the legal aid system, as I understand it, is in the duty officer and in the instruction to the area director in the city of Toronto that he not exercise his discretion on some kind of a prejudgment of the case which is before him. By making widespread use of the duty counsel, whether on a permanent salary basis or on a proper scale of fee, I think that we can in fact go a long way toward making the legal aid plan effective in the lower echelons of the court system in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I recognize the validity and the sincerity and the worth of the suggestions put forward by the hon. member for Riverdale. I agree with him wholeheartedly. I think the establishing of a duty officer or duty counsel for the work in the juvenile and family court will be one of the things we will have to move to, and establish right as the plan begins to work. I think he made his point early in his remarks on this and I agree with him that this will be a very useful, and I think essential, thing.

There are some places, I think, where discretion of the area director will certainly still be used and the hon. member perhaps knows there is an appeal outside that discretion to the area committee. The juvenile delinquent in the Act is defined:

Any child who violates any provision of the criminal code or any dominion or provincial statute or of any by-law or ordinance of any municipality, or who is guilty of any sexual immorality or any similar form of vice, or who is liable by reason of any other act to be committed to an industrial school or juvenile reformatory.

I would think that the juvenile, to give an example, who has broken a parking by-law would not, in the discretion of the area director, get counsel. But if he has been charged with breaking and entering or theft, I think there would be no question about it.

I certainly accept the idea that a duty counsel in our juvenile and family courts—certainly in most of them, and particularly the one that we are familiar with here in Toronto—would be a very worthwhile thing to establish. I accept the hon. member's suggestion.

Mr. S. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, before we leave this I would like for a moment to return to the expenses, warrants and summonses re deserted wives and children—the item of

\$1,000 under this vote—and to ask the Minister to what, precisely, that money applies. Perhaps it is unfair in a sense for me to be quite so particular about it. Maybe I could ask the broader question which flows from that one, namely: Of the amounts of money that were outstanding, what kind of collection success did The Attorney General's Department have?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: To take the first question first, my details seem to indicate that the \$1,000 item referred to is used to defray the cost of issuing summonses and warrants in attempting to collect accounts and that item covers that.

To move to the other, collection of moneys. The amount of money collected by the juvenile and family courts of Ontario during 1966 with respect to maintenance, restitution, fines and costs is as follows: maintenance, orders collected, \$6,431,985.16; restitution orders collected, \$28,203.36; fines collected, \$17,802.95; costs collected, \$7,706.77. I think the significant thing here, of course, is that large one—maintenance orders collected at nearly \$6,432,000.

Mr. S. Lewis: Would the Minister have any idea what was outstanding, what it was not possible to collect? Are there any such estimates?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I have not got figures in front of me and I am not sure we have a complete report covering the whole province. I know that I have among my files results of a survey in which Chief Magistrate Klein was involved. The subject was raised by one of the cities about the difficulty in collecting money in these maintenance orders and a comparative survey was done by some persons in that regard. I have that on my file, but it is not a complete province-wide survey.

While it is a very difficult field and while people leave, or people refuse, or husbands go away and escape and they take on other obligations, I really was surprised at the figures I got, at the amount of success the courts have in following these up and collecting them.

I know there are some individual cases where there is much hardship and welfare is entailed because it is simply impossible to collect anything. A husband disappears and it is half a year before you find him and then he is under other obligations. As soon as it is brought to his attention that he owes and is in arrears, he runs again, he seeks another job elsewhere, or refuses to work altogether.

I have not got the figure. I could try and get something for the hon. member, but I know I have not got a province-wide survey on this. It could be secured if we could get a statistical report for another occasion.

Mr. S. Lewis: I would be interested to find out whether the Minister could make an effort to get some comparative figures. If the figures given earlier by the hon. member for Bracondale were accurate, and I am sure they were, in terms of the show cause summons to return to the family court, it would suggest that fully half of those that are levied in the judgments are not collected, and it may well be that an amount approximating the \$6 million which is collected, is as yet outstanding.

While I realize that there are difficulties in collecting this kind of money, I must say that one of the things which concerns me, Mr. Minister, through the Chairman, is the disrepute into which justice falls when in fact the judgment can never be executed or enforced. We have this really sad pattern of the spouse, and sometimes it is the male spouse, returning time and time again, in a rather desperate way, with a show cause summons, and never in fact retrieving the amount of money to which he is entitled by virtue of a judgment rendered by a magistrate in the juvenile and family court.

It seems a most unfortunate way of enforcing the law, when in fact a considerable number of people are thus seriously inconvenienced. One could go so far as to say on the basis of what we know, fully half of those people who appear in the juvenile and family court in domestic disputes do not, in fact, receive the maintenance to which they are entitled and which is given by virtue of the judgment.

What do we do, in a sense, under these situations? Is there any possible way of correcting what is patently a very serious injustice to the people involved? We were very much concerned, the Legislature was concerned and obviously the Minister himself became concerned, with what it did to people on social assistance. In the cases of people on mothers' allowance, it was paid directly by The Department of Public Welfare and then the court took the responsibility of collecting the money, but the spouse in that instance was not penalized, or is no longer penalized, because of the inability of the court to collect the money. I think that my colleague, the hon. member for Woodbine, fought a noble battle on that front over the years, and I think the other members of the

House became persuaded of the justification of the issue and the Minister introduced his amendment.

What we have in this situation is something somewhat parallel. People, particularly deserted wives with large families on very low or marginal incomes, who return to the court on successive occasions can never receive the maintenance grants given in the judgment and are forced, therefore, to live on a welfare cheque or on a subsistence level or less, because of the inability of the law to punish him, as it were—a classic demonstration of the law rendered non-functional.

Now it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that if we are to correct the situation, the Attorney General should seriously consider a special agency, or unit of government, to track down the delinquents and somehow enforce the collection of grants.

I note that when the tracking down of putative fathers was given to a special investigation unit of The Department of Public Welfare, an astonishing rate of success was achieved, and I think that department did very excellent work in that regard, and hope that it will continue to do so.

I wonder if perhaps the Attorney General might incorporate that kind of function within his department, or maybe even give it to The Department of Public Welfare, since they have been having such success.

At any rate, Mr. Chairman, I would make the appeal that we are truly damaging a great many family situations in the province, by not collecting the money rendered in the judgments. The law should not be so frequently impugned because of our failure in this regard.

I must admit that I do not know the answer and I do not pretend to know, but I am sure that the Attorney General has addressed himself to the problem and I wonder if he has any observations on it.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Mr. Chairman, I will just reply briefly and say that this thought, which the hon. member put forth, may have been proposed to us before, and as for the establishment of some agency or body to collect the accounts as they are determined by the court—I would just point out that in none of our courts do we move from the judgment of it, to the collection of a damage claim—it is perhaps not a good reason to say that it should never be done, but we do get into the area where we are—in this situation we would be—in The Department of

the Attorney General, hearing the case, giving judgment and pursuing it to the point of collection.

I do not know whether some agency might be established but I would not want to leave it in the hands of the court itself. I do not think that the court should be engaged in pursuing its own judgment.

Perhaps we could transmit that judgment to some other agency and make some body responsible for following it up as a matter of course, and pursuing it to the *n*th degree. This is something I would consider, but I do not think that it should be left in the family court; having made the order that John Doe should pay \$30 a week, that it must then, itself, pursue that and see it collected.

Perhaps we can consider this and find some means of assisting the deserted wife and children, or the person who is entitled to the maintenance, to get a better collection record than we have today.

Mr. S. Lewis: I would be inclined to agree that the family court may not be appropriate. Indeed, as things now stand at the family court, the court itself does not even know who has defaulted until the wife comes and lays another show cause request because I gather that the procedures in the court are such, that all it does is accept the money.

It does not, in fact, keep track of the delinquents—so that the court is obviously not in a position to pursue this matter and one would, therefore, hope that the agency is established.

I do not imagine that it would be a terribly difficult kind of thing to establish. It could be modelled on the special investigation unit now under The Department of Public Welfare. It would result in somewhere between four and six million dollars of additional revenue, I am sure, if they were entirely successful, and the alleviation of a tremendous amount of hardship for a large number of families. I simply put that to the Minister in the hope that maybe over the year something can emerge.

Might I ask him before this vote goes through, two or three specific questions about the court to which he alluded, I think, in his opening statement, many months ago, when his estimates were first introduced? What in fact will happen to the air conditioning system, or what in fact are we going to have happen about air conditioning in the juvenile and family court in Metropolitan Toronto before the summer of 1967?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I can say that I have pursued that and I have a file of correspondence. I have had interviews, and my correspondence is with Chairman William Allen, Metro Toronto, extending back some months into last year. In that correspondence, I took the position that, while the government of Ontario, through this department, was administering that court, the capital establishment, the facility, the building and its condition was the responsibility of Metro Toronto.

However, we have, I think, compromised our position a bit in that we asked The Department of Public Works, some months ago, to survey the building to see what might be done in the way of air conditioning, or air renovation, or something of that sort, and this work has been going on.

The position of Metro is that the cost, as originally estimated, was so great that they just could not contemplate it in their budget. We are hoping to achieve something and I hope that we will have something available before the hot weather comes to relieve the situation there. That is the state of that matter.

Mr. S. Lewis: My colleague from Riverdale mutters gently under his breath—perhaps there could be a compromise arrangement such as opening the windows, and it seems to me a judicious and salient observation, but I wonder if perhaps we should not leave it in limbo, Mr. Chairman.

I wonder if perhaps the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Connell), with all the ingenuity at his command, might not come up with an alternative. Even in this building we, in this caucus, tried to acquire air conditioning, unsuccessful I may say, but a compromise was effected which makes life bearable, if not entirely tolerable.

I suggest that the youngsters in the detention home of the juvenile court are entitled to at least as much. I might say, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister and the hon. William Allen should take it upon themselves to spend a week or ten days at the end of July in self-enforced detention in the juvenile court, in an amiable way—I do not ask them to do this in a spirit of penance.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: Just come over to the southwest wing of this floor and you have the same conditions.

Mr. S. Lewis: With the greatest of respect, Mr. Chairman, the oppressiveness involved in

detention is already sufficient, it should not be further combined with an absurd structure.

I really think it is quite critical, Mr. Chairman, I put it that way to the Minister. It is intolerable that we should put juveniles in this condition—some kind of temporary situation must be effected, if not air conditioning itself.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would like to reassure the hon. member that this is being studied. It is not being neglected.

Mr. S. Lewis: Right. I will come back to it in May, and in June, and July when we are still sitting in this Legislature, as no doubt we will be. May I also ask, Mr. Chairman, whether there will be in the new construction, or the new allocation of premises, facilities in that building to afford room for all the magistrates. As I now recall it, Judge Stewart shares an office with Judge Moore in a rather unfriendly arrangement, or unpleasant arrangement, I am sure it is not unfriendly. Is there any reconstruction of the interior design so that justice can be facilitated? Is that planned?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We have plans underway to provide an office for Judge Moore so that there will be a separation and better facility for him.

Mr. S. Lewis: You have that? I have no doubt that the judge will be profoundly relieved. Then what about the psychological services, Mr. Chairman?

Are they now on a full time basis? Have you a complete staff? Are you happy about the situation there and the relationship to the Clarke institute, or whatever else you have agreed to?

Hon. Mr. Wishart: We are presently in the throes of negotiation. Perhaps I should not use the word "throes". We are presently in negotiation with the Clarke institute to provide us with three psychologists, I am informed, plus three psychiatrists, plus three social workers, plus three internists. So we are negotiating for this increase in that type of staff and we hope to conclude those soon.

Mr. S. Lewis: Well again, Mr. Chairman, I am delighted. I imagine that the Minister of Health is overawed by the availability of these professionals, which bogey—unavailability—we have heard so frequently.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I would not want to let this pass without giving my colleague, the Minister of Health, credit. He is cooperating

fully with us in what we are seeking to do here.

Mr. S. Lewis: I am delighted at the amity, the accord. It is a pleasure.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, just as this session winds to an end at six o'clock, might one make a last observation?

It would seem that in this kind of a court, there would be true justification for night sittings, particularly in some of the domestic cases.

It may not be so in the juvenile cases, for obvious reasons, but there may be advantages to preventing loss of employment and loss of income through having night sittings in this particular kind of a court structure. We, in this caucus, would urge that thought upon the Minister as part of the overall reform of the juvenile and family court.

I do not then suggest that the judges should work 12 or 14 hours a day. Some kind of alternative or staggered arrangements could be worked out, because I myself have had many dealings, I am sure many members of the House have had, with families greatly inconvenienced by the problem of meeting during the day, and it would seem sensible that this alternative arrangement be provided.

Hon. Mr. Wishart: I had not thought of it, but will take it under thought, though.

Mr. Singer: Well, Mr. Chairman, I have a few remarks on outside judicial offices.

Mr. Chairman: Before starting on that, does this conclude the section on the juvenile and family courts?

Mr. Singer: As far as I am concerned, anyway.

Mr. Chairman: Is that section carried? The section is agreed to.

On the outside judicial offices, the member for Downsview.

Mr. Singer: It is six o'clock, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves that the committee rise and report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

The House resumed; Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Speaker, the committee of supply begs to report progress and asks for leave to sit again.

Report agreed to.

Hon. H. L. Rowntree (Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, following the Easter recess, on Tuesday, April 4, we shall continue with the estimates of this department and, thereafter, the estimates of The Department of Economics and Development, The Department of Tourism and Information, and then The Department of Energy and Resources Management.

Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I hope every member of the House a relaxed recess, and holiday, and I wish each member of the House that degree of leisure which his diligence merits.

Hon. Mr. Rowntree moves the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 6.00 o'clock, p.m.



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